# Southeastern Yearly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends

# Yearly Business Meeting

Fourth Month, 2<sup>nd</sup> Day to Fourth Month 5<sup>th</sup> Day, 2015 United Methodist Life Enrichment Center, Fruitland Park, Florida

# MINUTES

#### First Plenary Session - Fifth Day, Fourth Month, Day 2, 2015 - 4:15 p.m.

Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the first plenary session.

Seated at the Clerk's table for this and subsequent sessions were Phoebe Andersen, (Tallahassee MM), Yearly Meeting (YM) clerk; Joel Cook, (Palm Beach MM), Assistant clerk; and Jan Dahm and Lisa Erazmus, (Tampa MM), Recording co-clerks.

Assistant clerk read from the following:

"For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another." ---Romans 12: 4-5 NRSV

*"So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members one of another. ---*Ephesians 4:25 NRSV

"The Religious Society of Friends is a worldwide community of faith, based on experience of a transforming power named many ways; the Inner Light, the Spirit of Christ, the Guide, the Living God, the Divine Presence. Membership includes openness to an ongoing relationship with God and willingness to live one's life according to the leadings of the Spirit as affirmed by the community of faith. The lives of Friends express their faith in accordance with their experiences with God and with the meeting community. Membership in a monthly meeting is a commitment to a spiritual community and to responsibility for the group. Since early Friends rejected the distinction between clergy and laity, responsibility for the full range of meeting activities rests with the membership. Members are expected to participate in communal worship, to share in the work and service of the Society as they are able, and to live in harmony with its basic beliefs and practices. Membership entails readiness to live as part of the monthly and yearly meetings. Specifically, this means participation in meeting for worship, meeting for business, committee work, and giving time, skills, and financial support to the meeting. Members are encouraged to follow leadings to take part in activities such as religious education, pastoral care, and witness to the broader community. The meeting commits to providing a community where spiritual enlightenment and growth are encouraged, a community which welcomes each individual with love. We are in a spiritual community to learn from and teach each other." -----SEYM Faith & Practice

Clerk opened from out of the silence with loving greetings of gratitude and appreciation for the blessed gift of time together. She entreated Friends to have open hearts to better experience God's love.

A letter of introduction was read for Michael Wajda as FGC Representative accompanied by his wife, Allison Levie.

In response to a query raised last year by a young Friend asking why there was no worship prior to the meals at this Gathering, a member of Worship and Ministry will raise their hand part way through the meal indicating that all Friends stop for a brief period of silent worship.

The Roll Call of Meetings and Worship Groups with Milestones was taken. Registrants for Yearly M 2015 appears at the end of these minutes.

#### **Clearwater Meeting**

Peter Day Susan Day Madeline Woodman Eileen Zingaro

#### **Ft. Lauderdale Meeting**

Mary Jo Klingel George Manion

#### Ft. Myers Meeting

Nancy Fennell Tom Fennell Nancy Howell Richard Frechette Helen Snodgrass Mary Wickes Omar Zeidan Priscilla DeOliveira

#### **Gainesville Meeting**

Cheryl Demers-Holton Betty Odum Tim Ray Connie Ray

Havana Worship Group Mercedes Soca

#### Jacksonville Meeting

Elaine Martin Al Gieger Wendy Clarissa Geiger

#### LakeWales Worship Group

Caroline Lanker Penny Phillippi Karen Whitman

#### Managua Worship Group Ramon Sepulveda

Ada Lopez

Miami Meeting Carl Hersh Kathy Hersh Warren Hoskins Andrea Hoskins Eduardo Diaz Clara Diaz Floyd Daniels Teresa Campos Geri O'Sullivan Brad Stocker Steve Mendoza

#### **Orlando** Meeting

Ann Jerome Kathy Gaskill Jerry Knutson Vicki Carlie Bill Carlie Minerva Glidden Ed Lesnick Kay Lesnick Liz Jenkins Stephanie Preston Martha Morris

#### Palm Beach Meeting

Joel Cook, Assistant YM clerk Ellie Caldwell Ann Kelley Elle Rappaport Jack Bradin Lisa Stewart Mary Wickes

#### Quaker Meeting of Melbourne Lyn Cope

#### St. Petersburg Meeting

Peter Crockett Davida Johns Herb Haigh Melissa Ajabshir Lily Ajabshir Bill Reid Susan Hefte Darrell Hefte

#### Sarasota Meeting Mimi McAdoo Nancy Corindia Tom Corindia

#### <u>Savannah Meeting</u> Sandy Branam Harold Branam

#### **Tallahassee Meeting**

Phoebe Andersen, YM clerk Neil Andersen Tor Bejnar *(& Marianna FCI WG)* Vicki Mariner Susan Taylor

#### **Tampa Meeting**

Jan Dahm, recording co-clerk Lisa Erazmus, recording co-clerk Nancy Triscritti Karen Putney Cece Yocum

#### <u>Guests</u>

Lucio Perez AFSC Representative Paul Mondesir AFSCRepresentative (Miami) Michael Wajda FGC Representative Joyce Zerwekh Multnomah Meeting, Oregon Walter Drew, ISAE

The following **milestones** were reported:

Clearwater MM: New Member - Deborah McMaster

**Miami MM:** Ten new Members: Lon Clay Hill, Kristen Merino, April Merleaux, Derek Merleaux, Ezra Merleaux, Leo Merleaux, Joshua C. Paolino, Elaine Petrella, Jeanetta Smith, Jane Westburg. The passing of three members: Doris Emerson, Evelyn Hensley, and Steve Mendoza

**Orlando MM:** Three new Members: Holly Grasso, Frances Stacey, Bil Meeler. The passing of two Members: Dean Engstrom and Sandy Ilardi

**Palm Beach MM:** The passing of three Members: Michael Caciopoli, Virginia Stetser, and Ruth Dickinson

St. Petersburg MM: The passing of one Member: Jim Welch

Sarasota MM: The passing of two Members: Julia Aires and Iris Ingram

**Tampa MM:** After the granting of one final permit, ground will be broken soon for the new Meetinghouse to be built

The agenda was reviewed with corrections as necessary.

The Assistant clerk made the general announcements: Pastoral Care is available from Worship and Ministry; see Clara Diaz for further information. ProNica Mother's Day cards are available for purchase. Vintage Circus McGurkis t-shirts are available for purchase.

Prior to the Nominating Committee report, clerk spoke to the body of the gift and weight of the work of Nominating Committee, again asking Friends to remain open to the Spirit in their discernment of serving Yearly Meeting.

Susan Taylor, clerk of **Nominating Committee** gave the preliminary report from Nominating Committee (in Documents in Advance). Susan introduced her report with the following:

"A spiritual life rises from a journey inward, and a journey outward. The inward journey requires an understanding of oneself, an engagement with God, and a commitment to one's community. The outward journey is one's servanthood to the wider world...we ask of our members: 'What are your gifts that can minister to your communities?'" (Elizabeth O'Connor, original member of the Church of the Savior in Washington D.C. as quoted by Perry Treadwell in Spiritual Discernment with the Nominating Process – Friends Journal, December 1999). Perry Treadwell goes on to describe Friends' ministry as 'service in every aspect of our lives'..."

The SEYM Nominating Committee seeks to discern the gifts of Friends and whether those gifts might be offered in service within our yearly meeting. We thank the many Friends who are currently serving, or who are able and willing to serve within our yearly meeting. We continue to discern on open positions, including the leadership positions of Interim Business Meeting (IBM) and Executive Committee (EC) clerk; Recording clerk or co-clerks for IBM and EC; Gathering Committee clerk/co-clerks; and clerk or convener of the Youth Committee. We also seek other members for the Committee for Ministry on Racism, Finance Committee, Youth Committee, and the Gathering Committee. Finally, we seek a Friend to represent SEYM on the Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Committee and one as a once-a-year observer to the Friends United Meeting (FUM) General Board. We trust in divine guidance and do not beg or twist arms.

Sometimes our work on the Nominating Committee feels like a cooperative game I played years ago: The Amoeba. People in a small group (e.g. the Nominating Committee) within a larger group would hold hands or link arms and run after and encircle others in the group, who would join with the original group and encircle others. This continued until everyone was together. There was a lot of laughter and sometimes screaming. The Nominating Committee asks other Friends to join us in our discernment and so on. It seems at times that Friends shy away from us when they see us coming. I learned in the Nonviolence and Children Program of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting that cooperative games help us to connect, lighten up and expand our thinking- so the benefits of playing extend beyond the game. Please continue to join in this Godly play and let us know the gifts you have discerned that others might bring to SEYM – a win-win celebration.

The various names of those who are being brought forward to fill various positions were read. Most of these are in DIA.

This session closed with silent worship.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Second Plenary Session • Fifth Day, Fourth Month, Day 2, 2015 • 7:00 p.m.

Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the second plenary session.

Assistant clerk announced that the Healing Center in the conference room in Building 3 will be open Sixth and Seventh Day from 3-5 pm. It was requested that those participating in Worship Sharing arrive at their groups by 8:55 a.m. to allow for settling in to worship. A reminder that the Trustees are meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Clerk welcomed Friends and visitors not previously introduced.

First reading of action minutes from SEYM committees and representatives:

Mary Jo Klingel (Ft. Lauderdale MM) presented the first reading of a minute from the **Earthcare Committee** for a Field Secretary for approval on Seventh Day. This minute has been a real labor of love on the part of the committee, has been seasoned by monthly meetings of SEYM for a year, and is being brought forward at these YM sessions for approval:

The Earthcare Committee of SEYM solicited and received input from individuals and Monthly Meetings on the Proposed Minute for Field Secretary for Earthcare (FSE), Dec. 18, 2014. The Committee has considered all comments, written and spoken, and after much discernment, made major revisions to the principle Minute, and added two supporting documents which address specific questions of the role of FSE and funding. We feel confident that we have given each comment appropriate attention and response. Comments, as specific as a single word, were considered and, for example, "oversight" was changed to "supervision." In some cases, such as capitalization questions were left untouched as in the case of "Testimonies." In the former there was substantive connotative difference. In the latter, it was felt to be a question of personal preference and did not impact substance. Comments that required no direct response such as "... talk to ProNica about how they fund raise..." were recorded and folded into the Financial document in a more general manner. Some of the ideas will be addressed by the Earthcare Committee pending approval of the position and have been addressed generally for now in the additional documents. So, for example, some suggestions for criteria for selection of the individual where set aside until approval and will fall into the supervisory work of the Earthcare Committee. The Earthcare Committee (EC) has the sense that the overall response to the proposal for Field Secretary for Earthcare has been favorable and that with the additional attachments we are submitting, all current comments, concerns, and questions have been addressed. The Committee also has to acknowledge that some of the work must unfold over time, through implementation, if there is approval of the position. To this end, the Committee requested from the SEYM Finance Committee additional money, contingent upon Minute approval, to support the additional work that will come as a way opens for the role. At the Winter Interim Business Meeting, Warren Hoskins, Peace and Social Concerns Committee clerk (Miami MM), gave the report for Peace and Social Concerns and brought forward a minute from their meeting supporting the Earthcare Committee's Minute for Field Secretary for Earthcare:

The Earthcare Committee of SEYM has brought forward a proposed Minute for an SEYM Field Secretary for Earthcare, which is being seasoned. SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee sees this as a seasoned minute and supports the SEYM Earthcare Committee process. We request that every SEYM monthly meeting gather in worship and seek unity in moving forward with this proposal. The Earthcare Committee will bring this Minute forward for approval at Yearly Meeting sessions, 4/1-4/5.

The Earthcare Committee senses that Peace and Social Concerns' minute of support encapsulates the place the process is at now.

#### Proposed Minute for Field Secretary for Earthcare, December 18, 2014

The region encompassed by the Southeastern Yearly Meeting is one of the most vulnerable and environmentally sensitive areas susceptible to the effects of Climate Change in the United States. As such, we cannot be inactive as Climate Change destroys the viability of our biosphere for us and subsequent generations. Friends know that when our energies are directed by the Spirit, and are an expression of our Testimonies, we can be a part of the lifeaffirming response to the dangers of Climate Change. The April 2014 Minute of Southeastern Yearly Meeting affirmed our commitment to take action to reduce the humanmade causes of Climate Change. To implement this minute the SEYM Earthcare Committee proposes positive action by the establishment of the position of Field Secretary for Earthcare. We recommend that the Earthcare Committee, with the help of SEYM's committees so led, seek an energized individual with the leading to serve as Field Secretary for Earthcare, seasoned in Friends' faith and practice. This person will be able to communicate well with media, be able to bring forth the attributes and abilities of others, and have the ability to encourage Friendly, spirit-led coordination for the caring of Earth. A number of Quaker-based organizations have prepared technical and informational materials on Climate Change. With this support, the Field Secretary can concentrate on coordination, inspiration, and communication. We recognize that the Field Secretary will be working under the guidance of the Spirit, energized by the person's individual leadings. Duties, responsibilities, and supervision will be provided by the Earthcare Committee, and grounded in the loving interest and care of the Yearly Meeting.

The proposed financial plan and proposed duties for the Field Secretary position are in DIA. It was noted that the committee "struggled to find a balance of accountability and the ability to follow leadings of the Spirit." A question was raised to clarify the \$500 requested from SEYM. It was clarified that the \$500 was expected to be a one-time fiscal year start-up cost for the administration of the position. Gratitude was expressed for the long and hard work of this committee and for bringing this proposal forward. Friends were encouraged to bring questions to the Earthcare Committee prior to the second reading of the minute at the third Plenary Session. A Friend shared the thoughts of Wendell Berry regarding living in the present, not the future. If Friends considered the conditions of our present time, we may feel freed up to act now rather than thinking these conditions will worsen in the future. Another Friend made a comparison to John Woolman and the possibility of change.

Michael Wajda gave his last report to SEYM as **FGC representative** pending his retirement in July.

**FGC Gathering** this summer (Seventh Month 5-11) is relatively close to SEYM as it is in Cullowhee, NC (near Asheville), so Friends were encouraged to attend. The theme is "Seeking Wholeness." Michael shared information about the FGC New Meeting Project. Nineteen new groups have started and seventeen are close to starting since the inception of this project. Another FGC project is the Spiritual Deepening Project – to "stoke the fire" – which grew out of the Traveling Ministries Program and hearing expressions online and in Meetings of spiritual hunger throughout Monthly Meetings. Four topics of the Spiritual Deepening Project are: Silence and Expectant Waiting; Light, Seed, and Christ Within; Friendly Practices; Becoming Patterns and Examples. The processes of this project are in grounding, sharing, and practicing. Ideally it will be piloted in six meetings (including Savannah) with a fuller implementation based on the review of the experience.

Ellie Caldwell, clerk of the **Committee for Ministry on Racism**, brought forward the following proposed minute for Friends' consideration:

During 2015, Southeastern Yearly Meeting commits to read the pamphlet *Living our Testimony of Equality – a White Friend's Experience* by Patience A. Schenck.

This session closed with silent worship.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Third Plenary Session • Sixth Day, Fourth Month, Day 3, 2015 • 10:00 a.m.

Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the third plenary session.

Assistant clerk, read from Scripture: Romans 12:1-21

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that

you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate. in cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Clerk welcomed Friends and visitors not previously introduced.

The Assistant clerk made the following announcements: Anyone with gifts to share for the Yearly Meeting should find a member of the Nominating Committee. The Healing Center in the conference room in Building 3 will be open Sixth Day and Seventh Day from 3-5 pm; evaluation forms are available to be filled out before Friends leave YM Sessions; handmade shawls are available for purchase, the proceeds to go to the Youth Program. Pastoral Care is available from Worship and Ministry; see a member of Worship and Ministry for further information. ProNica Mother's Day cards are available for purchase.

Ann Jerome, **EC and IBM Meeting** clerk, brought forward **minutes from the Executive Committee** Meetings in the summer as EC, at Fall Interim Business Meeting, at Winter Interim Business Meeting, and at YM EC Meeting session for the approval of the Yearly Meeting body.

**Summer Executive Committee Minutes:** 

14SEC01 – Executive Committee of SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves the Secretary proceeding with the engagement of an additional host for the new website under the guidance and approval of the Website Committee.

14SEC02 – Executive Committee of SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves the Secretary to use a combination of a local design consultant (\$30-\$60/hour) and Amy Carlie (\$13/hour) to produce the new website. The Secretary will find a local consultant for ongoing training and support who charges a lower hourly rate (\$15-\$30/hour). Since final costs are unknown until the project is completed, the Secretary will proceed using a budget based on a "not to exceed" number of \$3000.00 with the knowledge that if more funds were needed, the Secretary would bring it back to EC for further consideration.

14SEC03 – Executive Committee of SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves the SEYM sponsorship of Circus McGurkis for 2014 with the understanding that Circus McGurkis will purchase an insurance policy naming SEYM as the principal insured.

14SEC04 – Executive Committee of SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves the establishment of the position of an SEYM representative to Quaker House. Nominating Committee is requested to discern and bring forward a nominee for this position.

14SEC05 – Executive Committee of SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends approves the nomination of Bill Carlie (Orlando MM) for a three-year term as SEYM Membership Recorder in order that he may begin to serve in this position at the rise of Sixth Month EC meeting. His term will end in 2017. Final approval will be at FIBM, Tenth Month, 2014. 14SEC06 – Executive Committee of SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends appoints an ad hoc committee to investigate possible staffing needs for the Youth Program. Cece Yocum will convene this committee which will consist of Karen Putney and youth committee representatives to be identified. The committee will report to EC at FIBM 2014 or WIBM 2015.

14SEC07 - Executive Committee of SEYM of the Religious Society of Friends expresses heartfelt gratitude for the warm hospitality and generosity of spirit of Tampa Monthly Meeting.

Fall Executive Committee and Interim Business Meeting Minutes

14FEC01 - The meeting will make information about the One Minute for Peace Campaign available to members and attenders. Miami Friends Meeting asks other meetings of SEYM to consider endorsement and support for One minute for Peace, as led, and asks that the local and regional websites post and share the link to One Minute for Peace: www.oneminuteforpeace.org

14FIBM01 - Southeastern Yearly Meeting, meeting as Fall Interim Business Meeting, approves the nomination of Bill Carlie (Orlando MM) for a three-year term as Southeastern Yearly Meeting Membership Recorder. His term will end in 2017.

14FIBM02 - Southeastern Yearly Meeting, meeting as Fall Interim Business Meeting, approves the nomination of Elaine Martin (Jacksonville MM) for a three-year term as Southeastern Yearly Meeting Representative to Quaker House. Her term will end in 2017.

14FIBM03 - Southeastern Yearly Meeting, meeting as Fall Interim Business Meeting, approves the nomination of Andrea Hoskins (Miami MM) for a three-year term as SEYM Yearly Business Meeting Gathering Registrar. Her term will end in 2017.

14FIBM04 – Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends wishes to express great appreciation to Sarasota Monthly Meeting for their generous hospitality. You have cared for us in many ways.

14FIBM05 - At its Fall Interim Business Meeting, SEYM heard explanation of the One Minute for Peace Campaign of the American Friends Service Committee endorsed by Miami Friends Meeting. SEYM will make information about it available to members and attenders, and asks Monthly Meetings of SEYM to consider endorsement and support for One Minute for Peace, as led. We ask that local and regional websites post and share the link to One Minute for Peace: <a href="http://www.oneminuteforpeace.org">http://www.oneminuteforpeace.org</a>.

Winter Executive Committee and Interim Business Meeting Minutes

15WEC01 - Executive Committee recommends that the Publications Committee be reactivated and formed an ad hoc committee to recommend the charge of the Publications Committee: Phoebe Andersen (Tallahassee), clerk; Stephanie Preston (Orlando). Other Friends will be asked to serve.

15WIBM01 - Southeastern Yearly Meeting as Winter Interim Business Meeting reinstates the Publications Committee. Nominating Committee is charged with finding members for the Publications Committee.

15WIBM02 - Southeastern Yearly Meeting as Winter Interim Business Meeting greatly appreciates the hard work and joyous spirit that Orlando Monthly Meeting gives to us in hosting Winter Interim Business Meeting and the Michener Lecture each year. Thank you for your gift of service and love to our yearly meeting.

15WIBM03 – Southeastern Yearly Meeting as Winter Interim Business Meeting approves and supports the initiation of the Spiritual Formation Program as presented and approved by Worship and Ministry.

15WIBM04 – Southeastern Yearly Meeting as Winter Interim Business Meeting approves Florida Impact listing SEYM as a supporter with our logo and a link to the SEYM website, on the Florida Impact website. 15WIBM05 – Southeastern Yearly Meeting as Winter Interim Business Meeting instructs the Yearly Meeting secretary to email and postal mail the Earthcare Committee proposed minute for a field secretary for Earthcare to Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups. Monthly Meetings are requested to worshipfully consider the minute and respond to the Earthcare Committee with feedback by 28 Second Month 2015.

15WIBM06 - Southeastern Yearly Meeting as Winter Interim Business Meeting thanks Peter Day for his leadership and organization skills as clerk of SEYM Archives Committee over the past several years.

Yearly Meeting Executive Committee Minutes

15YEC01 – Executive Committee of the Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends expresses with joy, deep appreciation to the SEYM Youth and Youth Committee for their leadership in social justice and earth care issues through their actions with the Fair Food Campaign and successful campaign in partnership with the Earth Quaker Action team (EQAT) in persuading PNC Bank to stop funding mountaintop removal mining.

15YEC02 – Executive Committee of the Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approves with joyful gratitude the Naming Committee's recommendation of Ellie Caldwell (Palm Beach MM) and Kathy Hersh (Miami MM) to serve on the Nominating Committee for a three-year term. In this instance, this committee will name its own clerk.

After clarifications and concerns regarding the above EC/IBM minutes were addressed, the following minute was brought forward for approval by the Yearly Meeting body:

#### 15YBM01 All of the minutes recorded during the 2014-2015 Executive Committee and Interim Business Meeting Gatherings were brought before the Yearly Meeting body and were accepted by SEYM.

Neil Andersen (Tallahassee MM) gave the **Treasurer's report** (*attached*). In opening remarks, the Treasurer noted and thanked Friends Vicki Carlie, Secretary and Dianne Langan, Bookkeeper for consistency in faithful efforts in respective areas. Dianne Langan was unable to be present for Yearly Meeting sessions due to a serious health concern of her ex-husband. Friends were asked to hold Tom Langan and his family in the Light. At this time, there is a slight but positive trend in the cash flow. At this time, only 60% of apportionments have been paid though it is <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the way through the fiscal year. Half-Yearly Meeting accounts and Winter Interim Business Meeting/Michener Lecture accounts are closed with net incomes as reported in the attached document. After Friends were given the opportunity for questions, the following minute was brought forward for approval by the body:

# 15YBM02 SEYM approved the Treasurer's Report as provided and explained by the Treasurer.

Peter Schmidt (St. Petersburg MM) presented the first reading of the **budget** (in DIA). Questions and concerns are to be brought to the Finance Committee and considered during the second reading of the budget at business sessions tomorrow. A question for clarification was raised regarding the annual budget amount vs. the <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the yearly budget; this query was addressed by the Treasurer.

Brad Stocker (Miami MM) gave a brief report from the **Earthcare Committee**. Brad Stocker is now co-clerk of the Earthcare Committee and more members have been added to the committee. There is now a section of the SEYM website on the Earthcare Committee and its issues. One Friend asked for more information about environmental concerns regarding Florida. Friends were encouraged to review the website for regional ecological information and additionally to contact Brad Stocker individually if needed. The second reading of the Earthcare minute was brought forward for approval by the body. A Friend lifted up the concern of our moving forward in a timely fashion and to consider the amount of \$10,000 as more reasonable, realistic, and ethical than the \$500 startup cost. Many Friends expressed agreement with this concern as raised. The model of FCNL and its internship program was also mentioned. Another Friend brought forward the FGC practice of paying interns a \$20,000 stipend plus \$8,000 for insurance. Trustees were charged to be innovative and dynamic and to see this as an opening and opportunity. A Friend mentioned that Alaska is under the weight of a similar ecological concern and

may be a good resource. Several concerns were raised as to details, wording, and budget. In order to allow Trustees and Earthcare to further discern details, attention to this minute was laid over until business sessions the next day.

The numbered minutes were read with the following approved:

- 15YBM01 All of the minutes recorded during the 2014-2015 Executive Committee and Interim Business Meeting Gatherings were brought before the Yearly Meeting body and were accepted by Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.
- **15YBM02** Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approves the Treasurer's Report as provided and explained by the Treasurer.

The session closed with silent worship.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Fourth Plenary Session • Seventh Day, Fourth Month, Day 4, 2015 • 10:00 a.m.

Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the fourth plenary session.

Assistant clerk, read from the SEYM *Faith and Practice*:

Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

Advices:

- As members, attend the business meetings and extend our support to the meeting's affairs so that the burden will not rest upon a few.
- In meetings for business and in all duties connected with them, seek the leadings of the Light.
- Avoid undue persistence. As we release our attachment to our ideas, the Light may reveal solutions none of us has considered.
- *Be willing to admit the possibility of being in error.*
- *Remember that the foundation of a lasting decision lies in the search for unity-that is, a corporate seeking of the Light in an atmosphere of love, trust, and mutual forbearance.*
- Attenders are warmly invited to attend and participate in meeting for worship with a concern for business.
- *Have a sense of when to continue to labor on or to lay aside an issue. Oueries:*
- Are meetings for business held in the spirit of meetings for worship?
- In decision-making, do we promote a spirit of love, understanding, and patience as we seek unity on an appropriate course of action?
- Do we keep our remarks simple and speak only as the Spirit leads?
- Are we able to unite in good grace with the sense of the meeting when our personal desires tend in another direction?
- · Do we maintain respect for others, however strongly our opinions may differ?
- Are meetings for business seen as positive opportunities for testing and practicing our spiritual life?

Assistant clerk made general announcements: Anyone with gifts to share for the Yearly Meeting should find a member of the Nominating Committee. The Healing Center in the conference room in Building 3 will be open Sixth Day and Seventh Day from 3-5 pm; evaluation forms are available to be filled out before Friends leave YM Sessions; handmade shawls are available for purchase, the proceeds to go to the Youth Program. Pastoral Care is available from Worship and Ministry; see a member of Worship and Ministry for further information. ProNica Mother's Day cards are available for purchase. Vintage Circus McGurkis t-shirts are available for purchase. Friends were asked to hold Ellie Caldwell and her family in the Light.

The **Youth** of SEYM made a presentation regarding the actions on which they have been working: the Coalition of Immokalee Workers Fair Food Campaign and the Mountaintop Removal Campaign. The youth presented the elements of these two actions that had inspired them the most. They were especially excited about the success of the Mountaintop Removal Campaign as on 2 Third Month, PNC Bank changed their policy to stop financial support of mountaintop removal mining. Their review of these actions connected with their expression of support of the Earthcare Committee's proposed minute for a Field Secretary for Earthcare. The Youth thanked SEYM and Monthly Meetings for their support of all of these actions.

The **Earthcare Committee** brought forward three proposed minutes for discernment by the body. Friends entered into a lengthy and busy period of discussion, questions, comments, and even Spirit-led ministry. From the body, Friends reminded all to trust the process and know the seasoning that has gone into this work over a period of years. Friends should be guided by continuing revelation and lean on the Spirit rather than the letter of a thing. The immediacy of this concern and our witness to the world speaks to our integrity and the authenticity of the leadings involved in this work. Courage and faith, caution and a measured approach, experiment and leadership, were among many thoughts and concerns lifted up by Friends. Friends were in unity over the gratitude expressed for the Earthcare Committee's work and all of SEYM's efforts to labor faithfully with these concerns. The following minutes were approved:

15YBM03 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends establishes the new position of Field Secretary for Earthcare. The purpose of the Field Secretary for Earthcare will be coordination, inspiration, and communication within SEYM and facilitation of interaction with others to encourage Friendly, Spirit-led action for the caring of the Earth. The Field Secretary will be working under the guidance of the Spirit, energized by the person's individual leadings. Description of the duties, responsibilities, and supervision will be provided by the Earthcare Committee of SEYM in concert with the Executive Committee as Personnel Committee through its clerk, and grounded in the loving interest and care of the Yearly Meeting.

**15YBM04** Duties for the position of Field Secretary for Earthcare in SEYM:

• Provide focus and coordinate efforts on environmental work in the SEYM region.

• Perform visits to Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups within SEYM to help them discern their leadings in care of the Earth, and to provide information and coordination among Meetings.

• To be a Quaker Presence at specific events, including those arranged by others.

• To assist the Youth of SEYM in their Earthcare projects, to be an inspiration and model for them; to be a presence and resource for Young Adult Friends.

• To communicate and collaborate our regional concerns with national organizations including Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW), Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT), Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), and Friends General Conference (FGC).

• To serve as SEYM's public presence for Earthcare and to serve as a liaison with other like-minded organizations at the direction of the Earthcare Committee of SEYM in concert with the Executive Committee as Personnel Committee through its clerk, and grounded in the loving interest and care of the Yearly Meeting.

**15YBM05** Funding Plan for the position of Field Secretary for Earthcare in SEYM:

• Southeastern Yearly Meeting establishes a restricted fund within the SEYM accounts for support of the Field Secretary for Earthcare position. All donations received will be sent to the Yearly Meeting so that they may be

recorded and placed in that restricted fund for the committee's use and to ensure right ordering for 501(c)3 tax accounting.

• A total of \$500 will be included in the SEYM 2015-2016 budget for the Earthcare Committee operations to provide for administration of the work of the Field Secretary for Earthcare, and to continue the Committee's business between sessions of the Yearly Meeting.

• The implementation plan, including financing, will be a working document subject to improvement once funds have been received.

The Earthcare Committee had further proposed minutes and these were laid over until the afternoon plenary session.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Fifth Plenary Session • Seventh Day, Fourth Month, Day 4, 2015 • 1:15 p.m.

Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the fifth plenary session.

Clerk welcomed Friends and visitors not previously introduced.

Melissa Ajabshir (St. Petersburg MM), stateside coordinator for **ProNica**, gave highlights from the Pronica report (available in DIA). She spoke of the gift of partnership at the grass-roots level and how relationships are foundational to the program. She thanked various individuals, committees, and Monthly Meetings for their support, practical and spiritual, in keeping ProNica moving forward in connections and mission. Ada Lopez and Ramon Sepulveda were introduced as the new in-country directors of ProNica. They spoke of their gratitude for all the support for the ProNica programs that has been given from all of partners, especially the Quakers.

The discernment process continued in regard to the proposed **Field Secretary for Earthcare** position. Two more minutes were brought forward for Friends to consider. Friends continued to labor on the concern of funding the Earthcare Field Secretary position. Many Friends spoke of limits, accountability, witness, and potential. A sense of trusting in Spirit grew among Friends as the body settled into a period of silent worship. Following the silence, these minutes were approved:

#### **Donation of Support from SEYM Trustees**

15YBM06 Southeastern Yearly Meeting requests that the Yearly Meeting Trustees donate \$10,000 for initialization of the position of Field Secretary for Earthcare in SEYM. This would be a one-time donation in the 2015-2016 fiscal year into the restricted fund.

Minute for Field Secretary for Earthcare Program Evaluation

15YBM07 The Field Secretary for Earthcare will have goals and objectives that are established in conjunction with the Earthcare Committee and the Executive Committee of SEYM. These goals and objectives will serve as the basis for continuing evaluation of program progress. The Field Secretary for Earthcare will submit a report of attainment of goals and objectives and other unanticipated activities and accomplishments for SEYM's discernment at the annual gathering.

The second reading of the **budget** was presented by Peter Schmidt (St. Petersburg MM), Finance Committee Clerk. He described the changes and recommendations from the first reading. One change resulting from the Earthcare minute (15YBM05) is the line item amount for Earthcare changing from \$50 to \$500. A line item of \$50 is being added for the Publications Committee. The income required to balance this increase would come from a slight increase (approximately 1%) in Monthly Meeting apportionments. (*Attached*)

# 15YBM08 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approves the 2015-2016 budget as presented by the Finance Committee in the second reading.

Nancy Triscritti (Tampa MM), gave the report for **Worship and Ministry** (Report in DIA). Additional information since the DIA: The Michener Lecturer for 2016 is Diane Randall from FCNL. A young Friend asked last year why there was no worship prior to the meals. A member of Worship and Ministry will raise their hand part way through the meal indicating for all Friends to stop for a brief period of silent worship.

Wendy Clarissa Geiger (Jacksonville MM), co-clerk of the **Committee for Ministry on Racism**, brought forward the second reading of the following minute for Friends' consideration:

# 15YBM09 During 2015, Southeastern Yearly Meeting commits to read the pamphlet Living our Testimony of Equality – a White Friend's Experience by Patience A. Schenck.

This minute was approved by the Yearly Meeting body.

Warren Hoskins (Miami MM) gave a brief **Peace and Social Concerns Committee** report (attached) and shared two minutes that came out of their committee meeting. Friends are also directed to the attached report of the Historic Peace Churches Gathering.

Mercedes Soca (Havana Unprogrammed WG), with the help of Lupe Torre (Orlando MM) presented an epistle from **Havana Unprogrammed Worship Group**. Translation help was also given by Sarah Hernandez (Miami MM).

Stephanie Preston (Orlando MM), gave the report (in DIA) for **Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns (FLGBTQC).** Two minutes were brought forward for Friends to consider:

- 15YBM10 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends recognizes the gifts and inherent worth of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) individuals around the world. We recognize, in particular, how the current climate of extreme homophobia in many African nations puts LGBTQ people and those who help them at risk. We detest all forms of violence, especially those perpetrated against people solely because of their identity. We support the Friends New Underground Railroad project of Olympia Monthly Meeting (North Pacific Yearly Meeting) to aid LGBTQ Ugandans who are fleeing their homeland for their lives.
- 15YBM11 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends seeks to formally sponsor the work of the Friends New Underground Railroad project of Olympia Monthly Meeting (North Pacific Yearly Meeting) by committing a contribution from the 2015-2016 budget in the amount of \$200.

Cecelia Yocum (Tampa MM) gave a brief report on **Friends Peace Teams** including an overview and update of various programs particularly in Africa, Latin America, and Asia-West Pacific. Programs focus on: education, violence prevention during elections, juvenile detention centers, Alternatives to Violence (AVP), residents of poor neighborhoods, and displaced communities.

#### The **Quaker House report** is in DIA.

The **FGC** report is in DIA.

Eduardo Diaz (Miami MM) gave a brief report on the **FWCC Section of the Americas**. Eduardo Diaz, Clara Diaz, and Sarah Hernandez (Miami MM) were representatives to that meeting.

The numbered minutes were read to the body with the following approved:

15YBM03 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends establishes the new position of Field Secretary for Earthcare. The purpose of the Field Secretary for Earthcare will be coordination, inspiration, and communication within SEYM and facilitation of interaction with others to encourage Friendly, Spirit-led action for the caring of the Earth. The Field Secretary will be working under the guidance of the Spirit, energized by the person's individual leadings. Description of the duties, responsibilities, and supervision will be provided by the Earthcare Committee of SEYM in concert with the Executive Committee as Personnel Committee through its clerk, and grounded in the loving interest and care of the Yearly Meeting.

15YBM04 Duties for the position of Field Secretary for Earthcare in SEYM:

• Provide focus and coordinate efforts on environmental work in the SEYM region.

• Perform visits to Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups within SEYM to help them discern their leadings in care of the Earth, and to provide information and coordination among Meetings.

• To be a Quaker Presence at specific events, including those arranged by others.

• To assist the Youth of SEYM in their Earthcare projects, to be an inspiration and model for them; to be a presence and resource for Young Adult Friends.

• To communicate and collaborate our regional concerns with national organizations including Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW), Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT), Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), and Friends General Conference (FGC).

• To serve as SEYM's public presence for Earthcare and to serve as a liaison with other like-minded organizations at the direction of the Earthcare Committee of SEYM in concert with the Executive Committee as Personnel Committee through its clerk, and grounded in the loving interest and care of the Yearly Meeting.

**15YBM05** Funding Plan for the position of Field Secretary for Earthcare in SEYM:

• Southeastern Yearly Meeting establishes a restricted fund within the SEYM accounts for support of the Field Secretary for Earthcare position. All donations received will be sent to the Yearly Meeting so that they may be recorded and placed in that restricted fund for the committee's use and to ensure right ordering for 501(c)3 tax accounting.

• A total of \$500 will be included in the SEYM 2015-2016 budget for the Earthcare Committee operations to provide for administration of the work of the Field Secretary for Earthcare, and to continue the Committee's business between sessions of the Yearly Meeting.

• The implementation plan, including financing, will be a working document subject to improvement once funds have been received.

**15YBM06 Donation of Support from SEYM Trustees** 

Southeastern Yearly Meeting requests that the Yearly Meeting Trustees donate \$10,000 for initialization of the position of Field Secretary for Earthcare in SEYM. This would be a one-time donation in the 2015-2016 fiscal year into the restricted fund.

15YBM07 Minute for Field Secretary for Earthcare Program Evaluation

The Field Secretary for Earthcare will have goals and objectives that are established in conjunction with the Earthcare Committee and the Executive Committee of SEYM. These goals and objectives will serve as the basis for continuing evaluation of program progress. The Field Secretary for Earthcare will submit a report of attainment of goals and objectives and other unanticipated activities and accomplishments for SEYM's discernment at the annual gathering.

- 15YBM08 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approves the 2015-2016 budget as presented by the Finance Committee in the second reading.
- 15YBM09 During 2015, Southeastern Yearly Meeting commits to read the pamphlet *Living our Testimony of Equality – a White Friend's Experience* by Patience A. Schenck.
- 15YBM10 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends recognizes the gifts and inherent worth of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) individuals around the world. We recognize, in particular, how the current climate of extreme homophobia in many African nations puts LGBTQ people and those who help them at risk. We detest all forms of violence, especially those perpetrated against people solely because of their identity. We support the Friends New Underground Railroad project of Olympia Monthly Meeting (North Pacific Yearly Meeting) to aid LGBTQ Ugandans who are fleeing their homeland for their lives.
- 15YBM11 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends seeks to formally sponsor the work of the Friends New Underground Railroad project of Olympia Monthly Meeting (North Pacific Yearly Meeting) by committing a contribution from the 2015-2016 budget in the amount of \$200.

The session closed with silent worship.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Sixth Plenary Session • First Day, Fourth Month, Day 5, 2015 • 9:00 a.m.

Friends gathered and settled into worshipful, attentive silence to begin the sixth plenary session.

Clerk welcomed Friends and reflected on the holiness of the weekend during which we remember that God "sent someone to teach us how to be so we could come to know Him."

Assistant clerk read from Psalm 84:

How lovely is your dwelling place! My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

*Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young.* 

Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.
they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.
They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

Assistant clerk, made the following announcements: Evaluation forms are available to be filled out before Friends leave YM Sessions; please remember to fill out an evaluation form and turn it and your nametag in before leaving the Gathering. There will be a Memorial Meeting at Palm Beach MM for Ruth Dickinson on 26 Fourth Month.

Susan Taylor (Tallahassee MM), clerk of **Nominating Committee**, gave the Second Reading of the new positions being filled as well as the full Nominating Committee report *(attached)*.

#### 15YBM12 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends approved the Nominating Committee's second reading of the new positions being filled. Friends express deep gratitude for the faithful work of this committee in listening and responding to the Spirit.

Jack Bradin (Palm Beach MM) gave the report from the **Trustees** (in addition to that in DIA). The report included assurance to Friends that the Trustees would be taking the financial support of the Field Secretary for Earthcare position under their care and consideration, and would honor the Yearly Meeting minute requesting Trustees to provide \$10,000.00 in Fiscal Year 2016 for initialization of the position.

Peter Crockett and Davida Johns (St. Petersburg MM) gave the **Gathering Committee Report** thanking many Friends for their help in the planning and implementation of the Gathering. The 2016 SEYM Yearly Meeting Gathering will be 24-27 of Third Month. The Walton Lecturer will be Bridget Moix from Friends Meeting of Washington (Baltimore Yearly Meeting); the theme will be "Active Peace."

# 15YBM13 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends accepts the Gathering Committee Report with joyful thanks.

Stephanie Preston read the YM Gathering Epistle for the Gathering Epistle Committee. The 2015 SEYM epistle will be translated into Spanish and sent to Havana Unprogrammed Friends, Managua WG, and the FWCC Section of the Americas. (attached).

# 15YBM14 Friends approved the 2015 SEYM epistle, which will be posted on the SEYM website and distributed widely among Friends.

A Friend rose and spoke from the silence, "Do not fear your pain, rage, anger, sadness. Feelings flow like water – feel them and move on. I am so grateful for all the help I have received from this Yearly Meeting. It has grown me up and been my cradle."

The teens and the elementary and juniors of the **Youth Program**, and the **Young Adult Quakers** read their epistles (attached).

15YBM15 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends accepted the SEYM youth program and YAQ epistles. These will be posted on the SEYM website and distributed to "Friends Everywhere."

Two minutes were brought forward from the SEYM **Peace and Social Concerns Committee**:

- 15YBM16 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends recognizes and celebrates our SEYM Youth for their work and witness with the Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT) in 2014. Young Friends and EQAT called our Yearly Meeting, Monthly Meetings, and SEYM Friends to action witnessing to PNC Bank against their financing of mountain top removal (primarily being done for coal mining). Actions held in Florida are credited with helping push PNC Bank to the tipping point resulting in their divestment from companies engaged in this environmentally destructive practice. We appreciate our Youth's leadership, are grateful for EQAT's educational and training programs, and thankful for all who rose to participate in witness in our communities.
- 15YBM17 Peace and Social Concerns Committee of Southeastern Yearly Meeting sees a need for Friends to have a deeper understanding of immigration issues in Florida. We ask that SEYM Monthly Meetings invite Lucio Perez-Reynozo of the AFSC's American Friends Immigrant Services office in Miami, Florida, and the "Dreamers" - a coalition of activists, primarily young, many immigrants to share with Friends and like-minded community members on the work to be done to honor the human rights and due process rights of those members of our community who are immigrants.

Several **Minutes of Appreciation** were brought forward and approved.

- 15YBM18 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends expresses their deep and abiding love and appreciation to Susan Taylor for the many years of faithful service she has given as clerk of Nominating Committee. Her depth of Spirit has nurtured the process of discernment of gifts within the corporate body and her gentle eloquence in tending the fires in Friends' souls has opened way forward for so many to respond in service to the Yearly Meeting.
- 15YBM19 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends expresses their profound gratitude to Ann Jerome for the years of enduring and faithful service she has given as clerk of Executive Committee and Interim Business Meeting. She has been an inspiring and Spirit-filled presence, shining Light on the path of the work of the Yearly Meeting and guiding us with her wisdom and gentle care.
- 15YBM20 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is grateful to recording co-clerks Jan Dahm and Lisa Erazmus for their dedicated recording in the Christ-Spirit, of minutes for Executive Committee and Interim Business Meeting during their three-year term. We also deeply appreciate their crafting of the quotations and queries for worship sharing during our Gathering, which helped us center into community.
- 15YBM21 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is grateful to Carl Hersh for his efforts in the sound booth year after year, providing excellent audio capability for the Yearly Meeting sessions. SEYM also thanks Peter Crockett and Richard Frechette for their assistance as microphone providers to the body.

15YBM22 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is deeply appreciative of the work of Warren and Andrea Hoskins as representatives to the Historic Peace Churches gatherings over the last several years. Blessed be the ties that bind all to peace work in this world.

15YBM23 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is joyfully appreciative of the gift of time and effort that all outgoing clerks and members of committees have given to the Yearly Meeting. We simply would not exist without your presence and Light. Take some time to rest from your duties; you all deserve it. Please remember your family of SEYM extends an open invitation and welcome back at all times. So don't be a stranger!

We thank:

• Dustin Lemke for his service as convener of the Youth Committee, Half-Yearly Meeting clerk, FGC representative, and Florida Council of Churches representative.

- Wendy Clarissa Geiger for her service as Worship and Ministry co-clerk.
- Nancy Triscritti for her service as co-clerk of Worship and Ministry.
- Peter Crockett and Davida Johns for serving as SEYM Gathering co-clerks.
- Kathy Hersh and Johannes Werner for their service on the ProNica board.
- Sarah Hernandez for her service as FWCC representative.
- Elaine Martin for her service on the Finance Committee.
- Rebecca Miles for her service on Worship and Ministry.

And all others we failed to mention. The gifts of your time and effort have helped SEYM find way forward in the Spirit. Thank you.

#### 15YBM24 Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends expresses their sincere thanks to the Florida United Methodist Life Enrichment Center for their gifts of hospitality and care during our annual sessions.

Clerk expressed gratitude to all the body for the centeredness and love which supports our gifts of witness and work in the world.

Assistant clerk closed the session with the following reading from Philippians 2:1-5; 4:8-9.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The session closed with silent worship.

#### \* \* \* \* \*

## Yearly Meeting Registrants 2015

#### Clearwater MM

Rick Brice Peter Day Sue Day Caroline Kaufmann Barbara Lee Debra McMaster Douglas Woodward Elizabeth Woodward Eileen Zingaro

#### **Fort Lauderdale Meeting**

Mary Jo Klingel George Manion

#### **Fort Myers Meeting**

Nancy Fennell Tom Dudley Fennell Richard Frechette Priscilla De Oliveira Nancy Howell Helen Snodgrass Mary Wickes Omar Zeidan

#### **Gainesville Meeting**

Jen Ambrose Gary Arthur Hoyt Cotter Cheryl Demers-Holton Shawna Doran Audrey Hall Bronwyn Hall Jean Larson Bruce Lyon Sandy Lyon Bill Mitchell Betty Odum Connie Ray Tim Ray

#### Jacksonville Meeting

Al Geiger Wendy Clarissa Geiger Elaine Martin

#### Lake Wales Worship Group

Ross Bamford Caroline Lanker Penny Phillippi Catherine Price Karen Whitman

#### Managua Worship Group

Ada Lopéz, ProNica Ramón Sepulveda, ProNica

#### Miami Meeting

Tere Campos Vincent Cosomano Floyd Daniels Clara Diaz Eduardo Diaz Stephen Donachie

Carl Hersh Kathy Hersh Andrea Hoskins Warren Hoskins Kristen Merino Madison Merino April Merleaux Derek Merleaux Ezra Merleaux Leo Merleaux Brian Olson Aaron Olson Geraldine O'Sullivan **Thomas Pullen** Ingrid Navos Dave Reilly Linda Reilly Brad Stocker

#### Orlando Meeting

Bill Carlie Vicki Carlie Ed Chew Phyllis Chew Brendan Chew Catharine Gaskill Minerva Glidden Rachel Humphrey Bruce Humphrey Sara Humphrey Julia Humphrey

**Daniel Humphrey Elizabeth** Jenkins **Ray Jenkins** Ann Jerome, EC and IBM clerk Triona Kagan, **Raleigh Friends Meeting** Jerry Knutson Chris Laning Bill Lefler, Pittsburgh PA MM Ed Lesnick Kay Lesnick Mary Ellen Meagher Martha Morris **Stephanie** Preston Kiran Nwakanma Priya Nwakanma Mira Tanna Lupe Torre

#### Palm Beach Meeting

Peter Ackerman Serrin Anderson Jack Bradin Ellie Caldwell Caroline Chen Joel Cook Sandra Heys Ann Kelley Jack McGregor Elle Rappaport Lisa Stewart

#### **Quaker Meeting of Melbourne**

Lyn Cope Donald Garwood

#### Sarasota Meeting

Nancy Corindia Tom Corinidia Rolf Hanson Kate Hanson Sundberg Lis Hanson Sundberg Sarah Hernandez Lesley Jacobs Jo Ann Lordahl Mimi McAdoo Jennifer Mendoza Ann Sundberg Johannes Werner

#### Savannah Meeting Harold Branam

Sandy Branam

#### St Petersburg Meeting

Lily Ajabshir Melissa Ajabshir Peter Crockett Herb Haigh Pamela Haigh Darrell Hefte Susan Hefte Davida Johns Peter Schmidt

#### **Tallahassee Meeting**

Neil Andersen Phoebe Andersen, SEYM clerk Aurelio Anderson Phil Anderson Tor Bejnar, TMM & Marianna FCI WG Vicki Mariner Jim Meade Rebecca Miles Susan Taylor

#### Tampa Meeting

Jocelynn Benton Tom Blackburn Jan Dahm Lisa Erazmus Karen Putney Mercedes Soca, TMM & Havana WG Nancy Triscritti Harry Vanden Beverly Ward Madelaine Woodman Cecelia Yocum

#### Winter Park Meeting Ingrid Swenson

#### Friends from Quaker

Organizations Alison Levie, FGC Paul A. Mondesir, AFSC/AFSC-Miami Lucio Perez-Reynozo, AFSC-Miami David Robinson, AFSC Corp. member Michael Wajda, FGC

#### **Visiting Friends**

Daniel Booth, Boulder, CO Diane Byington, Boulder, CO Nancy Irving, Olympia FM, N. Pacific YM George Schaefer, Philadelphia YM Joyce Zerwekh, Multnomah Meeting, Oregon

#### **Other Guests**

Candi & Matt Bell (family of Andrea Hoskins) Walter Drew, Institute for Self Active Education Dan Ewing Valerie Lantigua SouthEastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

www.seym.org • office@seym.org • (407) 739-4150 • p.o. box 4024, Winter Park, FL 32793

# **2015 EPISTLES**

#### to Friends everywhere:

Loving greetings from the 51<sup>st</sup> sessions of Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM). 172 Friends, including 19 youth gathered at the Life Enrichment Center in Fruitland Park, Florida, from the first to the fifth day of Fourth Month, 2015. The beautiful campus on the shores of Lake Griffin, under the shading canopy of live oaks, Spanish moss, and palm trees, was an inspiration to our time together.

Old friendships were renewed and new friendships made. Our loving community was knit closer by worshiping together, attending to our business, and expanding our horizons in many exceptional workshops. Time to sit together and get to know one another in that which is eternal is a hallmark of our Yearly Meeting sessions.

Over the past several years the youth of our Yearly Meeting have inspired us with their Spirit-led activism. They have supported the Coalition of Immokalee Workers on the Fair Food Campaign, bringing significant progress toward a living wage for agricultural workers in Florida. They've collaborated with Earth Quaker Action Teams to pressure PNC Bank to cease investing in mountaintop removal mining. Friends at these sessions rejoiced in the news that on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, PNC Bank announced its commitment to divest its holdings in mountaintop removal. Our youth's faithful practice of nonviolent protest has opened our minds and hearts to greater possibilities than we had imagined.

During these same years, the SEYM Committee on Earthcare has been helping the Yearly Meeting to season a minute creating the position of Field Secretary for Earthcare for SEYM. Galvanized by the example of our youth, we move forward from approving this minute with faithful expectation of way opening for its staffing and ongoing funding.

SEYM representatives to Friends organizations reminded us of the Spirit-led social justice work being done around the world and in our own Yearly Meeting. We continue to nurture ProNica and to support the Havana (Cuba) Unprogrammed Worship Group with our loving care. We committed our prayerful and financial support to the Friends New Underground Railroad project of Olympia Monthly Meeting of North Pacific Yearly Meeting, providing safe passage to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, and queer Ugandans. We minuted our intention for Yearly Meeting Friends to read and discuss the Pendle Hill pamphlet by Patience Schenck, "Living Our Testimony of Equality: A White Friend's Experience" during the next year as an examination of our own privilege.

Our Walton Lecturer, Nancy Irving, reminded us of the centrality of community to our faith and practice. Her workshops and lecture titled "Creating Space for Community: Both Inside and Out," challenged us to move beyond the societal notion of rugged individualism and practice commitment, willingness, intentionality, and trust in opening the spaces essential to our deeper relationship with Spirit and one another.

Our time together included a balance of laboring to seek clearness and connecting joyfully through conversation, study, worship, and intergenerational play. We concluded our gathering with a sense of what is possible when we remain faithful to the call of Spirit by following our leadings.

April 5, 2015

Phoebe Andersen, Clerk Southeastern Yearly Meeting

# Young Adult Quakers (YAQ) Epistle

This year started off with some of us attending workshops which were interpreted as "not very relatable". The YAQs enjoyed the free time and flexibility of choice in what to attend, but would have liked to have a few more relatable topics for workshops at this gathering. YAQs are interested in discussing current events as well as options for getting actively involved in Quaker groups as a YAQ such as AFSC, FCNL, etc. YAQs would also like to have clearer descriptions of workshops available more than just the catchy title of a workshop.

This Yearly Meeting was a calm and peaceful gathering for the YAQs. The YAQs enjoyed the free time and flexibility of choice in what to attend...YAQs started arriving on Thursday afternoon and attended a few workshops Friday morning. YAQs participated in the ropes course with Teen Friends. Friday afternoon, YAQs participated in the Intergenerational Play workshop with Dr. Drew. YAQs very much enjoyed this workshop opportunity. Friday night, YAQs participated in the Intergenerational dancing and activities. Saturday morning, YAQs participated in the teen program workshop with Karen Putney on Lobbying and assisted Teen Friends in a presentation to Business Meeting on hiring a full-time field secretary for Earthcare. Saturday afternoon and evening, YAQs played capture the flag or split off from the group to attend workshops. YAQs left the Gathering late Saturday night to watch a movie together. YAQs stayed through the end of the Gathering.

Sincerely, the Young Adult Quakers

# **Teens' Epistle**

#### Dear Friends,

We are the Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) Teens. We have had a very eventful year working on environmental issues with Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT) and supporting the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW).

In April, we planned an action at the PNC Bank shareholders meeting. We worked with EQAT who is trying to get PNC Bank to stop financing mountaintop removal coal mining. This practice is devastating to the global climate as well as local communities in Appalachia. The shareholders meeting was ended in 14 minutes due to our action.

Over the summer, on our way up to the Friends General Conference (FGC) Gathering, we stopped at Kayford Mountain to witness mountaintop removal coal mining first hand. Looking at pictures of mountaintop removal is one thing but seeing the destruction first hand brought the issue alive for us and made us even determined to stop this practice. At FGC we participated in a large action in Pittsburgh that included actions at 6 different PNC Bank locations so it was a great success.

In September a few of us went to New York City for the People's Climate March. It was really inspiring to see 400,000 people marching together for a common cause. In November we had a training in Gainesville with George Lakey and Ryan Leitner from EQAT to learn how to organize individual actions in our home towns. In the past we have always worked a s group to organize actions so it was a new experience to organize actions by ourselves. These actions were part of EQAT's National Day of Action during their Bank Like Appalachia Matters (BLAM!) campaign where many actions were organized in several states. We were all able to take on new roles such as action lead which we had never done before. A few months later, on March 2, 2015, PNC Bank changed their policy so that they are no longer financing mountaintop removal coal mining! It is super exciting to see this success after a year of hard work on the issue.

We also participated int he Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) Fair Food Parade and Concert. In the past we have worked with the CIW so it was great to march in the parade.

At yearly meeting we had a lot of fun at the ropes course and the intergenerational dance. We also enjoyed playing kickball with the juniors and elementary kids and playing bananagrams. We also had a workshop with Karen Putney that introduced us to lobbying. We would definitely like to do some lobbying in the coming year. We also presented to the SEYM Business Meeting in support of the Field Secretary for Earthcare position brought forward by the Earthcare Committee. Next year we hope to work with the new Field Secretary on environmental issues with a focus on water. We would also like to do some lobbying in our local communities and possibly take a trip to lobby in Washington DC.

# **Junior Epistle**

Since last year's Yearly Meeting, we worked with EQAT at multiple actions until we finally achieved a victory when PNC bank agreed to stop Mountaintop Removal.

When the Juniors began to arrive on Thursday night at Yearly Meeting, the Teens had set up the framework for our video project.

We did the ropes course on Friday and took pictures and videos. Also on Friday, more people arrived in time for the Intergenerational Play workshop.

On Saturday, we participated in an archery activity with the Young Friends. The Juniors took pictures of the archery and took a few turns with bows and arrows after the Young Friends left. After archery, the youth participated in Capture the Flag hosted by one of the Juniors.

After dinner, the Juniors stayed up late to finish the video project. Please enjoy our video.

Signed, Junior Friends

# **Elementary Epistle**

Greetings to Friends everywhere from Southeastern Yearly Meeting Elementary group. Our week ended much too short but was filled with joy and peace.

I came rather late in the week on Thursday night. To my surprise, I was the only one there on Friday morning and I was thinking how lucky I was to be out of school. We started out the morning doing worship sharing, thinking about questions that Vicki Mariner shared with us. I felt led to share a song: (sing it if you know it)..."Love is something if you give it away..."

After worship sharing, Cathy Gaskill shared stories with us about Jim Crow and life in the south for Quakers. If you haven't heard Miss Cathy's stories, you're really missing out.

For a couple of times, we played Bananagrams. It was pretty good but hard to play against adults. Then Tor took us on the nature walk. He knew a lot about nature. He told us the names of trees and what the sidewalk was made of.

Next Vincent and Matt talked to us about what we thought of the Labyrinth for the video.

Later, we played an indoor game called "Big Wind Blows." It was pretty fun but the same people were in the middle often. But everyone got a turn.

On Friday night, we danced in the Auditorium. We did all kinds of dancing: chicken dance, square dancing, and circle dances.

Then, on Saturday, we did archery. We walked almost a mile including through a big field of bugs to get there. Mike taught us how to shoot arrows. Most people did better than they thought. Most of us really liked the archery.

We played Capture the Flag. We hid our flags in trees. One team cheated. We decided it as a tie. When the game ended, we found most of our parents in a discussion called "Our Amazing Universe." While we only heard half of the workshop, it was very interesting and very well thought out.

On Saturday evening, we took a walk in the Labyrinth. We liked being outside. It was peaceful to be outside with only a few people. Also on Saturday, we looked at the lake. The lake was beautiful and peaceful. We also found some interesting fish eggs.

The last thing we did on Saturday was play with the big Cheerio, which is a big yellow Cheerio-shaped piece of stretchy fabric. It was fun and it felt like we were all together. (This was then demonstrated during the sharing of the epistle).

We are thankful to everyone who helped us to be here this weekend and hope that we'll see you all next year.

#### **Elementary Friends**

## SOUTHEASTERN YEARLY MEETING NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Second Reading and Approval

#### YEARLY MEETING

Fourth Month 5, 2015

Good morning, Friends,

As clerk of Nominating Committee, I want to thank the other members of the committee for their faithful work: Cheryl Demers-Holton, Eduardo Diaz and Andrea Hoskins. I learned a lot from them and we had fun.

I also thank Friends who came forward to the Committee with their discernment of Friends who might serve in open positions, as well as those who came forward to offer to serve. Please continue to do that with the new committee. Andrea Hoskins and I will be stepping down and we welcome Friends Kathy Hersh and Elllie Caldwell, who were chosen by the Naming Committee. It's a great committee! Personally, I have felt the Spirit moving deeply within me during this Gathering, intertwined with all of you and the Gathering in general.

There remain open positions for service within SEYM. Friends are in discernment on the positions of IBM/EC Recording Clerk and committee member for the Committee for Ministry on Racism. The Committee remains in discernment on clerk of the Gathering Committee. Names may be brought forward to Executive Committee at its June meeting for temporary approval, with final approval being at Fall Interim Business Meeting.

Dustin Lemke has served two terms as a representative to the Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Committee. FGC allows him to continue serving as our representative because he serves as an officer: Assistant Clerk of their Development Committee.

Sandy Lyon's term is over on the Youth Committee and she is now a trainer for the Child Abuse Prevention Programm (CAPP) with Nancy Fennell.

I will not read all the names of those serving SEYM in formal positions because they are in Documents in Advance. The names the Nominating Committee brings forward for approval for service to SEYM are (in bold):

# **Southeastern Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee Report** Nominations for Approval at the Final Yearly Meeting Business Session • Fourth Month 5, 2015

## Officers

Yearly Meeting Clerk			
Interim Business Meeting (IBM) & E			
	Lisa Stewart	Palm Beach	2018
Yearly Meeting & Interim Business	Meeting Assistant Clerk		
	Joel Cook	Palm Beach	
Co-Recording Clerks, Yearly Meetir	ng <b>Jan Dahm</b>	Tampa	2018
	Lisa Erazmus	_	
Recording Clerk, Interim Business	Meeting	-	
Assistant Recording Clerks	Kody Hersh	Miami	
•	Andrew Jason		
Treasurer	Neil Andersen	Tallahassee	
	Seeking a Friend to trai		
Membership Recorder			

#### Trustees

Clerk	Jack Bradin	Palm Beach 2018	
treasurer	Caroline Lanker	Lake Wales, Tampa	2018
	Jean Larson	Gainesville 2016	
	Mimi McAdoo	Sarasota 2017	
SEYM Treasurer- (ex	x officio)	Neil Andersen Tallahassee	2015

## Child Abuse Prevention Program (CAPP)

	Coordinator	Nancy Fennell	Ft. Myers	
	Trainer	Nancy Fennell	Ft. Myers	
Committe	es	-	-	
Archives		Connie Ray		
		Bill Rapp		
		April Merleaux		
		Derek Merleaux	Miami	2018
Earthcare	Co-clerk	Barbara Letsch	Palm Beach	2017
	Co-clerk	Brad Stocker	Miami	2017
		Serrin Anderson	Palm Beach	
		Jocelynn Benton	Tampa	
		Jack Bradin		
		Harold Branam		
		Mike Flanery		
		Al Geiger		
		Juan Reza	Tallahassee	2016
		Need more active members		
Faith & Practi	ce on sabbatical until		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
runn a rruch		Phoebe Andersen	Tallahassee	2016
		Cathy Gaskill		
Finance		Peter Schmidt		
rmance		Tor Bejnar		
		Shawna Doran		
		Tom Corindia		
		Steve Donachie		
		c officio)		
	Asst. YM Clerk (ex of	fficio)Joel Cook	Palm Beach	2016

#### Nominating Committee Report continued...

	YM Secretary (ex of	ficio)	Vicki Carlie Orlando	
	Treasurer (ex offici	o) . Neil Andersen	Tallahassee	
Half-Yearly M				
			Miami	
		Beeg Camarota	Orlando	
Ministry on R				
			Palm Beach	
			Jacksonville	
			Gainesville	
			Orlando	
			more members	
Nominating			Palm Beach	
			Gainesville	
			Miami	
		Kathy Hersh	Miami	
Peace & Socia		TA7 TT 1.		0.01
			Miami	
			Palm Beach	
			Clearwater	
			Jacksonville	
			Gainesville	
			Tampa	
			Miami	
			Jacksonville	
			Gainesville	
			St. Petersburg	
			Clearwater	
Publications			Tallahassee	
			Savannah	
			Orlando	
			Tampa	
		Need more members		
Worship & Mi	nistry			0.01
			Miami	201
		Nancy Corindia		
			Miami	
			Ft. Myers	
			Ft. Myers	
			Miami	
			Sarasota	
			Sarasota	
		Nancy Triscritti	Tampa	2013
Yearly Meetin				
			E: 16	
	Program Coordinat	or.Richard Frechette	Ft. Myers	
	Program Coordinat Registrar	or . Richard Frechette Andrea Hoskins	Miami	
	Program Coordinat Registrar	or . Richard Frechette Andrea Hoskins Martha Morris	Miami Orlando	
	Program Coordinat Registrar	or.Richard Frechette Andrea Hoskins Martha Morris Stephanie Preston	Miami Orlando <b>Orlando</b>	201 201 <b>201</b>
	Program Coordinat Registrar	or.Richard Frechette Andrea Hoskins Martha Morris Stephanie Preston	Miami Orlando	2017 2017
Youth Commi	Program Coordinat Registrar	or.Richard Frechette Andrea Hoskins Martha Morris Stephanie Preston Seeking another member	Miami Orlando <b>Orlando</b>	2017 2017 <b>201</b> 8
Youth Commi	Program Coordinat Registrar  	or . Richard Frechette Andrea Hoskins Martha Morris Stephanie Preston Seeking another member Vicki Mariner	Miami Orlando <b>Orlando Orlando</b> Tallahassee	201 201 201
Youth Commi	Program Coordinat Registrar 	or.Richard Frechette Andrea Hoskins Martha Morris Stephanie Preston Seeking another member Vicki Mariner Aurelio Anderson	Miami Orlando Orlando Orlando Tallahassee Tallahassee	201 201 201 201 2018 2018
Youth Commi	Program Coordinat Registrar 	or.Richard Frechette Andrea Hoskins Martha Morris Stephanie Preston Seeking another member Vicki Mariner Aurelio Anderson	Miami Orlando Orlando Tallahassee Tallahassee Palm Beach	2013 2013 2018 2018 2018 2018
Youth Comm	Program Coordinat Registrar	or.Richard Frechette Andrea Hoskins Martha Morris Stephanie Preston Seeking another member Seeking another member Sucki Mariner Aurelio Anderson Caroline Chen Rolf Hanson	Miami Orlando Orlando Tallahassee Tallahassee Palm Beach Sarasota	2013 2013 2018 2018 2018 2018 2013
Youth Comm	Program Coordinat Registrar	or . Richard Frechette Andrea Hoskins Martha Morris Stephanie Preston Seeking another member Vicki Mariner Aurelio Anderson Caroline Chen Rolf Hanson Jennifer Mendoza	Miami Orlando Orlando Tallahassee Tallahassee Palm Beach	2013 2013 2013 2013 2013 2013 2013 2013

Nominating Committee	Report continued
Sarasota	
Orlando	
Татра	
nber	
	Sarasota Orlando Orlando Tampa

## APPOINTEES

ProNica Board Appointees	Herb Haigh	St. Petersburg	
	e	Miami	
	Brad Stocker	Miami	
	Johannes Werner	Sarasota	Oct. 2015

## **REPRESENTATIVES TO ORGANIZATIONS**

American Friends Service Committe	ee Corporation, AFSC/Philadel	phia	
	Harold Branam	Savannah	2016
	Sandy Branam	Savannah	2016
Friends Committee on National Leg			
	Jack Bradin	Palm Beach	2016
	Nancy Corindia	Sarasota	2017
	Karen Putney	Tampa	2018
	Lou Putney	Tampa	2017
		Clearwater	
Friends General Conference, FGC Co	0		
		Tampa	2018
		Orlando	
	Kav Lesnick	Orlando	2016
Friends World Committee for Const			
	Clara Diaz	Miami	2016
	Eduardo Diaz	Miami	2018
	Sarah Hernandez	Sarasota	2018
	Nancyrose Logan	Sarasota	2017
Friends Peace Teams	Cecilia Yocum	Tampa	2018
	Shawna Doran	Gainesville	
Florida Council of Churches	no representative at this tim	е	
Florida Impact, Contact Person	Eileen Zingaro	Clearwater	2016
Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,	Fransgender and Queer Conce	rns - FLGBTQC	
	Stephanie Preston	Orlando	2018
Historic Peace Churches: Quaker, M	ennonite, and Church of the B	rethren	
South Florida	Warren Hoskins	Miami	2016
North Florida	Minerva Glidden	Orlando	2016
Palmetto Friends Gathering	Phoebe Andersen	Tallahassee	2017
-	Neil Andersen	Tallahassee	2017
	Ellie Caldwell	Palm Beach	2017
Quaker Earthcare Witness	Jack Bradin	Palm Beach	2016
Quaker House	Elaine Martin	Jacksonville	2017
Quaker United Nations Office	Tim Ray	Gainesville	2017

## APPOINTED OBSERVERS TO ORGANIZATIONS

From 10YBM05: "...Having affirmed the intention to remain in loving relationship with Friends United Meeting (FUM), SEYM will appoint and fund, through the Yearly Meeting's Travel process, an Observer to attend a FUM General Board meeting once a year. That person will report annually to the Yearly Meeting business sessions of SEYM..."

# SEYM Approved General Fund Budget FY 2015-2016

	В	Annual udget \$ 2013-14	В	Annual udget \$ ′2014-15	В	pproved udget \$ ′2015-16
Income						
2000 Income						
2001 Donations						
2002 Individual Donations (incldg In-Kind)	\$	2,000	\$	2,200	\$	2,000
2003 Meetings & Worship Groups - Apportionments	\$	76,295	\$	58,748	\$	58,290
Total 2001 Donations	\$	78,295	\$	60,948	\$	60,290
2200 Investment Earnings						
2203 Savings account interest	\$	16	\$	8	\$	10
Total 2200 Investment Earnings	\$	16	\$	8	\$	10
Total 2000 Income	\$	78,311	\$	60,956	\$	60,300
2700 Transfers in FROM other classes						
2712 Michener Lecture to GF/insurance	\$	134	\$	150	\$	150
2732 Gath/Walton to GF/insurance	\$	935	\$	900	\$	900
2752 HYM to GF/insurance	\$	486	\$	450	\$	450
2804 From Trustee's Funds						
2815 for Bertsche Outreach Travel	\$	1,700	\$	1,670	\$	1,800
2820 for Secretary's Salary	\$	4,000	\$	3,900	\$	4,200
Total 2804 from Trustee's Funds	\$	5,700	\$	5,570	\$	6,000
Total 2700 Transfers in FROM other classes	\$	7,255	\$	7,070	\$	7,500
Total Income	\$	85,566	\$	68,026	\$	67,800
Expenses						
2999 Expenses						
3000 Administrative						
3001 Bank Service Charges	\$	20	\$	20	\$	20
3002 Credit Card service fees	\$	10	\$	70	\$	10
3080 Duplication	\$	4,500	\$	4,500	\$	2,000
3106 Liability Insurance	\$	1,700	\$	1,500	\$	1,700
3107 Youth Worker CAP Certification Program	\$	300	\$	150	\$	150
3146 State Fee for Non-Profit Corporation	\$	61	\$	61	\$	60
3200 Office Supplies	\$	580	\$	600	\$	900
3270 Payroll Expenses - Employee Salary	\$	40,994	\$	24,877	\$	27,600
3271 Payroll Expenses - Employee Benefits	\$	5,000	\$	I	\$	-
3272 Payroll Expenses - Employer Taxes for Staff	\$	3,136	\$	1,903	\$	2,100
3380 Postage & Shipping	\$	800	\$	700	\$	900
3381 Post Office Box Rental	\$	80	\$	150	\$	80
3400 Office Equipment	\$	250	\$	400	\$	400
3500 Professional Svcs (& incldg QUIP Membership)	\$	150	\$	3,075	\$	1,580
3640 Rent, Office & Off-site Storage Unit	\$	1,850	\$	1,320	\$	1,400
3700 Repairs	\$	350	\$	350	\$	100
3816 Software	\$	800	\$	600	\$	800

# SEYM Approved General Fund Budget FY 2015-2016

	В	Annual udget \$ '2013-14	В	Annual udget \$ 2014-15	E	pproved Judget \$ 12015-16
3840 Telephone & Internet Service	\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
3860 Travel Administrative	\$	1,300	\$	2,500	\$	2,000
3900 Website Fees (& Off-site E-Data Storage)	\$	300	\$	800	\$	800
5187 Membership Quakers United in Publishing (QUIP)	\$	75	\$		\$	-
Total 3000 Administrative	\$	64,256	\$	45,575	\$	44,600
4000 Committees Operating Expenses						
4309 Archives	\$	550	\$	550	\$	550
4329 EC & IBM	\$	100	\$	100	\$	100
4339 Faith & Practice	\$	50	\$	50	\$	50
4349 Finance	\$	50	\$	50	\$	50
4359 Nominating	\$	50	\$	50	\$	50
4369 Peace & Social Concerns	\$	200	\$	200	\$	200
4389 Youth Committee	\$	50	\$	50	\$	50
4399 Worship & Ministry	\$	150	\$	150	\$	150
4429 Earthcare	\$	50	\$	50	\$	500
4449 Publications	\$	-	\$	-	\$	50
4469 Ministry on Racism	\$	50	\$	50	\$	50
4489 Young Adult Quakers	\$	50	\$	50	\$	50
Total 4000 Committee Operating Expenses	\$	1,350	\$	1,350	\$	1,850
5000 Donations to Organizations						
5007 AFSC	\$	100	\$	200	\$	200
5008 AFSC-SERO	\$	100	\$		\$	
5018 Earlham School of Religion	\$	100	\$	100	\$	100
5027 FCNL	\$	300	\$	300	\$	300
5028 QEW	\$	200	\$	200	\$	200
5030 FLGBTQC	\$	50	\$	100	\$	100
5037 FGC	\$	1,200	\$	1,200	\$	1,200
5038 Florida Coalition for Peace & Justice	\$	60	\$	100	\$	100
5047 Florida Council of Churches	\$	200	\$	200	\$	200
5048 Florida Impact	\$	300	\$	300	\$	300
5057 Friends Journal	\$	100	\$	100	\$	100
5058 Friends Peace Teams	\$	250	\$	250	\$	500
5067 FUM (often restricted to specific Project(s))	\$	500	\$	500	\$	500
5068 FWCC	\$	1,450	\$	1,450	\$	1,450
5077 Pendle Hill	\$	100	\$	100	\$	100
5078 ProNica	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000
5085 Quaker House of Fayetteville NC	\$	-	\$	200	\$	200
5087 Quaker Life	\$	100	\$	100	\$	100
5089 Quaker UN Office	\$	100	\$	100	\$	100
5097 William Penn House	\$	100	\$	100	\$	100
Total 5000 Donations to Organizations	\$	9,310	\$	9,600	\$	9,850

# SEYM Approved General Fund Budget FY 2015-2016

	В	Annual Budget \$ FY2013-14		Annual udget \$ ′2014-15	B	pproved udget \$ ′2015-16
8000 Representative Travel						
8160 Annual Representative	\$	3,300	\$	4,000	\$	4,000
Total 8000 Representative Travel	\$	3,300	\$	4,000	\$	4,000
8500 Contingency	\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
Total 2999 Expenses	\$	80,216	\$	62,525	\$	62,300
9000 Transfer out to other classes						
9004 for Youth Programs	\$	2,500	\$	2,500	\$	2,500
9005 for Gathering Youth	\$	2,000	\$	2,000	\$	2,000
9060 for Triennial Travel Reserves	\$	850	\$	1,000	\$	1,000
Total 9000 Transfer out to other classes	\$	5,350	\$	5,500	\$	5,500
Total Expenses	\$	85,566	\$	68,025	\$	67,800
Net Income	\$	-	\$	-	\$	

<u>Budget Support Apportionments for</u> Based on SEYM 2015 Annual Sessions Statistics & Approved Budget	<u>Budget S</u>	Statistics & App	Budget Support Apportionments for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Sessions Statistics & Approved Budget	iscal Year 201:	<u>5-2016</u>	Ś	58,290						
		:	ſ						COMPARIS	ON WITH PRE	COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS		
	March 2015	March 2015	FY2016	FY2016 MM/WG		≤ŋ	FY2016 MM/WG		June 2014 FY	FY2015 <u>Actual</u>	Jan 2013		FY2014 <u>Actual</u>
Meeting/worsnip Group	Nethors	Alleriders	Apport. Units	% 01 10131		Abb	Apportnint		Apport. Onus	Apportuniti	Apport. Onus		Apporutitit
Charleston MM	7	œ	11.0	1.9%		÷	1,113		11.0 \$	1,093		13.0 \$	1,526
Clearwater MM	14	15	21.5	3.7%		ŝ	2,180		24.0 \$	2,379	N	25.0 \$	2,976
Fort Lauderdale MM	6	2	7.0	1.2%		÷	711		7.0 \$	693		8.5 \$	992
Fort Myers MM	25	36	43.0	7.5%		θ	4,354		37.0 \$	3,672	4	41.5 \$	4,959
Gainesville MM	66	15	73.5	12.8%		ŝ	7,444		77.0 \$	7,643	~1	78.5 \$	9,308
Jacksonville MM	7	25	19.5	3.4%		ŝ	1,976		19.5 \$	1,933	N	21.0 \$	2,518
Melbourne, Qkr Mtg of	14	ω	15.5	2.7%		ω	1,568		14.5 \$	1,439		15.5 \$	1,831
Miami MM	60	26	73.0	12.7%		θ	7,391		76.5 \$	7,590	7	77.5 \$	9,232
Orlando MM	38	21	48.5	8.4%		ω	4,914		49.5 \$	4,911	~	72.0 \$	8,545
Palm Beach MM Treasure Coast WG	35 0	NO	38.0 1.0	6.6% 0.2%		ωω	3,847 99		40.0 \$ 1.0 \$	3,971 100	٨	42.5 \$ 2.0 \$	5,035 229
Palm Beach MM Total	35	00	39.0	6.8%		ŝ	3,946		41.0 \$	4,071		44.5 \$	5,264
Saint Petersburg MM Lake Wales WG	47 0	20 3	57.0 1.5	9.9% 0.3%		აა	5,771 152		61.5 \$ 1.5 \$	6,104 147	•	61.5 \$ 2.0 \$	7,324 229
Managua wG St. Petersburg MM Total	47	4 27	2.0 60.5	0.4% 10.5%		<del>ω</del> α	204 6,127		1.0 \$ 64.0 \$	6,351			305 7,858
Sarasota MM	45	13	51.5	9.0%		θ	5,217		61.0 \$	6,051	C	65.5 \$	7,782
Savannah MM	11	œ	15.0	2.6%		Ω	1,521		12.0 \$	1,193		15.0 \$	1,755
Tallahassee MM	47	28	61.0	10.6%		Ω	6,179		59.5 \$	5,904	e	60.0 \$	7,095
Tampa MM	21	17	29.5	5.1%		ω	2,990		32.0 \$	3,178	(0)	31.5 \$	3,738
Winter Park MM	4	უ	6.5	1.1%		ω	659		6.5 \$	646		7.5 \$	916
TOTALS	447	257	575.5	100.0%		ω	58,290		592.0 \$	58,747	64	642.5 \$	76,295
<u>History Comparison</u> Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Fiscal Year 2011-2012	<u>Members</u> 447 468 497 518	<u>Attenders</u> 257 248 291 310 334	<u>Units</u> 575.5 592.0 642.5 645.0 685.0	<u>Y-Y Incrs (%)</u> -2.8% -7.9% -0.4% -5.8%		Budget	<u>Budget Apprtnmt</u> \$58,290 \$58,748 \$76,295 \$72,434 \$70,384	<u>% Incrs</u> -0.8% -23.0% 5.3% 2.9%	<u>Unit Apprtnmt</u> \$101.29 \$99.24 \$118.75 \$112.30 \$102.75	<u>Y-Y Incrs (%)</u> 2.1% -16.4% 5.7% 9.3% -			

pg. 4 of 4

SEYM 2015 YEARLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES | 29

Southeastern Yearly Meeting of The Religious Society of Friends

# Treasurer's Report at 2015 Yearly Business Meeting

#### **PRELIMINARY - Fiscal Year 2014-15** at end Third Quarter (June 1, 2014 – February 28, 2015) All values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

#### SEYM Total Cash Flow (excluding Trustees)

At the end of three-quarters of the Fiscal Year the total cash flow (not including unrealized capital gains) of the Yearly Meeting excluding the Trustees accounts showed a net income of \$2,160, resulting from Total Income of \$61,278 vs. Total Expenses of \$59,118.

#### SEYM Budget vs. General Fund Cash Flow

At the end of Third Quarter, the Fiscal Year Budget of \$68,026 approved for general operations (\$51,020 for nine months) had a net income of \$2,665, resulting from \$44,266 General Fund income (65% of Annual Budget) and \$41,601 General Fund expenses (61%).

This interim picture may not be predictive of the year-end result because significant expenses (e.g., charitable donations) are budgeted during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year.

#### SEYM Budget Support Received (Apportionments & Contributions)

Through the end of Third Quarter, the annual Apportionment request (the Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups support of SEYM) has received contributions that totaled \$35,405 (60% of the \$58,748 Annual Budget).

By the end of February, the nineteen Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups which were apportioned specific requests to support the budget responded as follows: five have contributed their entire requested amount, two have contributed at least three-quarters, six have contributed at least one-half, and six requests (including two of the larger Monthly Meetings) have not yet contributed.

By the end of February, unrestricted contributions received from individuals (plus a very significant contribution from a Worship Group that is not part of the Apportionment process) totaled \$1,152 (52% of the \$2200 Annual Budget). In addition, \$32 restricted to specific SEYM programs has been received.

#### **SEYM Cash Flow Results for Programs**

The Half Yearly Meeting annual accounts have been closed, with a net income of \$126 to be transferred by policy to the General Fund.

The Michener Lecture annual accounts have been closed, with a net income of \$354 to be transferred by policy to the Trustees to be invested in the Michener Lecture Endowment Fund that provides dividend income (in 2015, 57% of total expenses) to support future Lectures.

The Publications Program during these nine months has had a net income of \$1,231, excluding \$353 of unrealized capital gains.

The Programs for Youth during these nine months has had a net income of \$640, resulting in a current balance of \$2,893 available for future programs.

#### Net Worth (including Trustees)

At the end of February 2015 the combined Yearly Meeting and its Trustees had Assets of \$494,200 and Liabilities of \$1,801, yielding a combined Net Worth of \$492,399, an increase of \$15,708 (including \$11,797 in unrealized capital gains) since the beginning of the fiscal year.

Neil H. Andersen Treasurer of SEYM April 1, 2015

QBP20150323	Jun '14 - Feb 15	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Income				
2000 · Income				
2001 · Donations				
2002 · Indivd Donations-Classes	702.00	2,200.00	-1,498.00	31.91%
2003 · Meeting Donations				
2023 Meeting Donations, WG wo apport	450.00	50 740 00	00.044.00	00.000/
2003 Meeting Donations - Other	35,404.00	58,748.00	-23,344.00	60.26%
Total 2003 · Meeting Donations	35,854.00	58,748.00	-22,894.00	61.03%
Total 2001 · Donations	36,556.00	60,948.00	-24,392.00	59.98%
2200 · Investment Earnings				
2203 · Savings Account Interest	4.66	8.00	-3.34	58.25%
2200 · Investment Earnings - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 2200 · Investment Earnings	4.66	8.00	-3.34	58.25%
2316 · GuideOne Insurance Dividends	332.76			
Total 2000 · Income	36,893.42	60,956.00	-24,062.58	60.53%
2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes				
2712 · Michener Lect. to GF/insurance	150.00	150.00	0.00	100.0%
2732 · Gath/Walton to GF/insurance	900.00	900.00	0.00	100.0%
2752 · HYM to GF/insurance	450.00	450.00	0.00	100.0%
2804 · from Trustee's Funds				
2815 · for BertscheOutreach Travel	1,762.98	1,670.00	92.98	105.57%
2820 · for Secretary's Salary	4,110.10	3,900.00	210.10	105.39%
Total 2804 · from Trustee's Funds	5,873.08	5,570.00	303.08	105.44%
Total 2700 $\cdot$ Transfer in FROM other classes	7,373.08	7,070.00	303.08	104.29%
Total Income	44,266.50	68,026.00	-23,759.50	65.07%
Gross Profit	44,266.50	68,026.00	-23,759.50	65.07%

Expense

2999 · Expenses

3000 · Operating Costs

Treasurer's Report: General Fund Income & Expense vs. Budget • Page 1 of 4

QBP20150323	Jun '14 - Feb 15	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
3001 Bank Service Charges	0.00	20.00	-20.00	0.0%
3002 · PayPal service fee	0.00	70.00	-70.00	0.0%
3080 · Duplication	102.81	4,500.00	-4,397.19	2.29%
3100 Insurance			,	
3106 · Liability Insurance	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.0%
3100 Insurance - Other	1,393.55			
Total 3100 · Insurance	1,393.55	1,500.00	-106.45	92.9%
3107 · Youth Worker CAP Certification	166.95	150.00	16.95	111.3%
3146 · Non-Profit Corporation Fee	0.00	61.00	-61.00	0.0%
3200 Office Supplies	758.68	600.00	158.68	126.45%
3270 Payroll Expenses	19,916.14	24,877.00	-4,960.86	80.06%
3272 Employer Payroll Taxes	1,704.04	1,903.00	-198.96	89.55%
3380 · Postage/Shipping	601.67	700.00	-98.33	85.95%
3381 Post Office Box rental	78.00	150.00	-72.00	52.0%
3400 · Office Equipment	77.90	400.00	-322.10	19.48%
3500 Professional Fees				
3536 · Consulting	0.00			
3556 · Web consult/CGI script	1,566.78			
5187 · QUIP (Quakers Uniting in Public	0.00	75.00	-75.00	0.0%
3500 · Professional Fees - Other	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.0%
Total 3500 · Professional Fees	1,566.78	3,075.00	-1,508.22	50.95%
3640 · Rent warehouse/office				
3642 · office rent	448.00			
3643 · warehouse	644.82			
3640 · Rent warehouse/office - Other	0.00	1,320.00	-1,320.00	0.0%
Total 3640 · Rent warehouse/office	1,092.82	1,320.00	-227.18	82.79%
3700 · Repairs				
3740 · Computer Repairs	75.00			
3700 · Repairs - Other	0.00	350.00	-350.00	0.0%
Total 3700 · Repairs	75.00	350.00	-275.00	21.43%
3816 · Software	803.92	600.00	203.92	133.99%
3840 · Telephone & Inet access	1,601.43	2,000.00	-398.57	80.07%
3860 · Travel Administrative	615.04	2,500.00	-1,884.96	24.6%

Treasurer's Report: General Fund Income & Expense vs. Budget • Page 2 of 4

QBP20150323	Jun '14 - Feb 15	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
3900 · Website				
3641 · Rent/fee .com off-site storage	75.00			
3940 · Domain Name Registrations	87.00			
3900 · Website - Other	142.91	800.00	-657.09	17.86%
Total 3900 · Website	304.91	800.00	-495.09	38.11%
Total 3000 · Operating Costs	30,859.64	45,576.00	-14,716.36	67.71%
4000 · Committees Operating Expenses				
4309 · Archives	197.08	550.00	-352.92	35.83%
4329 · EC and IBM	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
4339 · Faith and Practice	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
4349 · Finance	26.24	50.00	-23.76	52.48%
4359 · Nominating	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
4369 · Peace and Social Concerns	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
4389 · Youth Committee	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
4399 · Worship and Ministry	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
4429 Earthcare	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
4469 · Racism, Ministry on	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
4489 · Young Adult Quakers	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
Total 4000 · Committees Operating Expenses	223.32	1,350.00	-1,126.68	16.54%
5000 Donations to Organizations				
5007 · AFSC	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
5008 · AFSC-SERO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
5018 · Earlham School of Religion	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5027 · FCNL	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
5028 · QEW (FCUN)	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
5030 · FLGBTQC	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5037 · FGC	0.00	1,200.00	-1,200.00	0.0%
5038 · FLCoalition for Peace & Justice	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5047 · Florida Council of Churches	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
5048 · Florida Impact	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
5057 · Friends Journal	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5061 · Friends Peace Teams	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
5067 · FUM	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
5068 · FWCC	0.00	1,450.00	-1,450.00	0.0%

Treasurer's Report: General Fund Income & Expense vs. Budget • Page 3 of 4

QBP20150323	Jun '14 - Feb 15	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
5077 · Pendle Hill	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5078 · ProNica	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.0%
5085 · Quaker House of Fayetteville NC	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
5087 · Quaker Life	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5089 · QUNO	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
5097 · Wm Penn House	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Total 5000 · Donations to Organizations	0.00	9,600.00	-9,600.00	0.0%
6000 · Production				
6280 · Printing, Service Bureau	1,280.00			
Total 6000 · Production	1,280.00			
8000 · Representative Travel				
8160 Annual Representative	3,738.09	4,000.00	-261.91	93.45%
Total 8000 · Representative Travel	3,738.09	4,000.00	-261.91	93.45%
8500 · Contingency	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
Total 2999 Expenses	36,101.05	62,526.00	-26,424.95	57.74%
9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes				
9004 · for Youth Programs	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	100.0%
9005 · for Gathering Youth	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.0%
9060 · for Triennial Travel	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	100.0%
Total 9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes	5,500.00	5,500.00	0.00	100.0%
Total Expense	41,601.05	68,026.00	-26,424.95	61.16%
Net Income	2,665.45	0.00	2,665.45	100.0%

Treasurer's Report: General Fund Income & Expense vs. Budget • Page 4 of 4

2700 Transfer in FROM other classes 2712 - Michener Lect, to GF/insurance 2732 - Galt/Walton to GF/insurance 2752 - HYM to GF/insurance	Total 2000 - Income	2600 · Sales 2680 · Publication Sales 2681 · Declutter, LittleQuakerBook of Total 2500 · Sales	2316 - GuideOne Insurance Dividends 2380 - Postagesthipping reimbursement 2400 - Program Registrations 2430 - Registration Fee 2437 - Food, Dining Room 2437 - Food, Dining Room Total 2400 - Program Registrations	Total 2200 - Investment Eamings	2281 - Capital Gain(loss) SEYM Publish	2231 - Capital Gain(Loss) Walton 2256 - Capital Gain(Loss) Domini	2226 · Capital Gain(Loss) Unrestricted	2216 - Capital Gain(Loss) Bertscheo Tra 2221 - Capital Gain(Loss) Sec 'sSal Fd	2290 - Trivesurient Ceptial Gents/Losses 2206 - Capital Gent/Loss ) Gath. Youth 2211 - Capital Gainflings ) Michanar	2280 - Dividends FFC SEYM Publications				2220 Original Cover origin and	2210 - Dividende EEO Seo, Seland Fund			2104 - Ind Donstn for Youth Event Exp Total 2001 - Donations	Total 2003 Meeting Donations	2023 - Meeting Donations, WG we apport 2003 - Meeting Donations - Other	2000 Income 2001 - Donations 2002 - Indivd Donations-Classes 2003 - Meeting Donations	GBP20150323
150.00 900.00 450.00	36,893.42	000	332.76 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	4 66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0 00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.66	 36.556.00	35,854 00	450 00 35,404 00	702.00	General Fund (Admin) Jun '14 - Feb 15
000	0.00	0.00	0 00 0 00 0 000	0.00	0.00	000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	000	000	00.0	0.00	0.00	Gathering & Walton Lecture Jun '14 - Feb 15
0.00	2,649.25	0.00	0.00 0.00 1,343.00 1,297.00 2,640.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	 0.00	0.00	0.00	9.25	Half Yeany Meeting (HYM) Jun '14 - Feb 15
0.00	950.00	0.00	950.00 950.00 950.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Michener Lecture Jun 14 - Feb 15
0.00	22.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	Programs for Youth Jun 114 - Feb 15
0.00	2,021.61	1,031.17 72,00 1,103.17	0.00 41.06 0.00 0.00	877.38	353.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	524.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Publications Jun '14 - Feb 15
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0 00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Triennial Travel Jun '14 - Feb 15
150 00 900 00 450 00	42,537 03	1,031,17 72,00 1,103,17	332 76 41 06 2.293 00 1.297 00 3.590 00	882.04	353 16	0 00	0.00	0.00	0.00	524 22	0.00	0 00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4 56	22 75 36 588 00	35,854.00	450.00 35,404.00	711 25	SEYM Sub-Total Jun '14 - Feb 15
0.00	25,288.84	50.00 50.00	0.00	25,238.84	0.00	1,052,33 927,31	2,386.60	1.187.89 2.768.91	2,590.87 520.76	0.00	354.47	337.50	1.562.06	1 008 48	4 110 10	1 780 08	0.00 3,870.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Trustees Funds Jun '14 - Feb 15
150.00 900.00 450.00	67,825,87	1,081.17 72.00 1,153.17	332.76 41.06 2.293.00 1.297.00 3.590.00	26,120.88	353.16 41 706 83	1,052.33	2,386.60	1,187.69	2,590.87 570.76	524.22	354.47	337.50	1,582,06	1 008 48	4 110 10	00 C34 1	4.66 3,870.69	 22.75	35,854.00	450.00 35,404.00	711.25	TOTAL Jun '14 - Feb 15

# Southeastern Yearly Meeting Income & Expense June 2014 through February 2015

03/27/15 Cash Basis

Southeastern Yearly Meeting	Income & Expense	June 2014 through February 2015

03/27/15 Cash Basis

TOTAL Jun 14 - Feb 15 2,500 00 1,000 00 2,000 00	3,870.69 789.09 1,762.98 4,110.10 1,552.06 12,094.92	19,094.92	88,920.79	86,920.79	0 00 34 82	126.81 0.00	1,393.55	156.95 0.00	864 17 19 916 14	1,704,04	77 90	0.00 1,556.78	133.00 0.00 0.00	1,699.78	448.00	044.62 0.00 1,092.82	75 00 75 00	803.92
Trustees Funds Jun '14 - Feb 15 0.00 0.00	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	0.00	25.288 84	25,288.84	000	00 0	000	00.0	000	000	00 0	000	000	00.0	000	000	000	00 0
SEYM Sub-Total Jun '14 - Feb 15 2,500.00 1,000.00 2,000.00	3.870.69 789.09 1.762.98 4,110.10 1.562.06 1.2094.92	19,094.92	61,631,95	61,631.95	0.00 34.82	126.81	1,393.55	166.95 0.00	864.17 19.916.14	1,704.04	78.00 77.90	0.00	133.00 0.00 0.00	1,699.78	448.00	0.00	75.00 0.00 75.00	803.92
Triennial Travel Jun '14 - Feb 15 0.00 1.000.00	00.0 00.0 00.0 00.0 00.0	1,000,00	1,000.00	1,000.00	00.0	0.00	000	000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Publications Jun 14 - Feb 15 0.00 0.00	000 000 000 000 000	0.00	2,021.61	2,021,61	00'0	0.00	0.00	000	105.49	0.00	0.00	00.0	133.00 0.00 0.00	133.00	0.00	0.00	000	00.0
Programs for Youth Jun 14 - Feb 15 2,500.00 0.00	000 000 000 000 000	2,500.00	2,522.75	2,522,75	00.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	00.0	0.00	00.0	0.00	0.00	000	00.0	000	000 000	00.0
Michener Lecture Jun 14 - Feb 15 0.00 0.00	0.00 789.09 0.00 0.00 789.09	789.09	1,739.09	1,739.09	000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00.00	000	000	0.00
Half Yearly Meeting (HYM) Jun '14 - Feb 15 0.00 0.00		0000	2,649.25	2,649.25	0,00 34,82	0.00	0.00	00.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	00.0	0.0	0.00	0.00	000	000	0.00
Gathering & Walton Lecture Jun 14 - Feb 15 0 00 2,000 00	3,870.69 0.00 0.00 1,562.06 5,432.75	7,432.75	7,432.75	7,432.75	000	24.00	000	000	000	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0000	00.0	000	0.00	000	000	000	00.0
General Fund (Admin) Jun '14 - Feb 15 0.00 0.00	0 00 0 00 1,762 98 4,110 10 5,873 06	7,373.08	44,266.50	44,266.50	00 0	102.81	1,393.55	166.95 0.00	758.68 19.916.14	1,704.04	78 00	0.00 1,556.78	000	1,55678	448 00	0.00 0.00 1,092.82	75.00 0.00 75.00	803.92
0.08P.20150323 2784 - from GF for YouthProgramsCass 2801 - from GF for General Fund 2802 - from GF for Gathaning Youth	2605 - for instate s curos 2816 - for Gathering Youth 2816 - for MichenerLecture 2815 - for BertscheOurleach Travel 2820 - for Secretary's Salary 2820 - for Valtor Lecture/Sathering 70al 2804 - from Trustee's Funds	Total 2700 Transfer in FROM other classes	Total Income	Gross Profit	Expense 2999 - Expenses 3000 - Operating Costs 3001 - Bank Service Charges 3002 - Payra Service fee	3080 - Duplication 3100 - Insurance 3105 - Liability Insurance	3100 - Insurance - Other Total 3100 - Insurance	3107 - Youth Worker CAP Certification 3146 - Non-Profit Compration Fee	3200 Office Supplies 3270 Pavrol Exoenses	3272 - Employer Payroll Taxes 3380 - Postana/Shipping	3381 - Post Office Box rental 3400 - Office Equipment 3500 - Professional Fees	3536 - Consulting 3556 - Web consult/CGI script	3585 E-pub Dist fees 5187 - QUIP (Quakers Uniting in Public 3500 - Professional Fees - Other	Total 3500 Professional Fees	3640 - Rent warehouse/office 3642 - office rent	2043 ware rouse 3640 - Rent warehouse/office - Other Total 3640 - Rent warehouse/office	3700 - Repairs 3740 - Computer Repairs 3700 - Repairs - Other Total 3700 - Repairs	3816 - Software

Page 2 of 4

36 | SEYM 2015 YEARLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Income & Expense June 2014 through February 2015	Southeastern Yearly Meeting
---	-----------------------------

03/27/15 Cash Basis

6000 Production 6080 - ISSN Printing, Publications 6280 - Printing, Service Bureau Total 6000 - Production	5000 Donations to Organizations 5007 AFSC 5008 AFSC-SER0 5018 EarthSched of Religion 5027 FCNL 5028 OEW (FCUN) 5028 OEW (FCUN) 5037 FGC 5037 FGC 5037 FGC 5037 Find Council of Churches 5048 Florida Impact 5047 Finde Journal 5057 Frende Hill 5078 Prenkle Hill 5078 Prenkle Hill 5078 Prenkle Hill 5078 Prenkle Hill 5078 Outwer House of Fayetheville NC 5077 Outwer Lite 5087 Outwer Lite 5087 Outwer Lite 5087 Outwer Lite 5097 Wim Penn House	CBP20150323 3840 - Telephone & Inet access 3860 - Wabsite 5841 - Reinfree com off-site storage 3840 - Domain Name Registrations 3900 - Website - Other Total 3000 - Operating Costs 4000 - Committees Operating Expenses 4309 - Archives 4309 - EC and IBM 4339 - Felth and Practice 4449 - Finance 4359 - Normhating 4369 - Peace and Social Concerns 4369 - Vouth Committee 4369 - Worship and Ministry 439 - Earthcare 4469 - Raism, Ministry on 4469 - Raism, Ministry on 4469 - Raism, Ministry on
0 00 1,280 00 1,280 00	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	General Fund (Admin) Jun 114 - Feb 15 1 601 43 6 615 04 75 00 87 00 142 91 304 91 304 91 9 000 0 00 26 24 197 08 0 00 0 000 0 000000
0.00	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.0	Gathering & Walton Lecture Jun '14 - Feb 15 0 000 0 000
0.00 12.00 12.00		Half Yearly Jun 14- Feb 15 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0
0.00		Michaner Lecture 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.
0.00	200.00 200.00 200.00 200.00 200.00 200.00 200.00 200.00 200.00 200.00	Programs for Youth 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.
132.00 0.00 132.00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	Publications Um 114 - Feb 15 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0
0.00	000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 00	Triennial Travel Jun 114 - Feb 15 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000
132.00 1,292.00 1,424.00	20000 2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 20	SEYM Sub-Total Jun '14 - Feb 15 15.04 75.00 87.00 87.00 87.00 14.2.91 304.91 31,280.03 0.00 0.00 26.24 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0
0.00	0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 0	Trustees Funds 0 000 0 0000 0 000 0 000000
132.00 1,292.00 1,424.00	200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200	TOTAL Jun 114 - Feb 15 1 601 43 615 04 75 00 87 00 87 00 87 00 87 00 142 91 31 265 03 0 00 28 24 0 00 28 24 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 00 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000 0 000

Southeastern Yearly Meeting Income & Expense June 2014 through February 2015

03/27/15 Cash Basis

Page 4 of 4

03/27/15 Cash Basis

#### Southeastern Yearly Meeting

Balance Sheet

As of February 28, 2015

QBP20150323	Feb 28, 15	May 31, 14	\$ Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets Checking/Savings			
0501 · Checking Account BOA			
511 · Checking - Gen'l Fund - General	26,141.30	24,969.70	1,171.60
560 Checking-GF-Triennial Travel	4,598.18	3,598.18	1,000.00
566 Checking-GF-Sufferings	170.00	170.00	0.00
610 Checking-SA-Michener	353.80	0.00	353.80
630 · Checking-SA-YBM Gathering	-4,426.50	-576.21	-3,850.29
640 Checking-SA-Programs for Youth	2,892.81	2,252.77	640.04
650 · Checking-SA-HYM	125.53	0.00	125.53
680 · Checking-SA-Publications	2,370.44	1,139.02	1,231.42
700 · Checking-Trustees			
705 Checking - Gathering Youth Fund	4,177.74	5,766.59	-1,588.85
710 · Checking - Michener Fund	1,378.44	1,378.44	0.00
750 Checking -FGC Meetinghouse Fund	887.50	550.00	337.50
759 Checking - Other Trustee Funds	0.00	150.00	-150.00
700 · Checking-Trustees - Other	0.00	-259.85	259.85
Total 700 · Checking-Trustees	6,443.68	7,585.18	-1,141.50
Total 0501 · Checking Account BOA	38,669.24	39,138.64	-469.40
903 · Savings BOA	20,826.74	20,822.08	4.66
999 · Pay Pal	150.00	127.00	23.00
Total Checking/Savings	59,645.98	60,087.72	-441.74
Other Current Assets			
1180 · FFC SOYM1 Publications Investme	13,433.79	13,080.63	353,16
1200 · Trustee Investments	,	,	
1205 · FFC SOYMT6 GatheringYouth Fund	99,922.85	95,952.98	3,969.87
1210 · FFC SOYMT3 Michener	20,300.81	19,621.05	679.76
1215 · FFC SOYMT2 BertscheTravel Fd	45,178.53	43,990.84	1,187.69
1220 · FFC SOYMT5 Sec's Salary Fund	105,326.86	102,557.95	2,768.91
1225 FFC SOYMT4 Unrestricted	53,723.57	50,328.49	3,395.08
1230 · FFC SOYMT1 Walton Fund	40,029.70	38,977.37	1,052.33
1250 · FGC Meetinghouse Fund	22,500.00	22,500.00	0.00
1255 · Domini Fund			
1257 · Domini International Equity	14,947.83	15,510.07	-562.24
1259 · Domini Social Equity Fund	18,926.21	17,082.19	1,844.02
Total 1255 · Domini Fund	33,874.04	32,592.26	1,281.78
Total 1200 · Trustee Investments	420,856.36	406,520.94	14,335.42
Total Other Current Assets	434,290.15	419,601.57	14,688.58
Total Current Assets	493,936.13	479,689.29	14,246.84
Other Assets			
1270 · Loans			
1276 · Non-SEYM Bank Error	263.58	263.58	0.00
1270 · Loans - Other	0.00	155.50	-155.50

#### Page 1 of 2

03/27/15 Cash Basis

#### Southeastern Yearly Meeting

Balance Sheet

As of February 28, 2015

QBP20150323	Feb 28, 15	May 31, 14	\$ Change
Total 1270 · Loans	263.58	419.08	-155.50
Total Other Assets	263.58	419.08	-155.50
TOTAL ASSETS	494,199.71	480,108.37	14,091.34
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities Current Liabilities Other Current Liabilities 1300 · Expected/prepaid expenses			
1336 · Last FY Expenses not paid Total 1300 · Expected/prepaid expenses	0.00	2,036.25 2,036.25	-2,036.25 -2,036.25
1370 · Payroll Liabilities 1372 · SEYM Payroll Liability 1370 · Payroll Liabilities - Other Total 1370 · Payroll Liabilities	588.62 1,212.15 1,800.77	413.60 967.11 1,380.71	175.02 245.04 420.06
Total Other Current Liabilities	1,800.77	3,416.96	-1,616.19
Total Current Liabilities	1,800.77	3,416.96	-1,616.19
Total Liabilities	1,800.77	3,416.96	-1,616.19
Equity 1400 · Trustees Funds Equity 1500 · Operational Equity/ Net Assets	296,693.93	296,693.93	0.00
1511 · General Fund Net Assets 1560 · Triennial Travel Net Assets 1580 · Publications Net Assets Total 1500 · Operational Equity/ Net Assets	29,324.36 5,349.80 14,341.85 49,016.01	29,324.36 5,349.80 14,341.85 49,016.01	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00
1700 · Retained Earnings Net Income Total Equity	130,981.47 15,707.53 492,398.94	74,925.87 56,055.60 476,691.41	56,055.60 -40,348.07 15,707.53
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	494,199.71	480,108.37	14,091.34

## SEYM Peace & Social Concerns Committee meeting at Leesburg, FL 4/02/2015

Present: Warren Hoskins (clerk of the committee), Vicki Carlie, Caroline Chen, Floyd Daniels, Al Geiger, Elaine Martin, Betty Odom, Lucio Perez-Reynozo (AFSC), Karen Putney, Tim Ray, Cecilia Yocum, Eileen Zingaro

We began at about 1:20 p.m. with silent worship. Warren then started, from the silence, welcoming Friends to another meeting of our Peace and Social Concerns Committee in wartime, when our meetings struggle along in a society in which increasingly all demands of the military are met, and there is hostility towards anyone who might say no to war funds or to overseas military ventures, and when individual Friends (though we are taxed for the military and overseas warfare) are finding it difficult to track and understand what is happening in Ukraine, in Syria, and in Iraq, and where the Saudi bombing of Yemen seemed to catch all by surprise. Increasingly, also, human needs are going unmet in our country. (We did even not speak of the huge concerns for the negotiations with Iran preoccupying many Friends, nor of the ongoing wars in Iraq or Afghanistan.)

We then proposed Agenda items and trusted Warren to order them and track the time. During this time, Tim shared about Jimmy Carter speaking in Gainesville recently, and in his talk making clear how important it is to address the stigma associated with mental illness.

We then made introductions around the circle. (There were no handouts nor whiteboard writings for this committee meeting.) Here are Warren's brief notes about the agenda items agreed to and discussed, with the starting time noted in brackets. [Additional information added later is also in brackets.]

A. [1:38] **FCNL** - Karen Putney made a short presentation, informing us of newest young adult lobbying program and concern of youth over climate change, which FCNL is assisting them to address. Karen will have a full FCNL workshop Saturday afternoon to which we are all invited.

B. [1:45] **Friends Peace Teams** - Cece gave a quick overview and introduction, and spoke to the work of Friends Peace Teams in the different areas of the world. FPT is in many countries on most continents, despite small numbers. Cece said she does need tech support for her work, that setting up Skype conferences is difficult for her, and she needs other help with technology.

C. [1:56] **AFSC** - Lucio spoke about his program in Miami, for whom human migration issues are most important. He goes to court with some people seeking asylum and the office works with the Dream Defenders youth. Support for the American immigration policy called DACA [Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals] is important to the office and its volunteers and staff. It was news to us that immigration jails have quotas and must have bodies sent in to justify budgets, even existence.

D. [2:05] **Palm Beach Meeting Peace & Social Concerns Committee** - Caroline informed us they are reconstituted and getting active again. They are looking at the new director of the State of Florida prisons [Julie Jones is the new Secretary of the Florida Department of Corrections, appointed last year by Gov. Rick Scott in the face of accusations of inmate abuse, deaths and cover-ups by officers and staff]. Palm Beach Friends want to encourage a system of "civilian oversight."

E. [2:08] **Quaker House** - Elaine is the SEYM representative to Quaker House and has been in close touch. Her report is in the Documents in Advance for Yearly Meeting. Discussion of Quaker House work to get local communities to take up the vital concern for addressing "Moral Injury" then ensued. [Moral Injury is explained in Wikipedia at length with cites, at <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moral\_injury">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moral\_injury</a> - Moral Injury is suffered by being present in warfare for immoral acts which one cannot stop, essentially.] Eileen had attended a workshop on this the previous eve [4/1/15], and Karen had been part of bringing the Quaker House program to Tampa and introducing it (and Quaker House staff) to many local clergy.

F. Elaine continued on with sharing, reading us the introduction from a brochure from **Veterans for Peace**. This seems very close to Quakers in spirit and the Jacksonville chapter which is new wants to connect with and learn from Friends. We discussed asking each monthly meeting to reach out for local Veterans for Peace and build connections. Elaine is working on starting up a new Jacksonville **AVP** (Alternatives to Violence Project) in conjunction with the Veterans for Peace chapter. G. [2:22] Elaine has identified community organizations around the state [**DART and PICO organizations** which are non profit, congregation based community justice ministries, mainly] that are coalitions of faith-based organizations or are working from a faith perspective to address social justice issues. In Jacksonville main issues are juvenile justice and homelessness. In other communities there may be another focus. She has pages of information which she could share.

We were not able to take up the writing of minutes for SEYM. We will seek a special separate short meeting for that purpose, to draft and submit some short minutes.

We prepared for closing with a brief description from Cece of her new workshop (which could be a 6-day program) on animating for social change. How can one make a presentation that fully engages the people present in vital work on important issues?

Karen then shared with us word she had just gleaned from an FCNL e-mail that Iran and the US had arrived at a framework agreement for a nuclear accord and are on a path toward resolving worrisome nuclear issues.

We closed with this joyful news in silent worship, ending at 2:30 p.m.

--Warren Hoskins

# **Report on the 2015 Gathering of the Historic Peace Churches**

("HPC" - Quakers, Mennonites and members of the Church of the Brethren) in Florida, from Warren Hoskins, SEYM Representative to the Historic Peace Churches in Florida, to be submitted at SEYM 4/04/2015

I attended the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Gathering of the Historic Peace Churches in Florida on Saturday, January 31, 2015, at Bay Shore Mennonite Church in Sarasota. I am a member of the Peace Coordinating Committee of the Historic Peace Churches in Florida, and for the past year we have had the leadership of a new volunteer facilitator, Tom Guelcher, and continued leadership and support from Phil Lersch, founding director and facilitator .

This year's program provided greater varieties of experiences and much new information while building a better sense of community for the participants, in my opinion. I feel the resource people are rich in their understanding and insights and communicate well, and that we left wanting to keep in touch with the organizations we were introduced to, and wanting to share resources with our respective religious bodies.

Tom Guelcher's report follows:

The 6th annual "Gathering" of the Historic Peace Churches in Florida was held Saturday, January 31, 2015 at Bay Shore Mennonite Church in Sarasota. Organized by the Peace Coordinating Committee of the Historic Peace Churches, the day-long conference featured speakers who pursued their passion for peace in various ways.

The opening session featured retired sociology professor and outgoing clerk of the Fort Myers Meeting, Nancy Howell, and retired attorney Judy Alves, both of Fort Myers. They explained that when they had become aware of aggressive military recruiting going on in Lee County high schools, while the war raged in Iraq, they decided they could do something about it. Under the banner Wage Peace Campaign they began a four year effort which culminated in the county school board establishing a fair and uniform system of military recruiting in the schools that protected student and parental rights.

Danielle Flood, Director of Communications for ECHO (Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization) gave a power point presentation on the work of the North Fort Myers based Christian organization. ECHO equips people with agricultural resources and skills to reduce hunger and improve the lives of the poor in more than 165 countries. ECHO intern and 2013 Colorado University graduate, Steven Kluck shared how his work at ECHO is a progression of God's call to help those in need. Both encouraged Gathering attendees to tour the ECHO Global Farm and Tropical Fruit Nursery in Forth Fort Myers. Further information is available on line at www.echonet.org

Inspired by Howard Zinn's book "A People's History of American Empire," Sarasota video production teacher Bob Gray used his spare time over a six year period to produce his 2014 documentary "Making A Killing: From Crony Capitalism to Corporate Plutocracy." Shown at the Gathering the film traces the history of America's use of military and espionage forces to further enrich U.S. corporate interests. Most telling was the writings and speeches of former Marine Corps Major General Smedley Butler who confessed he was nothing more than "a high class muscleman for big business, for Wall Street and the bankers." Looking back over his 33 year military career of projecting American military might in several incursions and occupations Butler expressed his realization that he had been "a gangster for capitalism."

The conference concluded with a Historic Peace Churches panel presentation about peace concerns and individual involvement. The panel was comprised of Jerry Eller, Church of the Brethren Atlantic Southeast District Action Peace Team member; Alma Ovalle, Southeast Mennonite Conference Mennonite Women board member and Annual Conference Youth Coordinator; and Warren Hoskins, clerk of the Miami Friends Meeting Peace and Social Concerns Committee and clerk of the Southeastern Yearly Meeting Peace and Social Concerns Committee. All three spoke passionately about their concerns and actions to promote peace. It was an uplifting end to the day.

Nearly sixty Brethren, Mennonites, Quakers and others were in attendance. Literature was provided by the COB Action For Peace Team, Quakers, ECHO and Wage Peace. Lunch was provided by Miller's Dutch Kitchen.

The Peace Coordinating Committee of the Historic Peace Churches in Florida formed as a result of a meeting of interested parties in January 2010 at Camp Ithiel. By means of education, advocacy and cooperation it seeks to motivate individuals to support policies and embrace behaviors which will lead to a more peaceful world. Our efforts aim to reawaken the deep connection of unity within the human family and the recognition that humanity's true interests lie in communities of fellowship and harmony. The foundation of our work rests upon God's love and the path of peace upon which Jesus walked.

Tom Guelcher, Facilitator tomfm@comcast.net

# Havana Un-programmed Worship Group

## To South Eastern Yearly Meeting 2015,

Havana Silent or Non-Programmed Group, sends you big hug in the Light and with our wishes for spiritual peace, harmony and love.

We also want to make you know that our small group keeps having meetings every Wednesday at 5 pm. We seek for the Light, spiritual love and inner peace that have inspired the Friends.

The silence during the meetings is something spiritual that take us from the daily life work to the stillness and inner peace until we feel the Spirit working inside us.

On Wednesday, often we have had visitors; some we invited and others have been friends who came to meeting interested to get to know our Quaker experiences.

From November 15th to 23th in 2014, we received the visit of Friend Janet Harris, who is member of Tampa Monthly Meeting, Florida. She came to Havana International Contemporary Music Festival participating in a concert at the Basilica Menor of San Francisco de Asís Convent, playing her bassoon. She stayed those days at our coordinator Alejandro Castellanos's home attending as a guest one of our meetings.

On the last days of January, 2015, a programmed young Quaker couple from U.S.A. visited us attending our meeting. They liked to get to know our group experiences, as they expressed.

It is our hope you keep us in your minds as we do with you; this way to be united in the work for the planet peace.

Our group is open to receive visits from Quakers, brothers and sisters, who would like to offer their experiences and spiritual support.

Warm and friendly greetings from Havana Silent Group.

Members,

Juan Váquez Martín Margarita González Taimí Martínez Marlen Iturralde Coordinator (Clerk), Alejandro Castellanos González Secretaria (Recording Clerk), María A