

Southeastern Yearly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends

Post Office Box 1062, St. Petersburg FL 33731-1062

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Fall 2022 Executive Committee Meeting

Friday, 30 Ninth Month (Sep.) 2022, 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time

and

Fall 2022 Interim Business Meeting

Saturday, 1 Tenth Month (Oct.) 2022, 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time

Documents In Advance

And as many candles lighted, and put in one place, do greatly augment the light, and make it more to shine forth, so when many are gathered together into the same life, there is more of the glory of God, and his power appears, to the refreshment of each individual; for that he partakes not only of the light and life raised in himself, but in all the rest.

Robert Barclay, Apology, 1676

We will be gathering via video teleconference on Zoom and in person at St. Petersburg Meetinghouse, 130 19th Ave SE, St. Petersburg, Florida

Fall Executive Committee Meeting AND Interim Business Meeting
use the same zoom login information

Fall Executive Cte Meeting:

Friday evening, Sep 30, 2022 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Fall Interim Business Meeting

Saturday, Oct 1, 2022, 8:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84470040918?pwd=a3Vzb3lxSGU1MURLeUllYeG9pQmtwZz09>

Meeting ID: 844 7004 0918

Passcode: 346303

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,84470040918#,,,,*346303# US (Chicago)

+16468769923,,84470040918#,,,,*346303# US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kbuU2gkuAg>

Schedule, Agenda, and Reports

Friday, 30 Ninth Month

FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

- 6:30 p.m. Virtual Fellowship, all are welcome
- 7:00 p.m. Executive Committee meeting, all are welcome

Saturday, 1 Tenth Month

FALL INTERIM BUSINESS MEETING

- 8:30 am Fellowship, coffee and snacks, all are welcome
- 9:00 am Opening Worship
 - Nominating Committee preliminary report..... 5
 - Announcements
- 9:30 am Committee meetings: All are welcome to attend (breakout rooms)
- 11:00 am Meeting Open Forum, How does Spirit fare with Thee?
- 12 noon Lunch served by St. Petersburg Friends

- 1:00 pm Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
 - AGENDA:
 - Opening Worship
 - Spiritual/Inspirational Reading
 - Agenda Review and Correction
 - Roll call of Meetings and Worship Groups
 - Welcome of Visitors
 - Announcements
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 - Finance Committee Report
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 - Earthcare Committee
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 - Representatives to Other Organizations
 - American Friends Service Committee
 - Friends Committee on National Legislation
 - Friends General Conference

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)
Florida Council of Churches Report
Reading back the minutes

4:30 Closing Worship

5:00 Fellowship, then Dinner at a local restaurant

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends

Summer 2022 Executive Committee Meeting
18 Sixth Month 2022
Via video teleconference

Numbered Minute

- 22SEC01** SEYM EC approves that IBM Clerk (Bill Carlie), Treasurer (Joel Cook), and Assistant Clerk (Jack Bradin), along with former IBM Clerk (Phoebe Andersen) and Recording Clerk (Liz Dykes) act as *ad hoc* supervisory committee to complete overdue staff evaluations by 2022 Fall Interim Business Meeting.
APPROVED

SEYM Officers, Committees, Representatives, & Appointees – FIBM 2022

OFFICERS

Yearly Meeting Clerk.....	Bill Carlie	St. Petersburg.....	2023
Interim Business Meeting (IBM) & Executive Committee (EC) Clerk.....			
	Bill Carlie	St. Petersburg.....	2023
YM & IBM Assistant Clerk	Jack Bradin	Palm Beach.....	2023
YM Recording Clerk	Dan Vaughn.....	Orlando.....	2025
Recording Clerk, IBM/EC	Liz Dykes.....	Gainesville	2025
Assistant Recording Clerk	Susan Wade	St. Petersburg.....	2024
Treasurer	Joel Cook	Palm Beach.....	2023
Membership Recorder	Ed Lesnick.....	Orlando.....	2023

TRUSTEES

Neil Andersen, <i>Clerk</i>	Tallahassee	2023
Jack Bradin.....	Palm Beach	2023
Liz Dykes	Gainesville.....	2023
Mike Flanery.....	Clearwater	2023
Chris Laning	Orlando	2025

COMMITTEES

Archives	Bill Rapp, <i>Clerk</i>	Lake Wales WG.....	2024
	Phoebe Andersen	Tallahassee	2023
	Neil Andersen	Tallahassee	2024
Earthcare	Brian Humphrey.....	Ft. Lauderdale.....	2023
	Jack Bradin.....	Palm Beach	2023
	Mike Flanery.....	Clearwater	2023
	Hollyn Green	Savannah	2023
	Brad Stocker.....	Miami	2023
	Gary Crosby.....	St. Petersburg	2023
	Jim Koopman	Ft. Myers.....	2025
	Beverly Ward	Tampa	2025
Faith & Practice (Committee on sabbatical)	Phoebe Andersen, <i>Clerk</i>	Tallahassee	2024
Facebook Page	Mike Flanery.....	Clearwater	2024
Finance	Peter Schmidt, <i>Clerk</i>		2024
	Steve Donachie.....	Miami	2024
	Shawna Doran.....	Gainesville.....	2024
	Carl Hersh.....	Miami	2024
	Asst. YM Clerk (ex officio)		
	SEYM Treasurer (ex officio)		
	Clerk of Trustees (ex officio)		
	SEYM Administrative Secretary (ex officio)		
Half-Yearly Meeting	Brian Olson, <i>Clerk</i>	Miami	2024
	Beeg Camarota, <i>Registrar</i>	Orlando	2024
	Susan Wade, <i>Food Coordinator</i>	St. Petersburg	2025
	Beverly Ward (ex officio).....	Tampa	

Ministry on Racism	Cheryl Demers.....	Gainesville.....	2023
	Wendy Clarissa Geiger	Jacksonville WG	2023
	Katie Green.....	Clearwater	2023
	Mainus Sultan.....	Savannah	2023
	Susan Taylor	Tallahassee	2023
	Minerva Glidden	Orlando	2024
	Kathy Hersh.....	Miami	2024
	Brad Stocker.....	Miami	2024
	Beverly Ward	Tampa	2024
	Jane Westberg.....	Miami	2024
	Jean Larson	Gainesville.....	2025
	Cindy Kwalwasser.....	Orlando	2025
Peace & Social Concerns	Phil Stone, <i>Clerk</i>	Clearwater	2023
	Caroline Kaufmann	Clearwater	2023
	Karen Putney.....	Tampa	2023
	Helen Fox.....	Ft. Myers.....	2024
	Peter Harrell.....	Gainesville.....	2024
	John Heimburg	Orlando	2025
	Warren Hoskins	Tallahassee	2025
	Mercedes Soca.....	Havana WG	2025
	Cece Yocum	Tampa	2025
Publications	Phoebe Andersen	Tallahassee	2024
	Vicki Carlie (ex officio).....	St. Petersburg.....	2025
	Steven Riddle	Orlando	2025
Worship & Ministry	Jan Dahm, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Tampa	2023
	Lisa Erazmus, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Tampa	2023
	Richelle Ogle, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Orlando	2025
	Eduardo Diaz	Orlando	2023
	Ed Abraham.....	Miami	2025
	Bill Carlie.....	St. Petersburg.....	2025
	Joel Cook.....	Palm Beach	2025
	Cheryl Demers-Holton.....	Gainesville.....	2025
Nancyrose Logan	Sarasota	2025	
YM Gathering	Vicki Carlie, <i>Gathering Clerk</i>	St. Petersburg.....	2025
	Andrea Hoskins, <i>Registrar</i>	Tallahassee	2025
	<i>Bookstore</i>		
	Brian Olson, <i>Program Coordinator</i>	Miami	2023
	Kasper Ronning	Orlando	2025
SEYM Administrative Secretary, ex-officio			
Youth Committee	Jennifer Mendoza, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Sarasota	2024
	Cecelia Yocum, <i>Co-Clerk</i>	Tampa	2023
	Rachel Dellinger	Orlando	2023
	Mira Tanna	Orlando	2023
	Kathy Hersh.....	Miami	2025

REPRESENTATIVES TO ORGANIZATIONS

American Friends Service Committee Corporation, - AFSC/Philadelphia		
Bill Carlie	St. Petersburg.....	2025
Beverly Ward	Tampa	2025

Friends Committee on National Legislation – FCNL

Pete Akerman	Gainesville.....	2023
Karen Putney.....	Tampa	2024
Eileen Zingaro.....	Clearwater.....	2024

Friends General Conference - FGC Central Committee

Susan Wade	St. Petersburg.....	2025
Dan Vaughn.....	Orlando	2025

Friends World Committee for Consultation – FWCC

Nancyrose Logan	Sarasota	2023
Clara Diaz	Orlando	2024
Eduardo Diaz	Orlando	2024

Friends Peace Teams

Cecilia Yocum.....	Tampa	2025
Shawna Doran.....	Gainesville.....	2025

Florida Council of Churches

Beverly Ward	Tampa	2024
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Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Concerns – FLGBTQ

Under Discernment

Palmetto Friends Gathering

Phoebe Andersen	Tallahassee	2023
Neil Andersen	Tallahassee	2023

Quaker Earthcare Witness

Jack Bradin	Palm Beach	2023
Brad Stocker.....	Miami	2025

Quaker House (Fayetteville)

Lynn Newsom.....	Bluffton SC WG	2023
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Quaker United Nations Office - QUNO

Liz Jenkins	Orlando	2025
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APPOINTED OBSERVERS TO ORGANIZATIONS

FUM General Board Observer

Under Discernment

Ellie Caldwell, <i>Alternate</i>	Palm Beach	2024
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NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ed Lesnick, <i>Clerk</i>	Orlando	2024
Beverly Ward	Tampa	2025
Shawna Doran.....	Gainesville.....	2023
Brian Olson	Miami	2023

Worship & Ministry Committee Report

SEYM Fall Interim Business Meeting

1 Tenth Month 2022

The SEYM Worship & Ministry Committee has been hard at work discerning way forward for its ministry. One of the most important things the committee has discovered is the importance of listening to the spiritual nurture of ourselves, our Meetings, and the Yearly Meeting. Our meeting on 25 Eighth Month began with a reading that epitomizes this aspect of our Quaker life:

To "listen" another's soul into a condition of disclosure and discovery may be almost the greatest service that any human being ever performs for another. But in this scrutiny of the business of listening, is that all that has emerged? Is it blasphemous to suggest that over the shoulder of the human listener, there is never absent the silent presence of the Eternal Listener, the living God? For in penetrating to what is involved in listening, do we not disclose the thinness of the filament that separates persons listening openly to one another, and that of God intently listening to each soul?

GLEANINGS by Douglas V. Steere

We have thus discerned four areas upon which our efforts will be concentrated at the present time:

1. Intervisitation Reimagined and the Listening Project: Taking the previous Intervisitation practice to a new level by not just visiting other Meetings and Worship Groups but fostering listening and conversation around the spiritual nurture of Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups.
2. Providing the opportunity for Friends to participate in an Extended Worship experience via Zoom (this was first provided at Yearly Meeting Gathering 2022).
3. Adding a Query of the Week (or as often as Spirit leads and life allows) – Called **Queries for the Journey** – to the SEYM website home page.
4. The initiation of a Spiritual Book Club on various spiritual texts.

And, of course, we continue to hold in the Light the hearts and concerns of all Friends.

SEYM Worship & Ministry Committee co-clerks,
Jan Dahm, Lisa Erazmus, and Richelle Ogle

Field Secretary for Earthcare (FSE) Report

SEYM Fall Interim Business Meeting

1 Tenth Month 2022

Overview

Provide focus and coordinate efforts on environmental work in the Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) region. This reports summarizes the field secretary activities undertaken since the written and oral reports submitted for SEYM Gathering. Due to lack of access, some activities were not reported during the Sixth Month Executive Committee. The majority of activities continue to be carried out online; however, some in-person visits and hybrid were made during this period. As usual, this report also includes planned activities.

Communication with the Anchoring Committee

Communication with the FSE Anchoring Committee members continues to be through email, telephone, or other electronic means. As in-person or hybrid visits increase, I'm looking for to meeting with Anchoring Committee members.

Meeting with Monthly Meetings (MMs), Worship Groups (WGs), and Others

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.

As a reminder, "Meetings can issue invitations to the [SEYM] administrative secretary, FSE, or the Anchor Committee [for FSE visits]. We will all conference over the invitation and subsequent planning" (Phoebe Andersen, 3 Tenth Month 2016). This includes virtual visits.

Contact Information

- Email: fsEarthcare@seymquakers.org.
- Facebook: @fsearthcare
- Twitter: @fsearthcare
- Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/7545638812>.
- Skype: phdant
- Telephone number: 813.928.8823.
- Snailmail: P.O. Box 1614, Umatilla, FL 32784 (until further notice).

A Google calendar showing requests for visitation and FSE has been created and shared with the Anchoring Committee. All prior, for this reporting period, and upcoming visits are shown below. MMs and WGs continue to request visits or workshops.

Suggested workshop/event topics:

- Angelic Troublemaking: Beyond Bystander Training: explores anti-racism/decolonization work with emphasis on local concerns and means of accompaniment;
- Climate Equity/Climate Justice in Our Community: identifies specific local social justice and equity concerns. Participants identify actions to address concerns;
- Discerning Earthcare Leadings: listening and sharing experiences to reach individual and group decisions on Earthcare actions;
- Earthcare audits: baseline assessment of individual or community activities and discernment;
- Equality or Equity? What is Our Testimony?: examines Friends' equality testimony, the concepts of equity and justice, and the relationship of these to Earthcare;
- Permaculture is Not Just Agriculture: introduces permaculture design and domains and ways to bring these practices into Earthcare;

- Project Drawdown, Introduction and more: presents information on actions that “drawdown” carbon emissions and ways to promote drawdown choices as individuals and communities;
- Quakers and Climate Collapse: shares and builds on a Woodbrooke course led by Jackie Carpenter from 2021 Fifth Month (May), including review of the latest science, worship sharing, and discernment;
- Racial Wealth Gap Simulation: an exercise that helps “...people understand the connections among racial equity, hunger, poverty, and wealth”;
- Transportation, migration, and climate: explores access and mobility issues from the local to global perspective and the impacts of climate change;
- Underwater Homeowners Association: shares local actions that can be undertaken by communities experiencing sea level rise;
- Water: Sea Level Rise, Flooding, and Water Quality explores local, national, and global water issues; and
- Waterline Communities: Displacement and Gentrification and Why Quakers Should Care drills down to the county or community level on the impacts of displacement.

SEYM Earth Day Drop-In, 22 Fourth Month

On Earth Day about 20 Friends gathered virtually to discuss local and State issues and beyond. At the top of the discussion was a brief recap of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) following from the SEYM Gathering workshop.

The impacts of the planned toll road on the Split Oak Forest Wildlife and Environmental Area were also discussed. (The forest is an 1,689-acre park and a joint project between the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and Osceola and Orange Counties. It is just southeast of the Orlando International Airport). We viewed a newsclip, [Environmental group to fight state agency’s approval of toll road through Split Oak Forest](#). The Central Florida Expressway Authority proposes to extend the Osceola Parkway more than a mile across the southwest corner of the forest.

We also discussed the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference 2022 (UNFCCC COP 27) 7 - 18 Eleventh Month (November) 2022, Sharm el-Sheikh, South Sinai, Egypt. Of concern was the disappointment with the lack of substantive outcomes from the UN Climate Change Conference 2021 (UNFCCC COP 26) and failure to enact the get the Build Back Better Act passed by the Senate, at that time.

There also was some discussion on the work of Decolonizing Quakers and Quakers Uprooting Racism. Water issues continue to be of concern; however, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) does make available as much as \$1.6 billion over five years to improve water infrastructure across the State. There was interest by participants in continuing to have more “drop-ins” and I will be establishing a schedule that will be shared on the SEYM website.

Miami Monthly Meeting, 29 Fifth Month

From the Yearly Meeting session, Brian Olson invited me, on behalf of the Miami Meeting, to conduct a workshop on “Beyond Build Back Better: Realizing the World We Seek.” This workshop looks at the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 and breakdown the State allocation to the county level. The major funding categories are

- Roads and bridges
- Public transportation options
- Electric vehicle (EV) charging stations
- High-speed internet connectivity

- Climate change, cyber attacks, and extreme weather events preparation
- Water infrastructure improvements
- Airport infrastructure improvements.

Overall, the Act seeks to address climate change mitigation, resilience, equity, and safety and is linked to the Executive Order (EO) 14008, Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, signed 27 First Month 2021. This EO created the government-wide Justice40 Initiative. The Initiative directs at least 40 percent of the overall benefits from federal investments in climate and clean energy to disadvantaged communities. More than 21 federal programs have been prioritized to begin enhancing benefits for these communities.

The workshop also provided some brainstorming on looking beyond the former Build Back Better Act. Since the workshop, the Build Back Better Act has been enacted as the Inflation Reduction Act. As State allocations of this Act are made available, I will provide county level estimates.

The purpose of these estimates and the workshops is help Friends discern how to be involved on the local level in the decision-making of the use of these funds. I have developed county level information for all the SEYM counties and somewhat beyond. If you're interested in a virtual or hybrid workshop, please contact me. I encourage Friends to invite local groups to participate.

Orlando Monthly Meeting, Peace and Social Concerns Committee, 29 Seventh Month

The Quakers of Orlando invited me to participate in an organizational meeting of the committee. The original request was to share information from the SEYM Gathering workshop, however, the discussion centered more on structural issues and practice. Participants agreed to include the work of Earthcare as part of the committee's charge and I will provide support as schedule permits.

I continue to worship virtually with various Meetings and Worship Groups, e.g., St. Augustine; SEYM, and other Quaker groups, and am planning for in-person or hybrid worship.

Interactions or Collaborations between and among other SEYM committees

These interactions between and among SEYM committees help to facilitate communication and collaboration of our regional concerns with national organizations and to be a Quaker Presence at specific events.

- The Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMOR): I continue to serve as a member of CMOR and provide support, especially in identifying resources and preparing for the Gathering workshop. I have been in contact with Susan Taylor and other committee members about convening a virtual meeting to discuss the "Model Minute For Consideration By Yearly Meetings on Responsibility for Support of Boarding Schools for Indigenous Children", <https://www.decolonizingquakers.org/quakers-and-boarding-schools/model-minute-for-consideration-by-yearly-meetings/>;
- Earthcare Committee: I continue to work closely with the Committee on an individual or small group basis;
- Florida Council of Churches (FCC): Work the with Florida Council of Churches has been supportive of the efforts of the executive director, Russell Meyer, and others during the Florida Legislative session. This included participating in Florida Clergy Gathering 16 - 17 Fifth Month (May) in Orlando. The Florida Council of Churches is hosted the event, which was presented by Pastors for Florida Children. We discussed ways for people of faith to be involved in legislative advocacy, community organizing, and voter empowerment. I shared SEYM's Minute on Florida's

new discriminatory laws with participants, including representatives from the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) and Equality Florida;

- Peace and Social Concerns: some contact has continued with the SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee and Monthly Meetings Peace and Social Concerns Committees, as mentioned above;
- Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO), AFSC: Kathy Hersh and I share an SEYM appointment to AFSC. More information about QUNO and AFSC is detailed below;
- Right Sharing of World Resources: I continue to share information through the QEW United Nations Working Group, AFSC, and Quaker United Nations Committee.
- Youth Committee: I continue to work with the Youth Committee and will miss Kody Hersh.

The Wider Quaker World, Interfaith Groups, Other Environmental Organizations

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

In the wider Quaker World, interfaith groups, and other environmental organizations, I have listed existing memberships, partnerships, or collaborations that have been a part of the outreach effort. These include, but are not limited to:

- Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP): The Florida AVP facilitators continue to hold monthly virtual meetings. I remain in contact with former AVP USA president Dawn Addy;
- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC): I continue to serve as a corporate member of AFSC and as part of that work am a member of the Quaker United Nations Committee (QUNC). I also am part of AFSC's Third World Coalition.
 - o I participated in several virtual sessions of the AFSC Corporation meeting held 3 - 7 Fourth Month (April). Of interest may be the links to these presentations:
 - Winona LaDuke, keynote address, <https://youtu.be/iqKYNQUphTE>;
 - Panel: Quaker climate activists - Intersections of climate justice and Quakerism, with [Liana Irvine](#), FCNL PA Advocacy Corps Organizer; [Pamela Boyce Simms](#), Buddhist-Quaker Facilitating Evolutionary Culture-design; [Clarence Edwards](#), FCNL Legislative Director for Sustainable Energy & Environment; [Shelley Tanenbaum](#), Quaker Earthcare Witness; <https://youtu.be/wrDPxoYTgqA>.
 - o I participated virtually in QUNC's hybrid annual meeting 16-19 Third Month (March). We continue to plan for the 75th anniversary; the celebration will take place Spring 2023.
 - o The final full meeting of Quakers Uprooting Racism (QUR) community of practice took place 8 Sixth Month. Prior to that meeting, I co-facilitated a meeting with the QUR planners with Lucy Duncan. Many of the QUR cohort participants continue to meet in smaller working groups with the intention of being resources to the wider Quaker world. I am participating in the Quaker Organizations Working Group.

- Decolonizing Quakers, <https://www.decolonizingquakers.org/>: The first affinity group meeting for indigenous Friends was held during Second Month (February) 2022 and evolved into a second gathering. I was a convener of two meetings of Friends of African descent on discerning the meaning of “decolonizing.” The meetings were held on 9 Seventh Month (July) and 20 Eight Month (August). A third meeting is scheduled for 1 Eleventh Month (October);
- Fellowship of Friends of African Descent (FOFAD): From the work with Quakers Uprooting Racism and climate justice, I have become more active in FOFAD. I will participate in virtual celebration on 31 Eighth Month (August) to celebrate the International Day for People of African Descent. Paula Rhodes, AFSC and Mountain View Friends Meeting, is working on a draft declaration for the Permanent Forum of People of African Descent for the promotion, protection and full respect of the human rights of people of African descent.
- Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network (FL-iCAN): Jan Booher continues to work with the Florida Disaster Resilience Initiative, (<https://resiliencesystem.org/dashboards/florida-disaster-resilience-initiative/>) and share health and environmental information, including COVID-19.
- Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL): Brad Stocker and I continue to share a slot as representatives to FCNL for QEW.
 - o On 16 Sixth Month (June), I participated in the FCNL Call to Conscience or Call to Climate Action and made a presentation on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 and the Build Back Better Act. One aim of this presentation was to encourage Friends to engage on the local level in the decision making processes on the use of the funds to promote actions to mitigate the impacts of climate collapse.
 - o Friends may be interested in “Inside the Greenhouse”, a monthly update on FCNL’s environmental advocacy and the emerging climate issues. See, <https://www.fcnl.org/email/greenhouse>.
- Friends General Conference: I continue to work with FGC, particularly with the Fellowship of Friends of Color, FOFAD, and Quakers Uprooting Racism.
- Friends Peace Teams (FPT): I continue to work with members of FPT linking FPT to QEW UN Working Group and Towards Right Relationship/Decolonizing Quakers;
- Friends United Meeting (FUM): I continue to work with Jim Kessler, Grinnell Friends Church, through Quaker Earthcare Witness;
- Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC): I continue to work to strengthen links to FWCC through QEW, FGC, and AFSC;
- National Academies of Sciences, Transportation Research Board (TRB), Equity in Transportation and the Women’s Issues in Transportation Committees. Following the Conference on Advancing Equity in Transportation, I made a presentation to the TRB executive committee and to the research team of the U.S. Department on Transportation (USDOT) on the findings from the conference.
- The Pachamama Alliance: I continue to work with members through the FL-iCAN network;

- QEW: I did co-clerk the biannual meeting during Fourth Month (April) with Brad Stocker. Through QEW Presents!, an online offering of workshops, I have or am preparing to work virtually with
 - o Durham Friends in Durham, NC, 15 Sixth Month (June), “Beyond Build Back Better”;
 - o Wilton Quaker Meeting in Wilton, CT, 25 Ninth Month (September), “Racial Wealth Gap Simulation”;
- Tri-City NAACP Branch: I continue with the Environmental and Climate Justice Committee. This work has led to several requests for presentations:
 - o I lead the keynote discussion, “Centering Environmental Justice in Lake County’s Conservation Work”, at the Lake County Conservation Symposium, 30 Fourth Month (April), Trout Lake Nature Center, Eustis, FL. Nearly 100 participants attended the Symposium, which was sponsored by more than a dozen environmental and social justice groups and the general public;
 - o I made a presentation on environmental justice to the Greater Leesburg Democratic Club on 20 Sixth Month (June);
 - o I provided the First Day message, “The Battered Earth: Injury, Loss, and Healing” for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Lake County on 24 Seventh Month (July);
 - o I facilitated a third forum in the form of a town hall meeting of elected officials and the public on sustainable growth on in Lake County on 21 Eighth Month (August).
- University of South Florida, Institute on Black Life (IBL), Advisory Committee and the Patel College of Global Sustainability (PCGS): I continue to work with the University. My colleagues and I have a upcoming publication, “Exploring the Role of Social Networks in Hurricane Preparedness Planning: A Study of Public Housing Residents” in the book *Hurricane Risk in a Changing Climate*.

Social Media

I continue to blog through “eField Notes” on the SEYM website, <http://seymquakers.org/faith-in-action/field-secretary-for-earthcare/>. I also share short pieces on activities, with SEYM Monthly Meetings, Working Groups, the wider Quaker world and others. Please send suggestions for topics, research, etc.

Thank you so much for love, support, and kindness.

May we all be safe.

May we all be healthy.

May we all know joy.

May we all know happiness.

May we all live lives of wellbeing.

Love and Peace,
Beverly G. Ward

Friends Peace Teams Report

SEYM Fall Interim Business Meeting
1 Tenth Month 2022

Toward Healing

By Cecilia Yocum, Nadine Hoover and Kevin King

What can we do to address trauma passing from generation to generation if the trauma might have occurred many years ago? This question has become part of healing from trauma in people's lives. FPT is just beginning to explore this.

Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples understands that the first step toward healing is to learn and acknowledge the history and ongoing impacts of genocide, colonization, and forced assimilation. Where are we, our families, and our communities in this story? In our TRR workshops, participants engage in learning, reflection, and dialogue, and begin to take steps toward healing. Visit friendspeaceteams.org/trr to register for our workshops and presentations.

Studying books such as "Healing Haunted Histories," (Enns & Myers, 2021) has also helped raise awareness among settlers. Many of us are seeking ways to look at our own lineage and how our ancestors have hurt or been hurt by others through slavery, human trafficking, colonization, and exploitation. This can be very uncomfortable work when we see the damage that was done by or to our ancestors and we might be unsure how to address these injustices, how to heal, or how to repair the damage done.

Healing and Rebuilding Our Communities In Rwanda and Burundi. Ways have been developed to bring different communities together to look at the violence that had been going on for years, including genocide. The participants voiced their desire to not only heal individually, but to work together to restore and rebuild the community relationships through a series of workshops, community healing companions, and community gatherings. Activities focused on inclusion and sharing among perpetrators and victims. Especially important was finding common ground. An unexpected outcome for some volunteers was to work with some of the US congress on the Genocide Prevention Act.

Power of Goodness collects stories and children's artwork relating to how people have addressed interpersonal conflicts, but also collective, historical, and environmental abuse and injustice. This collection began to help Quaker children deal with the traumas of WWII, then the Chechen and Ukrainian wars. Friends are invited to share true stories from around the world that have helped up heal and end violence and injustice.

Alternatives to Violence Project Trauma Resiliency Workshops In Colombia and several Central American countries provided a place where people talked about how separation between groups was promoted by government actions and companies taking over land. In Indonesia, enemies in decades of war or religious violence came together in structured, residential workshops and were shocked at the ability to heal, reconcile, and even become lasting friends. The Spirit lives in these direct relationships, which is where miracles are possible.

River of Life is an important exercise where people look at the past, present, and future-formative events, strengths and weaknesses. The participants imagine a future where they could use their strengths to create a new future that avoids repeating past mistakes. They act out these futures to come up with new ideas. For example, one young man had been in a rebel group like many in his family. When he imagined his future, he said he saw a new vision. He said, "My life will be forever changed. I saw I didn't have to be who I was before."

We hope you will join us in the work of looking at the past, present, and future to build a better world. Thanks for all your support over the past 20 plus years.

See FriendsPeaceTeams.org for more information and inspiration