

**Quaker Earthcare Witness Steering Committee**  
**Minutes of the Meeting at the Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center, Houston, Texas**  
2010 October 28 - 31

**Present:** Victoria Albright, Jack Bradin, Mary Cohelo, Maria Collee, Al Connor, Louis Cox, Os Cresson, Bob First, Nancy First, Gail Fletcher, John Fletcher, Marshall Gibson, Mary Gilbert, Dick Grossman, John Hackman, Ruth Hamilton, Roger Hansen, Alice Howenstine, Bill Howenstine, eric maya joy, Donn Kesselheim, Mary Jo Klingel, James Lynch, Sally Merrill, David Millar, Anne Mitchell, Sarah Moon, Joe Morris, Kimberly Nelson, John Payton, Karen Peissenger-Venhaus, Ruth Quintanilla, Susan Swanstrom, Ruah Swennerfelt, Shelly Tanenbaum, Roy Taylor, Roy Treadway, Matthew Venhaus, Barbara Williamson, Maia Wolff, and Rod Zwirner. David Ciscel and Allen Stockbridge joined us by remote participation.

**First Meeting for Worship for Business, Thursday, 2010 October 28, 7:30 p.m.**

**Welcoming**

In the absence of Clerk Dick Grossman, who was not able to be with us for the opening session, Roy Treadway served as Clerk and John Payton as Recording Clerk. Roy welcomed us to the Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) Steering Committee (SC) Meeting in Houston. We opened with silence. Mary Jo Klingel settled us with readings from Advices 1 and 8 from the 1994 Britain Yearly Meeting *Faith and Practice*.

1. Take heed, dear Friends, to the promptings of love and truth in your hearts. Trust them as the leadings of God whose Light shows us our darkness and brings us to new life.

8. Worship is our response to an awareness of God. We can worship alone, but when we join with others in expectant waiting we may discover a deeper sense of God's presence. We seek a gathered stillness in our meetings for worship so that all may feel the power of God's love drawing us together and leading us.

**Introductions**

We introduced ourselves by name, yearly meeting, and monthly meeting.

**Agenda**

**We made several changes from the general agenda sent in advance of this evening's session. Since the Nominating Committee decided it needed only three members, we do not need to appoint a Naming Committee.**

**Holding Friends in the Light**

**David Ciscel** is recovering at home from a heart attack and insertion of two stents to correct blockages in coronary arteries. By Skype he will join us later in the weekend for a Finance Committee report.

**Barbara Letsch** has just completed a course of chemotherapy with a new drug for multiple myeloma, a form of blood cancer. She will need to take an anti-viral drug for about a year.

**Susannah McCandless** has a rare form of leukemia and is undergoing a slow, difficult recovery from a bone marrow transplant. She needs to maintain social isolation because of her depressed immune system.

**Friends were asked to hold these and others dealing with health challenges in the Light.**

Friends were reminded to sign cards for those not with us this week end.

## **Budget for FY 2011 – Ruah Swennerfelt**

**The one-page proposed budget for FY 2011 sent in advance shows increases in budgeted contributions by only \$1,000 from 2010.** It also includes a transition budget for the new general secretary. Ruah will be responsible for establishing the new financial structures needed because our new general secretary is Canadian. Ruah will complete these before she leaves QEW in February. There is also a separate office budget for the publications coordinator. The \$1,000 increase in the budgeted income matches an \$1,000 increase in budgeted expenses

Ruah reminded Friends that they have until midnight 2010 October 31 to make contributions to offset the \$7,000 shortfall in expected contributions for the current fiscal year.

Jack Bradin has coordinated fund raising for Ruah's sabbatical fund. **QEW will continue to pay her salary and health benefits after she leaves QEW as long as this funding lasts.**

## **Nominating Committee – Rod Zwirner**

**The list of nominations for officers, clerks, and steering committee members was sent in advance and will formally be presented for approval later with new nominations.**

Ruah reported that since the Continuing Counsel Committee (CCC) has been expanded and meets monthly by phone, she has felt much more a part of a supportive team.

## **Sign-ons to Other Organizations – Roy Treadway**

During the spring SC meeting in Chicago, the SC approved a policy for signing on to statements and endorsements from other organizations on environmental issues. At that time, it was agreed that we experiment with the time frame of 48 hours designated for approval and reconsider this matter at our Houston SC meeting. Is 48 hours enough time to give requests careful consideration? We have received six or seven requests for sign-ons since April. Three of these did not have sufficient information for approval. The others were approved. The UN Support Working Group indicated that because of the need for careful documentation and notifying other Quaker organizations of its advocacy work within the UN, it was concerned by the current use of a self-appointed clearness committee of three persons and would probably need its own separate sign-on process. **Other Friends expressed concern about the self-appointed three person clearness committee and suggested that a referral to a standing committee or working group could be done by the Friend receiving the sign-on request. This concern would be considered further by the Continuing Counsel Committee.** Otherwise, Friends supported a 96 hour approval time.

**SC Minute 2010.10.01. Steering Committee approved a process for carefully considering signing on to statements of another group. To clarify the process of deciding on sign-ons, the person or persons requesting the sign-on should state succinctly the purpose, organization, time frame, and criteria of the sign-on, and send that information to the Clerk of QEW to process the request. In order to facilitate proper support of the statement or position of another group, two or three members of QEW suggested by the person(s) requesting the sign-on (acting as a Committee of Clearness) will consider any suggested sign-ons and post their recommendation within 48 hours using the earthcare list serv. The entire Steering Committee will be given 96 hours to consider and approve the requested sign-on, with silence considered as approval.**

### Changes in the Bylaws – Roy Treadway

Roy Treadway, Barbara Williamson, and Dick Grossman have reviewed SC minutes over the past two years to recommend changes in the bylaws that are inconsistent with SC decisions or are internally contradictory. The proposed bylaws were sent out in advance. Suggested changes include language in the bylaws that (a) adds the UN Support and FCNL Support Working Groups and Finca La Bella Project, (b) adds the clerks of Personnel and Publications Committee and the Treasurer to the CCC, and (c) expands the role of the Finance Committee to include review of QEW investments and bank accounts to assure that they are consistent with QEW values and beliefs. **Since the proposed bylaws were not sent out 30 days in advance (as required by the bylaws), changes in the bylaws will have to be considered at the 2011 Fall annual meeting.**

### Report of Ad Hoc Committee on Transition (Search Committee) – Jack Bradin

Members of committee include David Ciscel, Ruah Swennerfelt, Al Connor, Noel Pavlovic, David Millar, Dick Grossman, Elaine Emmi, and Jack Bradin (Clerk). An introduction to the nominated new general secretary, Anne Mitchell, and information about Anne's experience and accomplishments were sent out in advance. The committee received 10 applications. They began reviewing applications in April, narrowing the field to four candidates, who were interviewed in September. All candidates were well qualified. The three final candidates who were not selected were notified by phone and email. **The selected candidate, Anne Mitchell, brings a wealth of related experience and her relationships with Canadian Friends. Anne will have an opportunity to address the SC on Friday prior to SC action on her nomination on Saturday.**

Ruah explained that because Anne is Canadian and 98 percent of the financial support to QEW that pays her salary is from the U.S., she will need to establish new communications and bookkeeping procedures. **Anne will be on contract with QEW, not salary, and will pay her own taxes to the Canadian government.** Since mailing books, videos, and tri-folds from Canada is much more expensive than mailing them from the U.S., Louis Cox will do the mailing from Vermont. Anne's email address will be "anne@quakerearthcare.org". The QEW mailing address and phone number will remain the same as now. After Ruah has set up revised bookkeeping procedures, Christopher McCandless from Burlington, Vermont, will do the QEW bookkeeping.

After the transition, Louis will remain the only QEW employee. **He will continue editing *BeFriending Creation* and handling the website for about three more years until he retires. He would like to identify someone to take over the website work sooner rather than later and to train someone to take over the newsletter when he retires.**

### Letter writing – Bob and Nancy First

**Available all weekend will be letter-writing opposing S3072, Senator Rockefeller's bill, that would block EPA reductions of greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act for two years.**

### Announcements – Ruah Swennerfelt

**Ruah oriented Friends to facilities and procedures at the retreat center, pointing out silent auction items, Maia's pottery for sale, Mary Coelho's paintings, Navajo jewelry, and cards for signing to Friends not with us this week end.**

### Closing

We closed with silence.

## Second Meeting for Worship for Business, Friday, 2010 October 29

### Opening

We opened with silence. John Hackman read a song by Molly Scott, *We are All One Planet*.

We are all one planet, all one people of earth.  
All one planet sharing our living, our dying, our birth.  
And we won't stand by watching her die,  
Hearing her cry and deny we live as she lives, we die as she dies.

So many ways to divide us, so many ways to build boundaries and walls.  
Systems we set up to hide us, neighborhoods, nations ignoring the call  
Of the beings who live outside of the boundaries,  
Inside the skins that are different from ours.  
Creatures whose eyes reflect the same skies and watch the same stars.

So many ways to hurt and not to heal,  
To speak and not listen, to act and not feel,  
And too little time to be simple and see  
The circle includes every bird, every tree, every you, every me.

Think of the things we love.  
Remember the ones we love.  
Open our minds, our hearts, and our hands  
And trust when we don't understand.  
We are all one planet.

### Spiritual Nurturance Committee, New Working Group – Mary Jo Klingel

**The new working group on spiritual experience and thinking still does not have a name, but has been meeting by telephone and its members have been listening deeply.** To keep focus is the responsibility of each member. We are encouraged to meet with several members of group, who were introduced.

### Meet with the Nominated Candidate for General Secretary – Jack Bradin

The members of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Staff Transition, acting as a Search Committee, were introduced. Anne Mitchell, the nominated candidate for general secretary, discussed her vision for QEW. **Active previously in QEW, she urged a united Quaker voice for the earth to address many crises.** If we do not have a clear voice, we will be in competition with other Quaker groups which also have ecological interests. She hopes to address these issues as general secretary, to bring together other Quaker organizations with ecological interests as well as other religious groups. Also QEW has an overlap in interests with FCNL, FWCC, AFSC, and yearly meeting and monthly meeting earthcare groups. She will work together in next weeks and months to set priorities. Why is QEW doing what it is doing? What should its focus be? Should we address what our American and Canadian governments are doing? How are we going to be effective? Is the business of Quakers to be true our testimonies? What are they in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? **God is in charge. What are we called to do? It will be a privilege to be the new general secretary of QEW.**

Friends asked Anne questions. Anne was not sure what QEW's priorities should be but will talk to members of QEW. We need a process to decide on priorities. Anne will no longer be Clerk of Canadian Yearly Meeting after 2011 August. **QEW is set up to bring earthcare to North American Friends and is spiritually**

**based. What is unique to QEW is bringing spiritual aspects to earthcare; there are many secular environmental organizations.** With all Quaker organizations involved in earthcare, are you open to merger with another Friend's organization? She is open minded about it; the best focus is to do the work that needs to be done. There was no coordination on the searches of FCNL, AFSC, FWCC, and QEW for executive leadership in 2010 because each group is not free to share information and did not have the did not have same criteria. We will have to work out conflicts of interest in fund-raising. Within QEW is a place for those do not believe in God; creation is an awesome thing.

### QEW Mini-grants – Ruth Hamilton

This is the third year of the QEW Mini-grant program, in which matching grants for environmental projects are given in 2010 \$250 and in 2011 up to \$500. **The approved mini-grants were described in the reports sent in advance.** Thanks to Susan Swanstrom for her work as Clerk of Outreach Committee to support QEW mini-grant program. While the project has raised funds from carbon offsets for travel to QEW meetings, we need contributions for more mini-grants. We also encourage an article for *Friends Journal* and a report on QEW website. **The mini-grant projects have encouraged earthcare work beyond the QEW mini-grant projects themselves.**

### Closing

We closed with grace for supper.

### **Third Meeting for Worship for Business, Saturday, 2010 October 30, 4:40 p.m.**

### Opening

We began our meeting with silence. Mary Gilbert read from Maude Barlow from an address, called "On the Commons," to the Environmental Grantmakers Association annual retreat in Pacific Grove, California, posted on Alternet on October 15, 2010.

We took the time to establish the common principles that water is a Commons that belongs to the earth, all species, and the future, and is a fundamental human right not be be appropriated for profit. We advocate for the Public Trust Doctrine in law at every level of government. We set out to build a movement that listens first and most to the poorest among us, especially indigenous and tribal voices. We work with communities and groups in other movements, especially those working on climate justice and trade justice. We understand the need for careful collaborative cooperation to restore the functioning of watersheds and we have come to revere the water that gives life to all things upon the Earth. While we clearly have much left to do, these water warriors inspire me and give me hope. They get me out of bed every morning to fight another day.

I believe I am in a room full of stewards and want, then, to leave you with these words from *Lord of the Rings*. This is Gandalf speaking the night before he faces a terrible force that threatens all living beings. His words are for you.

"The rule of no realm is mine, but all worthy things that are in peril, as the world now stands, those are my care. And for my part, I shall not wholly fail in my task if anything passes through this night that can still grow fair, or bear fruit, and flower again in the days to come.

For I too, am a steward, did you not know?" -- J.R.R. Tolkien"

### Consideration of the Budget – David Ciscel by Skype

The budget presented on Thursday has been increased by \$880 to include funds for the retirement of new general secretary, to total \$110,969.00. **(See attachment A.)** We discussed issues about the budget. Steering Committee meetings are included in the general budget; we expect to break even on meetings. **We are still about \$7,000 short on expected income for this fiscal year, but ahead of income for the last fiscal year. We have not spent all the budgeted amount either.** Though Louis's extra work is now in his job description, he will not get a salary increase.

**SC Minute 2010.10.02. Steering Committee approved the QEW budget for fiscal year 2011 as presented.**

### Consideration of the Nomination of our New General Secretary – Dick Grossman

We settled in to worship to consider approval of our new general secretary, Anne Mitchell. Anne was invited to leave the room, accompanied by Ruah and Shelley Tanenbaum. We considered the role of the Quaker Institute of the Future, with which Anne is involved, in relation to the goals and vision of QEW. We discussed issues around the timing of the search, particularly the dilemma of needing to make arrangements several months in advance for the work of the new general secretary, before her approval by the steering committee. **We heard many messages in support of Anne Mitchell as QEW's general secretary.**

**SC Minute 2010.10.03. Steering Committee enthusiastically united in approving Anne Mitchell as the new General Secretary of Quaker Earthcare Witness.**

The Quaker Earthcare Witness Steering Committee acknowledged the expression of concern by some Friends about the timing of the selection process of the new general secretary. Several Friends stood aside from this statement.

**SC Minute 2010.10.04. Steering Committee approved thanking members of the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Staff Transition for their diligent work in selecting Anne Mitchell as the new general secretary.**

**SC Minute 2010.10.05. Steering Committee approved laying down *Ad Hoc* Committee on Staff Transition since its work is completed.**

### Quaker Institute for the Future – Shelley Tanenbaum

Shelley Tanenbaum read the vision and mission statement of the Quaker Institute of the Future (QIF). **The focus of QIF is on research and study of environmental and economic issues. It has a similar vision as QEW but is different in process.** The Moral Economy has been one focus and Social Fairness is a current focus. QIF has some involvement in activism.

### Finance Committee – Ruah Swennerfelt and Barbara Williamson

The Finance Committee proposes to change its name to the Finance and Development Committee for consistency and to add a clear focus on fund-raising. It still needs a committee clerk and new treasurer next year. It is a very important committee for QEW. **With the name change, the committee will take responsibility for development, which includes fund-raising.**

**SC Minute 2010.10.06. Steering Committee approved changing the name of the Finance Committee to the Finance and Development Committee.**

## **Nominating Committee – Rod Zwirner**

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of nominees for QEW.

### **Steering Committee at large 2008-2011 slate**

Mary Gilbert (New England)  
eric joy (Pacific/Canadian)  
Donn Kesselheim (Wyoming MM)  
Bill Holcombe (New York)  
Shelley Tanenbaum (Pacific)

### **2009-2012 slate**

Carol Ciscel (SAYMA)  
Phil Emmi (Intermountain)  
Dick Grossman (Intermountain)  
Bill Howenstine (Illinois)  
Judy Lumb (SAYMA)  
Allen Stockbridge (North Pacific)

### **2010-2013 slate**

Alice Howenstine  
Carol Barta  
Barbara Letsch

### **Steering Committee Officers**

Clerk; Dick Grossman (appointed 2008)  
Alternate (Incoming) Clerk: Shelley Tanenbaum  
(appointed 2010)  
Recording Clerk: Roy Treadway (appointed 2008)  
Treasurer: David Ciscel (appointed 2008)

### **Committee, Working Group, and Project Clerks**

Finance:  
Personnel: Jack Bradin  
Outreach: David Millar (appointed 2010)  
Publications:  
Spiritual Nurturance: Mary Jo Klingel (appointed  
2008)  
Sustainability Faith and Action:  
Finca La Bella:  
United Nations Support: Phil Emmi

### **Appointees**

FCNL:  
Rod Zwirner (appointed 2008)  
John Payton (appointed 2006)  
Al Connor (appointed 2007)  
  
Friends Testimonies and Economics (FTE)  
Donn Kesselheim (appointed 2007)  
David Ciscel (appointed 2008)  
  
United Nations  
Jack Bradin (appointed 2008)  
Mary Gilbert (appointed 2008)  
Anne Mitchell, Gen. Sec. (appointed 2008)

New attenders should let committee clerks that you want to be on the committee.

### **Closing**

We closed with a moment of silence.

### **Fourth Meeting for Worship for Business, Sunday, October 31, 10:45 a.m.**

### **Opening**

We opened with silence remembering that today is Halloween. eric maya joy read first from *Makere*, Waitaha Grandmother from New Zealand and second from his website.

Water is the lifeblood of the planet. All living things are connected. Humans are made up of water. When we pray over water the intention of the prayer will go instantaneously to where it is meant to. Such is the power of the sound and vibration of the words of prayer... and water is the conduit. It is that simple.

By healing waters locally

We heal ourselves  
and waters everywhere

**Dick presented the agenda for the rest of our time together, which after discussion, we approved.**

We gathered contributions for the kitchen staff, who have served us so well.

### **General Secretary Report – Ruah Swennerfelt**

**Ruah reminded us to continue to be active between face-to-face meetings; this is very important for the life of QEW. She thanked us for letting her work with QEW.** QEW is all right financially, but still needs financial support. Because QEW did not have funds in the stock market, it did not have a great loss of assets. How should we save and use our funds in a new *Eearth* with low or no growth?

QEW was \$7,000 shy of the budgeted contributions as of the beginning of the Houston meeting; we have received funds during the meetings. We appreciate the generosity of the Holy Passionate Retreat Center for helping us to break even at this meeting.

### **Outreach Committee – Susan Swanstrom**

The mini-grant program has only \$1,200 currently and needs more funds. QEW should publicize and carry out the FWCC Global Cluster meetings with other Friends.

The Outreach committee proposes to co-sponsor an “unconference” for young Friends to enable them to share their vision and identify their earthcare leadings. All voices should be heard and recorded. **Currently, the Outreach Committee plans to hold the “unconference” a day or two before the Friends General Conference Gathering at Grinnell College, possibly from Scattergood School, before July 4.** This would be an opportunity to bring in young people for earthcare concerns. It would be publicized by Quaker groups, in Quaker journals in America, Canada, and Britain, and by a Facebook group set up for the “unconference.” We raised the question to what do “earthcare leadings” refer. **QEW strongly supported getting young Friends to take leadership for earthcare with QEW support.** The Outreach Committee will develop the next steps in planning the “unconference.”

**SC Minute 2010.10.07. Steering Committee approved QEW co-sponsoring a national “unconference” for young Friends and young adult Friends to share with each other values, visions, projects, and actions about earthcare. Following the “unconference,” participants will inform QEW and other sponsors how to support and complement identified earthcare leadings.**

### **Personnel Committee – Jack Bradin**

**Arrangements are still being worked out for Ruah’s sabbatical.**

### **Publications Committee – Roy Taylor**

**This year’s tri-fold, *Water is Life*, used for fund raising, is nearly completed.** Please look at a copy available at this meeting, and suggest any final changes of error or content by Friday. It has already been very carefully edited.

## Spiritual Nurturance Committee – Mary Jo Klingel

The Spiritual Nurturance Committee (SNC) expresses its thanks to those who prepared readings at these sessions.

**The SNC made a request that QEW enter into a process in the manner of Friends to address the meanings of the “the Light within” and the subsequent implications for outreach and self identity.** In the discussion that followed, we raised many issues about QEW related to the meaning of “the Light within”; the implications of “ the Light within” to QEW’s relationship to other Quaker groups; and issues not addressed with the change of name from Friends Committee on Unity with Nature. We wondered how Christocentric Friends might feel about such a focus, whether this provides an anthropocentrism focus for QEW, or whether this meant “the Light within” for all creation. We expressed a concern that we too often categorize people with different perspectives and recognized that biodiversity as well as diversity is important among Friends. We need to remember that this statement is meant to be inclusive, not exclusive, to help us search for self understanding. QEW has much work to be done to move to higher level, to be less naive, and to bring forward the consciousness of QEW.

Friends were uncertain how the SNC was asking the SC to move forward with this concern. The SNC was asking QEW to consider this query about “the Light with” during the SC meetings in Chicago in 2011 April, possibly through worship-sharing. It would focus on QEW’s work, not on all Friends, so that we can we come to a conclusion of who we are. **To clarify the process and the request, SNC will develop a minute to be brought to the business session later this afternoon.**

## Nominating Committee – Rod Zwirner

The Nominating Committee added two nominees to the Steering Committee.

### 2010-2013 slate

Gail Fletcher (South Central)

John Fletcher (South Central)

### Announcements

Various people made announcements.

### Closing

We closed with silence and a grace before lunch.

## **Fifth Meeting for Worship for Business, Sunday, October 31, 3:45 p.m,**

### Opening

We opened in silence. Roger Hansen read from an *Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor.

Bob and Nancy First encouraged us to continte to write letters to our legislators on behalf of clean air and clean water.

## Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings – Jack Bradin

**The Committee has met twice over meals during this meeting and will continue meeting electronically.**

### **Sustainability: Faith and Practice Working Group – Donn Kesselheim**

John Fletcher will follow up on the project of greening our personal and household lives. For the Chicago 2011 October Annual Meeting, the Working Group proposes a theme focus on conserving biological diversity. **Many QEW members and other Friends in Illinois and surrounding states could be involved. Related pertinent issues to the Midwest and Chicago, such as industrial agriculture and community gardens, might also be included.**

**SC Minute 2010.10.08. Steering Committee approved having conserving biological diversity and pertinent related issues be the theme of the QEW Annual Meeting in Chicago in 2011 October.**

Allen Stockbridge joined us by Skype.

### **Nominating Committee – Rod Zwirner**

The Nominating Committee made the additional following nominations.

#### **Committee, Working Group, and Project Clerks**

Publications Committee: Roy Taylor (to 2011)

Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group: Donn Kesselheim (to 2011)

Finca La Bella Project: Bill Howenstine (to 2011)

Finance Committee: None – still needed

**SC Minute 2010.10.09. Steering Committee approved all the nominations for QEW by the Nominating Committee.**

### **United Nations Support Working Group – Sally Merrill**

Mary Gilbert and Judy Lumb will go to the climate conference in Cancun, Mexico, joined by Latin American Friends. **For UN programs, the official CEO of QEW will be transferred from Ruah Swennerfelt to Anne Mitchell.**

Because of the complexity of the UN organization, the UN Support Working Group developed its own procedure for processing, research, and recommending approvals for sign-ons relating to the UN.

**SC Minute 2010.10.10. Steering Committee approved the following procedure for the United Nations Support Working Group for or against “signing-on” to statements, proposals, or petitions of like-minded groups on a wide range of global issues relating to the UN.**

- 1) Someone who receives a request, researches and communicates it to the UN Support Working Group, and requests supporting individuals.
- 2) The clearness committee then deliberates internally and works on the summary research so that the proposal to the whole will contain a clear executive summary.
- 3) The completed proposal then goes to the clerk and/or alternate clerk for immediate distribution or forwarding to the Earthcare list. Thus, if it is sent at 10:00 p.m., it would be sent out at 8:00 a.m. and the 96 hours starts then.
- 4) The whole QEW SC discerns its response within 96 hours. Silence is taken as consent. If the clerk cannot answer questions, she or he may refer them to the clearness committee.
- 5) The clerk signs off on the document for QEW, and the general secretary administers the delivery to the parties requesting sign-on.
- 6) The general secretary archives copies of all approved sign-ons. The work is minuted and reported after

**the fact to the Steering Committee.**

### **Finca La Bella Project – Bill Howenstine**

Os Cresson and Ruth Quintanilla are now members of the Finca La Bella Project. In the 1950s Quakers migrated from the U.S. to Monteverde, Costa Rica, high in the mountains. They formed a community and Friends Meeting, and QEW has continued contact. Some Quakers visiting Monteverde had the idea to buy farm land for landless farmers and raised \$120,000 for the purpose. Currently, arrangements for land easement for local farmers are being working out. **The Finca La Bella Project has approved sending \$5,000 (of \$10,000 available) to help with legal expenses.** Susannah McCandless lived there and is now able to help with project activities. Persons can buy Finca La Bella coffee as a fund-raiser.

### **Publications Committee – Roy Taylor**

Roy has received feedback on the tri-fold, *Water is Life*, and welcomes more feedback by email by 2010 November 5. The tri-fold for 2011 might reflect a biological diversity theme. The Publications Committee is working on tri-folds and reviewing publications; **committees and working groups are encouraged to be sure tri-folds are up to date; if not, they should be laid down.** Since QEW can publish electronically on the web, the committee encourages people to “publish” about earthcare concerns on the web with more detail and depth. **Everyone one should look at the website to be sure the most recent minutes of committees, working groups, and project are on web.** Roy urges everyone to take ownership of your section on the web. **The Publications Committee is working with the Outreach Committee to bring more people into QEW.**

### **Spiritual Nurture Committee – Mary Jo Klingel**

The SNC brought forward a revised minute for QEW to explore “the Light within” at the 2011 April SC meeting in Chicago. Our consideration of this should help with development and outreach.

**SC Minute 2010.10.11. Steering Committee approved the Spiritual Nurture Committee consulting with the Continuing Counsel Committee on planning for time and space at QEW’s April 2011 Steering Committee meeting in Chicago to explore in the manner of Friends the phrase “the Light within” as it relates to our work together.**

**The SNC also suggested having contact information on tri-folds.**

### **Reports from Yearly Meeting Representatives**

Al Connor (Lake Erie YM), Roy Treadway (Illinois YM), John Payton (Northern YM), Mary Gilbert (New England YM), Joe Morris (Pacific YM), David Millar (Canadian YM), Sally Merrill (South Central YM), and Donn Kesselheim (North Pacific YM) all reported about the earthcare activities in his or her yearly meeting. **See the attached yearly meeting reports for further information.**

### **General Process for Sign-ons**

Following the discussion during the first Meeting for Business about clarifying the process for approving sign-ons and for making the process for all sign-ons consistent with that just approved for the sign-ons pertinent to the United Nations by the UN Support Working Group, the Continuing Counsel Committee asked Roy Treadway to prepare proposed general process for approval by the Steering Committee. Several persons suggested changes in the proposed draft for sign-ons.

**SC Minute 2010.10.12. Steering Committee approved the following process, to clarify the manner of deciding on sign-ons of statements and endorsements by QEW.**

- 1. Someone who receives a request for a sign-on works on the proposal so that it contains a clear executive summary, outlining the purpose of the sign-on, the organization involved in the sign-on, and the deadline of the sign-on and communicates it to an appropriate working group, project, or committee, which serves as a clearness committee.**
- 2. The clearness committee conducts necessary research, then deliberates, and decides on it as it soon as possible in a timely fashion. The committee can appoint one or two persons; if it approves, it sends it to the clerk (or, if necessary, the alternative clerk) of the Steering Committee for immediate forwarding to the Earthcare email list.**
- 3. The whole QEW Steering Committee discerns its response within 96 hours. Silence is taken as consent. If the clerk cannot answer questions, he or she may refer them to the clearness committee.**
- 4. The clerk or general secretary (or alternative clerk, if necessary) signs off on the document for QEW, and officially notifies the appropriate parties.**
- 5. The general secretary archives copies of all approved sign-ons. The approved sign-on is minuted in the Steering Committee minutes at the next Steering Committee meeting.**

### **The Green Team of FCNL – Al Connor**

FCNL Green Team, headed by Marcia Cleveland, provides information about climate and energy political action. **We encourage every one in QEW to join the Green Team, through the FCNL website or emailing Marcia directly.**

### **Maia Wolff – Youth in QEW**

Encouraging youth to come to QEW is very important as are personal contacts. Many things can be talked about that would give a personal touch. Keep following up with youth who are interested. Make it clearer what QEW is “doing,” not just “thinking about.” **Having a work project in our gathering might attract more youth – for physical activity. Electronic involvement and “unconference ways” of doing things attract other youth.** Scholarships from two anonymous donors helped two youth to attend the Houston QEW meetings.

Joe Morris added that one way of finding youth is through yearly meetings, especially in earthcare groups.

### **Closing**

In closing we showed pictures of Olney Friends School “Summit on the Future” and a bit of the movie “Water on the Table.”

In Ruah’s last QEW Steering Committee meeting as general secretary, **Ruah wants to be remembered by free hugs**, as shown by a video about hugs. We exchanged hugs in silence to close our meeting.

Roy C. Treadway

Recording Clerk

**Attachment A: Approved QEW Budget for Fiscal Year 2011 (2010 Nov. 1 to 2011 Oct. 31)**

	Fiscal 2010 Budget	Fiscal 2010 Actual Thru 9/30/10	Proposed Budget Fiscal 2011	Comments
<b>REVENUE &amp; OTHER SUPPORT</b>				
Administrative fees	240.00	220.00		Not in 2011
Contributions	89,797.00	76,461.08	91,353.00	To make zero income budget
Interest	1,500.00	368.81	500.00	Realistic
Meetings, net of expenses		13,414.40		
Temp. Restricted funds to GF	5,490.00	1,832.30	18,616.00	From donations--incl. Ruah's
Publications sales	1,500.00	360.50	500.00	Realistic
<b>TOTAL REV.&amp; OTHER SUPP.</b>	<b>98,527.00</b>	<b>92,657.09</b>	<b>110,969.00</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>All Salaries and Benefits</b>				
GS benefits and taxes--2 months	9,517.00	9,222.06	1,553.00	
General Secretary Salary--2 mo.	27,090.00	24,902.00	4,515.00	Based on annual \$27,090
GS Contract salary--10 months			18,300.00	Based on annual \$22,000
GS Retirement at 5%			915.00	For 10 months
Contract bookkeeper--9 months			5,250.00	Based on annual \$7,000
Pub. Coord. Benefits & taxes--12 mo	3,936.00	3,291.97	4,271.00	
Pub. Coord. Salary & taxes--12 mo.	14,884.00	13,684.50	14,884.00	
<b>Total all salaries and benefits</b>	<b>55,427.00</b>	<b>51,100.53</b>	<b>49,688.00</b>	
<b>Transition Budget</b>				
Travel			1,000.00	New GS & old GS training
Shipping			500.00	Office
New equipment			1,200.00	Computer/printer for new GS
Communications			200.00	
GS Assistant--general fund money			1,500.00	Old GS
Payroll Taxes--general fund \$			115.00	Old GS
GS Assistant--sabbatical fund			12,660.00	Old GS
GS Asst. benefits--sabbatical Fund			4,106.00	Old GS
<b>Total transition budget</b>			<b>21,281.00</b>	
<b>General and Administrative</b>				
Credit card fees	850.00	980.82	1,050.00	
Equipment and maintenance	600.00	406.29	1,000.00	
Gen. Sec. Travel & expenses	3,500.00	1,242.59	2,000.00	2 St. Comm. Mtgs
Supplies, postage, fees, copies	2,430.00	2,931.06	2,150.00	Some postage now w/ pub. Coord.
Rent	3,600.00	3,300.00	2,000.00	Now shared w/ pub. coordinator.
Finance/Development Committee	400.00	198.74	400.00	Appeal letter
Steering Committee travel and expenses	1,000.00	210.00	2,000.00	
Telephone, internet, and fax	2,200.00	2,116.01	1,500.00	
<b>Total Gen. &amp; Admin.</b>	<b>14,580.00</b>	<b>11,385.51</b>	<b>12,100.00</b>	
<b>Program and Outreach</b>				
AK/SL Project	5,240.00	220.00		
FGC expenses (copying, displays, etc)	250.00	3,913.03	2,250.00	GS plus helper & expenses
Men for Men project			350.00	1 Grant
Mini-grants	1,250.00	2,525.00	2,500.00	5 \$500 grants
FCNL attendance	1,650.00		1,800.00	3 Representatives
UN working group			50.00	
Visitation travel	4,000.00	910.37	3,500.00	
<b>Total Program and Outreach</b>	<b>12,390.00</b>	<b>7,568.40</b>	<b>10,450.00</b>	
<b>Publications and merchandise</b>				
BFC printing, postage & permits	9,480.00	9,458.18	10,200.00	General increase expected
Flyers printing	1,500.00	1,234.60	1,500.00	
Supplies and postage	100.00	333.59	800.00	Shipping now w/ pub. Coord.
Publications coordinator travel	3,500.00	742.59	2,000.00	2 St. Comm. Mtgs
QUIP membership & meeting	50.00	50.00	50.00	
Rent			1,400.00	For space plus phone/internet
Web site maintenance	1,500.00	1,054.00	1,500.00	
<b>Total Publications</b>	<b>16,130.00</b>	<b>12,872.96</b>	<b>17,450.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL ALL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>98,527.00</b>	<b>82,927.40</b>	<b>110,969.00</b>	
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9,729.69</b>	<b>0.00</b>	

## Reports

### Nominated General Secretary

Attachment B: Introduction

Attachment C: Vitae of Anne Mitchell

### Clerk and Staff

Attachment D: Clerk

Attachment E: General Secretary

Attachment F: Publications Coordinator

### Background Documents

Attachment G: Items Carried Over from 2011  
April Steering Committee Meeting

Attachment H: Proposed QEW Bylaws

### Committees, Working Groups, and Project

Attachment I: Nominating Committee

Attachment J: Outreach Committee

Attachment K: Mini-Grants Sub-Committee

Attachment L: FCNL Support Working  
Group

Attachment M: Sustainability: Faith and Ac-

tion Working Group

Attachment N: UN Support Working Group

### Yearly Meeting Representatives

Attachment O: Canadian Yearly Meeting

Attachment P: Iowa (Conservative) Yearly  
Meeting

Attachment Q: Illinois Yearly Meeting

Attachment R: Great Plains Yearly Meeting

Attachment S: Lake Erie Yearly Meeting

Attachment T: New England Yearly Meeting

Attachment U: Northern Yearly Meeting

Attachment V: South Central Yearly Meeting

### Visitation

Attachment W: Iowa (Conservative) Yearly  
Meeting

Attachment X: Iowa (FUM) Yearly Meeting

Attachment Y: North Pacific Yearly Meeting

Attachment Z: Northwest Yearly Meeting

## Reports of Nominated General Secretary

### **Attachment B: Introduction Jack Bradin**

Greetings Steering Committee Members,

I would like to take a little time before you all arrive in Houston TX for QEW's Annual Meeting to bring you up to speed on the workings of the ad-hoc General Secretary Search Committee. Please be sure to bring your Documents in Advance [DIA's] to the Houston Meeting so you may refresh your memory about our new Proposed Candidate for the General Secretary position being vacated by Ruah. If you have any questions or concerns hopefully i will have addressed some, and Anne's attached CV may dispel any questions as to her competence and long held esteem amongst North American, European, and African Friends.

The ad-hoc GS search committee was made up of the following steering committee friends: Dick Grossman, Davids Millar and Ciscel, Elaine Emmi, Noel Pavlovic, Al Connor, Ruah Swennerfelt, and jack bradin clerk. These committee members worked diligently in the manner of Friends. I wish to thank them and i hope you all will join me in TX at the appropriate time to express the Steering Committee's heartfelt thanks for a job well done!

From the very outset the committee recognized the cross roads QEW is approaching as Ruah takes her leave. The committee recognized its obligation was/is to the future well being and direction of QEW in this world of heightened ecocide.

What a process! We received 10 CVs from 10 individuals all qualified for the position. Albeit coming from different backgrounds, but by in large on a wave length QEW could have been comfortable with. Therefore the future possibilities, the what ifs, for QEW was/is the light we saw/see dawning before us. A chance to grow QEW a pace with the catastrophe we are [all species] facing on Eearth today from man's stupidity and greed.

We began our work in earnest during the Spring Meeting in Chicago. In June we had narrowed the field of candidates to four [4]. Starting in July and finishing in August we were able to extensively interview and then process in a worship-sharing atmosphere the remaining four.

The seasoning of that process led the committee to offer Anne Mitchell [present clerk of CYM: Canadian Yearly Meeting] the position of General Secretary of Quaker Earthcare Witness.

We are presenting Anne Mitchell for your approval at our Annual meeting this fall.

Respectfully submitted for the Ad-Hoc GS search committee,

by its clerk,  
jack bradin

**Attachment C: Vitae of Anne Mitchell  
Anne Mitchell**

**ANNE MITCHELL  
70 HARRISON STREET  
TORONTO  
ONTARIO M6J 1Z9**

**416-577-8402 cell**

**416-533-8402 home  
annemitchell8@sympatico.ca**

- Over 30 years experience and leadership in the not for profit, voluntary sector.
- An accomplished communicator and educator.
- Leadership role in the Quaker community and the broader faith community in Canada.
- Over 25 years management experience.
- An accomplished change agent.
- Experienced at working with a variety of stakeholders.
- Experienced meeting chair, facilitator and clerk.
- Passionate.
- Goal oriented.
- Accomplished people skills.
- Accomplished leader.

**EXPERIENCE**

Executive Director, The Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy (CIELAP) February 1992 – June 2009 - keep the organization in the forefront of research in environmental law and policy; strategic planning; program development and fundraising. Planned successful transition.

Executive Director, International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa (Canada) - 1980 – June 30 1991 - set up the organization in Canada; developed support and programs; managed and directed the organization from its beginnings with 100 supporters at the end of its first year to over 10,000 supporters and a budget of over \$2 million within ten years. Successfully wound up the organization because its mandate had been accomplished.

Education Coordinator, Ngwane Rural Education Centre, Swaziland, Southern Africa, WUSC Volunteer - 1977 - 1979 - set up courses in basic skills for rural adults; developed programs and support with the community.

Education Coordinator, Ottawa/Hull Region Miles for Millions and Ottawa/Hull Learner Centre - 1975 - 1977 - developed education programs with teachers and community education projects.

Assistant, Program Funding, CUSO - 1974 - 1975 - assisted with direct mail fundraising campaigns and special fundraising events.

Teacher, Scotland - 1971 - 1974; 1966 - 1968 - taught business studies, accounts and economics. Participated in extra curricula school activities including a Confederation of British Industry program for young adults and international school exchange program.

Group Counsellor, Boys Farm and Training School, Shawbridge, Quebec - 1969 - 1970 - developed individual programs for delinquent young people in an effort to change their behaviour.

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Led CIELAP's strategic planning to position the organization as a convener of disparate view points to develop policy recommendations to address various environmental and sustainability issues.
- Was one of five founders of IDAFSA – a UK based organization - in Canada; established the organization in Canada; within 10 years supporters went from 5 to 10,000 and budget from \$10,000 to \$2.5 million;
- Getting faith groups, civil society organizations, not for profit organizations, private sector and governments to address agreed on goals;
- Influenced Ontario, Federal and international policy development in the areas of international development, human rights and the environment.
- Developed school curricula and model workshops in Canada and UK
- Helped a community in Southern Africa establish their own development programs which were functioning without outside support 25 years later.

## **EDUCATION**

Master of Arts in International Affairs, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University, Ottawa - 1984

Diploma in Youth and Community Work, Moray House College of Education, Edinburgh - 1969

Teaching Certificate in Business Education, Moray House College of Education, Edinburgh - 1966

Diploma in Business Studies, Heriot-Watt College of Technology, Edinburgh - 1965

## **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

University of Ottawa, Continuing Education, Association Management in a New Century, 1989

Ottawa Board of Education, Continuing Education, Conversation francaise Avance, 1988

Manitoba Institute of Management – Managing the Non-Profit Organization, 1988

## **AFFILIATIONS AND COMMITTEES**

Clerk, Canadian Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, 2008 - present

Board Member, Quaker Institute for the Future, 2004 to present

Member, Community Advisory Committee, Vinyl Council of Canada, 1997 to present

Member, New Directions Group, 1992 to present

Steering Committee Member, Quaker Earthcare Witness, 1999 to 2006  
Member, Quaker Ecological Action Network, 2000 to present  
Associate Member, Canadian Friends Service Committee, 2008 to present  
Global Economic Justice Program Committee member, Kairos, 2004 – 2009  
Member, Biotechnology Reference Group of the Canadian Council of Churches, 1999 - present  
Member, Canadian Biotechnology Advisory Committee, 1998 to 2008  
Member, governing Board of the Canadian Council of Churches, 1998 to 2006  
Co-Clerk, Toronto Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, 1999 to 2006  
Treasurer, Toronto Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, 1993-1999  
Canadian Environmental Network, board member, 1993 – 1998 (2 years as co-chair)  
National Advisory Committee to the Canadian Government on the North American Environmental Agreement (1994 – 1999)  
National Pollutant Release Inventory multi-stakeholder group of Environment Canada, 1998 – 2009.  
Canadian Environmental Law Association, board member, 1992 – 1998  
Great Lakes United, Board member, 1993 – 1996

### **OTHER RELATED INFORMATION**

April 17 2010 – Panelist, Climate Change as a Moral Issue, the Political Landscape in Canada, organized by Social Work Department, University of Alberta, United Church of Canada and others  
February 7 2010 – Organized a Scrupling Session on the Erosion of Democracy in Canada – Toronto MM with two Sitting Members of Parliament  
December 2009 – Canadian Council of Churches, Symposium on Faith, Life and Technology – member of the planning committee  
October 2009 - ScienceSphere 2009 - Speaker, Ontario Science Centre, Our Sustainable Future  
November 2008 – Canada’s 4<sup>th</sup> workshop on Partnering for Sustainability – convener  
December 2007 – Canadian Council of Churches delegate to the World Council of Churches global consultation on genetics and new biotechnologies  
October 2005 – Canada’s 3<sup>rd</sup> conference on Partnering for Sustainability - convener  
June 2004 – Commission for Environmental Cooperation, 10<sup>th</sup> Year Review, delegate  
May 2004 – Canada’s 2<sup>nd</sup> conference on Partnering for Sustainability – co-convener  
August 2002 – World Summit on Sustainable Development – Non government organization delegate  
April 2002 – Canada’s first conference on Partnering for Sustainability – co-convener  
October 2001 – Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development – Canadian participant at NGO consultation on trade issues.  
April 2001 – Presenter, with Costa Rican partner, at the Peoples’ Summit and the Free Trade Symposium, Quebec City  
May 2000 - member, Canadian delegation to the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD 8), United Nations, New York  
April 1998 - member, Canadian delegation to the CSD 6, United Nations, New York  
April 1997 - delegate, Rio + 5, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
March 1997 - member of Canadian delegation to G7 Environmental Futures Forum, Washington  
March 1996 - ENGO representative to G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting, France  
June 1994 - ENGO delegate to Informal Meeting of Trade and Environment Experts at the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Paris  
February 1994 - NGO delegate to United Nations Centre Against Apartheid Briefing, Brussels  
October 1993 - Organizer, Phase 3 of the First North American Conference on Environmental Law, Ottawa  
August 1993 - Delegate to United Nations Centre Against Apartheid Consultation, Geneva  
June 1993 - Organizer of Canadian participation in Phase 2 of the First North American Conference on Environmental Law, Washington

November 1992 - Organizer of Canadian participation in Phase 1 of the First North American Conference on Environmental Law, Mexico  
February 1991 - fact finding visit to South Africa  
July 1990 - fact finding visit to South Africa  
September 1987 - headed a delegation of Canadians to attend the International Conference on Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa held in Harare, Zimbabwe  
May 1986 - represented Canadian Government at a United Nations seminar on assistance to peoples and movements struggling against colonialism, racism, racial discrimination and apartheid in Younde, Cameroon  
May 1985 - fact finding visit to South Africa  
April 1985 - liberation support workshop in Lusaka, Zambia  
April 1976 - member, NGO delegation to the 7th Special Session of the United Nations, New York

## **PUBLICATIONS**

I have written various papers, opinion pieces, articles, letters to the editor, annual reports, newsletters; made presentations and submissions to various bodies on a variety of issues; and given numerous talks, radio, television, newspaper and magazine interviews. Details are available on request. I am currently experimenting with blogging – [www.annemitchell.ca](http://www.annemitchell.ca)

## **REFERENCES**

Ursula Franklin, Professor Emerita, University of Toronto  
Telephone: 416-932-8969  
[u.franklin@utoronto.ca](mailto:u.franklin@utoronto.ca).  
Ursula and I are members of Toronto Monthly Meeting.

Grant Caven, Chair of the Board of Directors, Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy  
Telephone: 416-621-0514  
[grantcaven@sympatico.ca](mailto:grantcaven@sympatico.ca)  
Grant, as chair of CIELAP, was my most recent employer.

### **Attachment D: 2010 Report of the Clerk Dick Grossman**

Quaker Earthcare Witness is a community of Quakers who are concerned about the planet we inhabit. At times this community has been pretty heterogeneous, however. Sometimes I think we resemble a hedgehog more than a sleek dolphin. In order to encourage a common knowledge base we have read two books. Geoff Garver, one of the authors of Right Relationship: building a whole earth economy, attended our Steering Committee meeting this spring and gave a concise presentation. He also autographed copies of his book. The second book that we chose is Eaarth by Bill McKibben. No, the title isn't misspelled. The spelling is the author's way of making us aware that the planet has changed, and so must our relationship to it change.

The past year has seen much action and many successes. The Publications Committee has prepared a new pamphlet on an essential subject—water. It is just in time for the Houston meeting, for which one of the themes is water. We have signed on to several documents that are in line with our beliefs. The Friends Committee on National Legislation has responded to pressure to focus more on environmental issues. Despite the financial recession QEW is still doing well, thanks to many loyal members. Indeed, we have been able to raise a significant amount of money to establish a special fund for a special person.

Members of QEW have tried to limit our travel because of our concern about use of fossil fuels. The bylaws require that the Continuing Counsel have a face-to-face meeting separate from the two other face-to-face meetings. In the

past we all went to the Washington DC area in January. We have decided to change that, however. This year we spent the whole eight hours of the meeting sitting in front of our computers, communicating by Skype. Despite the fact that we used a less personal means of communication, we accomplished a great deal and felt that the meeting technique was successful. The bylaws will be changed to reflect this modern meeting method.

Past QEW Steering Committee clerk Hollister Knowlton has accepted an opportunity to be the keynote speaker at Olney Friends School Summit, so will not be able to attend the QEW General Meeting in Houston. Traditionally the Mentoring Clerk has helped keep the bylaws up to date. Another past Steering Committee Clerk, Barbara Williamson, has stepped up to help with this meticulous task.

I would like to say a special thanks to another clerk, Roy Treadway. Roy has been diligent as Recording Clerk. He has paid careful attention to details but has not lost sight of the important role of QEW.

Ruah Swennerfelt has been our organization's General Secretary for 16 years. Indeed, she has served more as the backbone and inspiration of the organization than a staff person. She gave us ample notification of her desire to move on, and a person has been found to fill the position, pending the approval of the Steering Committee this month. The special fund is for Ruah, who will be studying ways people are preparing for life when cheap fossil fuels are no longer available. My thanks to Jack Bradin and all who served on the *ad hoc* search committee. We will honor Ruah and her successor at a party on Halloween!

Many of us have all noted that QEW members are getting older. Fortunately, Joe Morris has done something to encourage younger people to participate. He came up with the idea to establish a "scholarship" fund to help pay the way for younger friends to attend QEW meetings. Thanks to this, the meeting in Houston promises to have more young vigor. Please continue to recruit young Friends who are concerned about the environment!

Although I have officiated at many meetings, I find it challenging to be QEW's clerk. It is easy enough to deal with the people who are involved. My concern is that the need is so great for us to protect the planet upon which we, and millions of other species, live. I appreciate your giving me an opportunity to serve in this role.

### **Attachment E:2010 Report of the General Secretary Ruah Swennerfelt**

Well, sixteen years is a long time to stay at one job.... for me that is. Before working for QEW I never stayed anywhere longer than four years. I got bored, needed change, needed challenge, needed feeling useful, needed something.... I found that with QEW. There weren't too many dull moments, except maybe daily going through spam email to be sure something wasn't lost.

I loved working for you, for Friends, for Earth. I loved being able to work at home, knowing I could run out to harvest some food, or clear some weeds, or haul some manure if rain was in the forecast. I loved meeting so many Friends, attending at least a hundred of Friends Meetings and dozens of Yearly Meetings. I loved representing QEW wherever I went, sharing my pride for the organization and encouraging people to support its mission. I think I've made a difference on this planet and in some people's lives enough so that they've made a difference too.

I'm confident that our new General Secretary will do a fantastic job and I think a change is good for the organization. I look forward to working with you all as a non-staff person.

So, what do I have to say to you? For many of you, you need to think more and do more between face-to-face meetings. The clerks do a lot via the Continuing Counsel, but so many of you seem to liven up when we get together and forget about us when we're not in view. As Steering Committee members, you are depended on to fund raise, get others interested in QEW, and support the organization yourself. Some of you do a great job with this, but many are lagging. I am worried about what happens if the Steering Committee decides to only meet once a year.

You agreed to serve because you care deeply about this planet, I know that. Also most of you are terribly busy where you live, pitching in to help make this world a better place. I know that too. But the new General Secretary needs your support over the coming year. Be there!!!!

Financially we continue to survive, but we need to soar. If we really want more participation by young adults, we need a trust fund to help them attend our face-to-face meetings. Many would like to participate but are struggling financially. So how can we do this for them?

We need to increase our funds to assist older adults as well. The world financial picture is pretty bleak, but there should be money available somewhere to help an organization like ours.

This last year has been very special. David Ciscel is a terrific treasurer. He's involved and active. We've worked well together. Dick Grossman is a great clerk. He is on top of the issues and clerks our meetings well. He takes charge and brings good humour to our gatherings. And Roy Treadway is a stupendous recording clerk. We could all depend on accurate minutes and excellent questions from him. I can't say enough about the role Continuing Counsel played in my working life. They helped me stay sane.

And thanks to all of you who have had the faith and trust in me as General Secretary, who have not been afraid to gently give me constructive criticism, and who have cared about me.

Love to you all, Ruah

**Attachment F: 2010 Report of the Publications Coordinator  
Louis Cox**

This has been a fairly busy year for QEW publications, although not quite as full of changes and activities as when we were publishing *Earthcare for Friends* and designing the first website.

**BeFriending Creation newsletter**

1. In 2010 I published, on schedule, six bi-monthly newsletters. Five of them included *Quaker Eco-Bulletin* inserts. I was the author of two *QEBs*, the January-February 2010 issue, "Climbing to a Whole-Earth View" and the September-October 2010 issue, "Earthy Activism—Changing the World with Head and Heart."
2. In addition to print versions of the newsletter and eco-bulletin that were mailed out to some 800 addresses around the world, there are about 340 QEW supporters—households who chose to read either the HTML or pdf versions that I created for the website. Extra copies were printed each time so that we had enough current issues for display tables at the FGC Gathering and other Quaker events.
3. This year QEW has benefitted from many excellent article submissions, including regular submissions from Mary Gilbert, one of QEW's representative to the United Nations. General content of the newsletter has been further enriched by interesting QEW activities, such as the Mini-grants program and the QEW presence at the FGC Gathering. We can always use more article submissions and feedback/suggestions on articles and style. I have written a number of newsletter articles as space and need have allowed.
4. I could use more articles about spirituality/ecology work that Friends Meetings around the country are involved in. Since these reports are seldom initiated by the Meetings, we need to be reaching out more frequently to those Meetings to pick up newsy items.
5. I continue to be very satisfied with the printing work being done by FedEx Office in Burlington. The staff there have been very good about working with me to continually improve quality and shorten turnaround

time. In the future we may need to have some printing work done elsewhere, but I presume that the FedEx Office electronic network would be able to handle all digitally-transmitted orders with about the same speed and quality.

### **QEW website**

1. The revamped QEW website was put into operation last spring. The site has a much improved design and interface, with many important new features, such as an on-line store, on-line registration/donations, keyword site search, and links to QEW social networking sites. Recently I added a button on the home page linking to the new QEW Facebook page. Maintenance and backup are now easier to take care of on a routine basis.
2. There were many difficulties in getting the new website completed according to the terms of our contract with the web designer, and thus the much-anticipated debut was delayed by more than nine months. This was partly due to gaps in the technical experience and competence of the web designers that I hadn't picked up on until they were well into the project and partly due to domestic difficulties the web designers were undergoing, about which they weren't being very open with us. This turned out to be a job for a more experienced web designer, but larger firms that I had contacted previously were not interested in such a relatively small project.
3. I now have a new html-based mini-web page that I use when sending out announcements to the QEW e-mail list that the most recent BFC and QEB are now available on the main QEW website. It includes sample paragraphs of the main articles, breaking news items, and Green Living tips. It replaces a simple e-mail message that just listed the main articles and provided a live link to the QEW website and is part of the messages for the new e-network.
4. I continue to add to the archives of the QEB and BFC on the website, in both pdf and html versions. I am looking for a way of saving some of the archives off-site and possibly scanning in the older BFCs in order to add them to the archives. However, I don't know how much demand there would be for all back issues in this form, and therefore whether such a project would be worth the time and expense.
5. I have posted updates to committee minutes on the website as requested, usually with short turnaround, but it seems that a number of our committees either are not writing up minutes or are not sending them in for posting on the website. As a result, we continue to have a lot of web pages with outdated materials.
6. On-line registration for QEW meetings is working well. However, fewer than half of those who registered did so on line. A few had their credit card charges rejected, but it's not clear why, since the system worked properly for all the others. A related problem has been remedied in part: Someone whose credit card transaction was rejected for some reason (perhaps because the specified format wasn't used) had to start all over with data entry in order to make the correction. I did finally learn how to break the form up into pages so that all the data on each page is saved when going on to the next page. However, our software apparently isn't as sophisticated as that use by some other sites, which let the user go back and make any necessary corrections without reentering all the data.
7. The on-line store includes lending of videos for only the cost of postage. We have a large number of videos and it is complex at times to keep track of which ones are out on loan. It would be ideal to have availability information on the website itself. It's again a matter of whether the investment of time and money in such a system seems worthwhile. There is not a high volume of video borrowings, and some titles are seldom if ever requested.
8. In looking over minutes from last fall's Publications Committee meeting I notice that there are a few requested features or changes that haven't yet been made to the website. With all the problems we had just

getting the website up and running, these were put on the back burner. I will be attending to them in the near future.

### **Other QEW publications**

1. The QEW office has needed to order reprints of several QEW flyers. Some of these orders came up on short notice. This points to the need for a better publications inventory system so we don't have to send in rush orders for reprints or find that we don't have on hand a title that someone needs urgently. I will work on that in the near future as well.
2. Because of low demand, we have decided not to keep printed inventories of certain QEW pamphlets. Nowadays, most people can print out as pdf files any pamphlets that are available on the website.
3. QEW's newest pamphlet, *Water is Life*, produced by the Sustainability F&A working group, is available for final review at the QEW Annual Meeting. It is scheduled to be included as a gift in the annual appeal letter that is going out to QEW supporters later this year.
4. We are letting one older booklet, *Sustainability & Spirituality*, go out of print, due to low demand in recent years. We have given away copies of certain other books and pamphlets that were published a number of years ago and hadn't been selling very well.
5. We have no current plans for publishing additional books and booklets. The sense of the Publications Committee is that we should not be involved in publishing and marketing as an end in itself (which other organizations are better equipped to do) but should consider new titles mainly as tools to support QEW activities and programs. The third edition of *Earthcare for Children, a First-Day School Curriculum*, is now under care of FGC books, who introduced it at this year's Gathering.

### **Other Publications-related activities**

1. As in previous years, I helped prepare displays and set up/staff the Earthcare Center at the FGC Gathering.
2. Ruah and I gave presentations about the message and work of QEW at several Friends meetings in Maine and New Hampshire in September 2010.
3. Although Ruah is retiring as general secretary at the end of 2010, I am willing to continue as publications coordinator for a while longer, if it pleases the Steering Committee. However, in anticipation of turning the job over to someone else in the next two or three years, we might start by finding some web-savvy person to take on the website maintenance and improvement. Ideally, this would be someone who likes that kind of work, understands and supports QEW, has fresh ideas and talent for making the website more interactive and attractive, and is willing to accept modest compensation. It probably would not be an attractive proposition for a professional web designer/manager.
4. With Ruah's retirement I will be adjusting my publications coordinator duties somewhat. I'll do more with inventory, sales, records, taking orders, packing and shipping, answering e-mail questions about publications, etc. that Ruah often took care of. The job will evolve further as I am required to do a different kind of coordinating at a distance with the new general secretary.

## Background Documents

### **Attachment G: Items Carried Over from 2011 April Steering Committee Meeting Compiled by Roy C. Treadway (Including relevant CCC Minutes for July, August, and October)**

#### Issues relating to the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Meetings

##### **Outreach Committee – Susan Swanstrom**

Since the 2009 Fall Annual Meeting, the Outreach Committee has been considering forthcoming face-to-face meetings for QEW, including asking members of the SC their preferences. As a result, the Outreach Committee presented the following recommendation.

*The Outreach Committee has been charged with seasoning the issue of QEW meetings. Based on talks with members, results of a survey, and discernment in committee, Outreach recommends that QEW hold one annual face to face meeting to be held in Chicago, starting in Spring 2011. We recommend that our annual meeting add an extra day, running Wednesday-Sunday or Thursday-Monday to accomplish a blend of business and inspired action, informal networking, and nature-based education. This would entail changing our fiscal year, and a commitment to strong committee communication between meetings (such as committee conference calls and other electronic communication).*

A brief discussion followed. This proposal will be seasoned further and considered later this weekend.

##### **Future Face-to-Face Meetings**

After careful consideration and discussion with many on the Steering Committee, a Friend came forward with the suggestion that in 2011 QEW hold two meetings at the Cenacle in Chicago, with same number days as in 2010 – three full days in the spring and four full days in the fall – while continuing to consider going to one meeting in 2012 and beyond. To facilitate the planning process, another Friend suggested that an *ad hoc* committee be named to continue to season our meetings, including how committees, projects, and worship groups can use electronic communications between face-to-face meetings. **During the year 2011, the new general secretary would become involved in the work of QEW and regional meetings could be considered, including evaluating the carbon footprint of regional meetings.** We could also explore meeting with Friends World Committee for Consultation and Friends General Conference. It would also give us time to consider a change in our fiscal year and bylaws. With these two meetings in Chicago in 2011 and possibly a meeting in spring 2012, we would be able to examine the significant nature opportunities, urban wilderness, bicycling and mass transit, and urban environmental challenges and problems in Chicago, possibly helping in a hands-on way with environmental needs in Chicago.

**SC Minute 2010.04.02. Steering Committee approved meeting face-to-face in Chicago at the Cenacle in the spring for three full days and in the fall for four full days in 2011.**

We discussed the best weekends for meeting at the Cenacle in 2011 and were reminded to be aware of Earth Day weekend. We prefer meeting in the East Conference Room, and the FGC Gathering Planning Committee is meeting at the Cenacle 2011 April 28 to May 1. **Given available dates at the Cenacle, the dates for the QEW national meetings in 2011 are: April 7-10 and October 20-24.**

**SC Minute 2010.04.03. Steering Committee approved forming an *ad hoc* committee to oversee aspects of QEW's meeting schedule in 2011, help the new general secretary with the meetings, investigate alternatives to**

meeting face to face twice in 2012 and beyond, and determine needed changes in the QEW Bylaws and fiscal year. The formal name of this committee will be decided by the Continuing Counsel Committee.

**SC Minute 2010.04.04. Steering Committee approved Jack Bradin, Sally Merrill, Alice Howenstine, Hollister Knowlton, and Susan Swanstrom (*ex officio*) as members of this *ad hoc* committee.**

*CCC Minutes 2010 July*

### **Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings**

During the QEW SC Meeting in 2010 April, the SC approved the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings:

SC Minute 2010.04.03. Steering Committee approved forming an *ad hoc* committee to oversee aspects of QEW's meeting schedule in 2011, help the new general secretary with the meetings, investigate alternatives to meeting face to face twice in 2012 and beyond, and determine needed changes in the QEW Bylaws and fiscal year.

SC Minute 2010.04.04. Steering Committee approved Jack Bradin, Sally Merrill, Alice Howenstine, Hollister Knowlton, and Susan Swanstrom (*ex officio*) as members of this *ad hoc* committee.

The Committee has not met yet and needs to name a convener. **Dick will set up the first call to get the committee organized, select a convener, and develop an agenda.**

*CCC Minutes 2010 August*

### **Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings – Dick Grossman**

During the QEW SC Meeting in 2010 April, the SC approved the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings to oversee aspects of QEW's meeting schedule in 2011, help the new general secretary with the meetings, investigate alternatives to meeting face to face twice in 2012 and beyond, and determine needed changes in the QEW bylaws and fiscal year. Jack Bradin, Sally Merrill, Alice Howenstine, Hollister Knowlton, and Susan Swanstrom (*ex officio*) were approved as members of this Ad Hoc committee, but Hollister has recently resigned from the committee.

Dick has tried to organize this committee without success since no one has stepped forward to convene this committee. Roy Treadway will identify the discussion and charge from the April SC Meeting according to the 2010 April SC Minutes

**CCC Minute 2010.08.03 Continuing Counsel Committee approved waiting until the 2010 October Houston QEW Meeting to gather members of the committee, possible new interested persons, and perhaps the new general secretary to move forward the important work of this committee for the future of QEW.**

*CCC Minutes 2010 October*

### **Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings**

During the QEW SC Meeting in 2010 April, the SC approved the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings to oversee aspects of QEW's meeting schedule in 2011, help the new general secretary with the meetings, investigate alternatives to meeting face to face twice in 2012 and beyond, and determine needed changes in the QEW bylaws and fiscal year. Jack Bradin, Sally Merrill, Alice Howenstine, Hollister Knowlton, and Susan Swanstrom

(ex officio) were approved as members of this Ad Hoc committee, but Hollister resigned from the committee. Dick tried to organize this committee during August, but no one on the committee was ready to step forward to be the clerk; thus, it has not met nor carried out any business.

**CCC realizes that at the Houston QEW Meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings needs to be organized, revitalized, expanded to involve more people, and move forward with its *crucial* business for QEW.** The Ad Hoc Committee should consider several important questions:

- \* Should QEW have meetings that are primarily work-focused and not plenary sessions (speakers) and visits to earthcare sites?
- \* How can this committee be enlivened and expanded?
- \* Can QEW's business be done outside our getting together face-to-face, and, if so, how?

While prior to the 2010 April SC meeting, discernment by the Outreach Committee recommended one face-to-face meeting a year, the SC at those meetings agreed to try two meetings in Chicago for 2011 and formed the Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings to plan beyond 2011. CCC felt that if we have one meeting a year, it needs to be productive, but our time together as people is also very important. We agreed that we need not be in great a hurry in making a decision about this, and we need time to season our decision about our meetings.

**Jack Bradin has agreed to Clerk the Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings; Jack will send out a statement about the Committee. We need to plan a specific time for the committee to meet during the Annual Meeting in Houston.**

### **FWCC Global Change Clusters**

**Friends Committee for Consultation (FWCC) Section of America Meeting – Hollister Knowlton, David Millar, and Mary Gilbert**

Hollister, Mary, and David attended the annual meeting of FWCC in 2010 March meeting outside Baltimore. FWCC Section of the Americas has been looking at creative ways to engage people and do away with their big annual meeting in 2011 and to have local events instead. One question that came from these meetings was "Where are Friends on Global Change?" David is on the Planning Committee. Julian Stargardt from Hong Kong started the discussion on defining Global Change, which includes issues, such as land use, immigration, and social justice. **FWCC plans to hold cluster meetings with diverse groups in 2010 and 2011, culminating a world gathering on Global Change at the end of 2011.** The compiled report of all the responses will be threshed at that meeting and revised for presentation to the World Gathering in Kenya in 2012. QEW could organize several cluster meetings. The cluster meetings will be recorded by print, audio, and video. The outcome of these cluster meetings will eventually end up at the FWCC World Conference in 2012 in Kenya. **The purpose of FWCC is to reach out to all Friends; our involvement might give QEW an opportunity to reach a wider group of Friends and get discussions about earthcare underway with all Friends. The Outreach Committee will talk about this further and a small sub-group of Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group will also followup.**

### **Outreach Committee – Susan Swanstrom (Attachment G)**

The Outreach Committee has proposed a revised minute for QEW to collaborate with FWCC's Global Change consultation. We discussed the wording of the minute. We need to commit to continued action beyond 2011 to 2012 with everything that we will need to do.

**SC Minute 2010.04.14. Steering Committee approved that in recognition of the value of FWCC's Global Change Consultation in raising Friends' awareness of the interconnection of the causes and faith responses to worldwide environmental, climate, social, and economic changes, the QEW Steering Committee commits to collaborate with FWCC over the next year in convening cluster meetings among Friends. QEW will work with existing FWCC representatives for the purpose of responding to consultation queries in monthly and yearly meetings and related Quaker groups.**

*CCC Minutes 2010 July*

### **FWCC Global Change Cluster Involvement**

Ruah reviewed the possibility of QEW being involved with the FWCC Global Change Clusters at the 2010 Houston Annual Meeting. **During the formal time of the meeting from Thursday through Sunday, we would likely not have time for a Cluster meeting, given all our business and speakers.** We could have a Cluster Meeting on Monday morning as one of the other options being planned. We could certainly continue to publicize the FWCC Global Change Clusters among QEW supporters. **CCC could also consider at a later date whether to hold a FWCC Global Change Cluster meeting in conjunction with 2011 Spring Chicago Steering Committee meeting.**

*CCC Minutes 2010 August*

### **Friends World Committee for Consultation Global Change Clusters**

While a few Global Change Clusters of Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) have already been held, QEW has been only slightly involved. Acting for FWCC, David Millar has helped to set up Global Change Clusters, and the Outreach Committee is also co-ordinating clusters. All information about the clusters is on the FWCC website, and articles have been printed in *BeFriending Creation* on specific steps for setting up a cluster. **Jack will contact David Millar to write a note about the clusters for the next *BeFriending Creation* encouraging people to be more involved.**

*CCC Minutes 2010 October*

*No discussion*

### **Sign-ons**

#### **Process for Sign Ons by QEW**

Because QEW has been asked to sign on or support earthcare policy and causes for political and religious reasons and QEW would like to be involved and give our organizational support to such issues, CCC discussed at some length a simple but carefully considered process to do so. QEW wants to be clear what we are being asked to do, by whom, and when and also give members of the SC a chance to approve or raise concerns about the proposed sign ons. **Among several issues, we discussed the appropriate length of time (96 hours versus 48 hours) to consider a proposed sign on and agreed that this proposed process should be reconsidered at our annual meeting in 2010 October, after about six months of a trial period.**

**SC Minute 2010.04.10. Steering Committee approved a process for carefully considering signing on to statements of another group. To clarify the process of deciding on sign-ons, the person or persons requesting the sign-on should state succinctly the purpose, organization, time frame, and criteria of the sign-on, and send that information to the Clerk of QEW to process the request. In order to facilitate proper support of the**

**statement or position of another group, two or three members of QEW suggested by the person(s) requesting the sign-on (acting as a Committee of Clearness) will consider any suggested sign-ons and post their recommendation within 48 hours using the earthcare list serv. The entire Steering Committee will be given 48 hours to consider and approve the requested sign-on, with silence considered as approval. QEW will re-evaluate this process for approving sign-ons at the Houston 2010 Annual Meeting.**

*July CCC Minutes*

Since the April Meeting, QEW has been asked to endorse an organization or a particular statement about earthcare, and Continuing Counsel Committee has used the same procedure as we adopted for Sign-ons. CCC discussed whether the person who proposes the sign-on or endorsement, once approval has been granted, should be responsible for sending the official endorsement as appropriate (thus unburdening the General Secretary). CCC agreed that these sign-ons or statements should come from either the General Secretary or the Clerk, often sent on QEW letterhead, so that they are "official."

**CCC Minute 2010.07.02 Continuing Counsel Committee approved approving statements with the same process as sign-ons. All statements and sign-ons should ultimately be sent by the General Secretary or Clerk of QEW, to make it official. The proposer should make clear the person and address to whom these should be sent.**

CCC was not ready to make endorsements of other organizations with the same process. **We felt we needed to be very careful on making endorsements of another group unless we know it well and what it represents. This is especially true in the context of the United Nation;** such information cannot always be obtained in 48 hours. The UN Working Group can advise on issues affecting the UN. **CCC agreed to review the process for endorsements at our August Electronic Meeting.**

*CCC Minutes 2010 August*

**Minutes on Sign-ons, Statements, and Endorsements**

CCC was cautioned about setting a process to endorse organizations, primarily because of uncertainty of positions of United Nations groups involving issues about indigenous people and the power issues of the UN. **QEW needs to be mindful of these issues and not support groups which encourage economic development and extraction at the expense of the environment. Such an endorsement could come back to haunt us.**

For sign-ons and statements, the Steering Committee and CCC have approved a process, which we agreed to evaluate prior to the 2010 Houston Annual Meeting. **Roy Treadway offered to send out a questionnaire by email to the Steering Committee to get feedback about how Friends feel about the process about sign-ons and statements is working.** We need to be sure we understand all the issues about the process of making sign-ons and statements. **Jack and Roy will work out details about the content and process of conducting the evaluation.**

*CCC Minutes 2010 October*

**Sign-on Revision of Minute**

At the 2010 April QEW Meeting, QEW approved a process for approving sign-ons, with the proviso that the question of whether we allow 48 or 96 hours for the SC to approve a sign-on be considered again at the Houston Annual Meeting. Since the April meeting, CCC has added approving statements (but not endorsements) and having the General Secretary or Clerk send out the approved sign-on. **During CCC's discussion of the sign-on process, concern was expressed over having a person ask for a volunteers for a committee of clearness in proposing a**

**sign-on. Possibly a standing committee involved or new committee might be set up, including the Clerk of Spiritual Nurturance Committee, instead of the current temporary committee of clearness.** Because of CCC did not reach unity, it will not send out a questionnaire about the sign-on process as approved during its 2010 August electronic meeting. CCC will bring this sign-on process to the SC in Houston as it was approved in 2010 April and not propose a revised process, although the issue of requiring 48 hours versus 96 hours for approval still needs to be addressed.

**Attachment H: Proposed QEW Bylaws  
Compiled by Barbara Williamson**

**BY-LAWS** approved September 30, 1989 at the FCUN Annual Meeting held at Chelsea, Michigan; amended October 10, 1998 at the FCUN Annual Meeting held at Temescal Canyon, California; amended October, 2001 at the FCUN Annual Meeting held at Hesperus, Colorado; amended October 2003 at the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting held at Nevada City, California; amended October 2004 at the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting held at Burlington, New Jersey; amended October 2007 at the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting held at Burlington, Vermont; amended October 2008 at the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting held at Atlanta, Georgia; and amended October 2011 at the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting held in Chicago, Illinois.

**Name**

The name of the organization is Quaker Earthcare Witness [formerly known as Friends Committee on Unity with Nature (FCUN)].

**Article I. Statement of Purpose**

1. We work to integrate into the beliefs and practices of the Religious Society of Friends the Truth that God's Creation is to be respected, protected, and held in reverence in its own right and the Truth that human aspirations for peace and justice depend upon restoring the Earth's ecological integrity.
2. We promote these Truths by being patterns and examples, by communicating our message, and by providing spiritual and material support to those engaged in the compelling task of transforming our relationship with the earth.

**Article II. Steering Committee**

**Section 1. Composition**

a) Size

1) The Steering Committee shall have a maximum size of 50 members. There shall be two classes of members: representative members and members-at-large.

b) Representative Members

1) Each Yearly Meeting or similar regional association of the Religious Society of Friends within North and Central America and the Caribbean is invited to appoint not more than two representatives (or one representative and one alternate) to serve on the Steering Committee.

c) Members-at-Large

1) The Nominating Committee will nominate 5 members-at-large each year for 3-year terms. The number of panel members could be increased in a given year if necessary.

d) Individuals serve on the Steering Committee as members-at-large when nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Steering Committee (or Continuing Counsel Committee acting on behalf of the Steering Committee).

e) Qualifications to serve as member-at-large are:

He or she can be a recorded member or recognized participant in a Friends Meeting or other Friends organization who:

Expresses or demonstrates a commitment to Quaker Earthcare Witness's Statement of Purpose, supports Quaker Earthcare Witness activities through participation, communication, and/or financial contribution, and relates Quaker Earthcare Witness's goals and activities to Friends and to other religious and/or environmental organizations.

## **Section 2. Functions**

- a) The Steering Committee meets semi-annually to:
- 1) Attend to the activities and affairs of the organization,
  - 2) Receive reports,
  - 3) Approve policies and priorities,
  - 4) Appoint a nominating committee and approve nominations, and
  - 5) Adopt a budget.

## **Section 3. Terms of Office**

- a) Members-at-large serve three-year terms with renewal of one three-year term (maximum six years, unless the Steering Committee makes an exception), beginning at the close of the Annual Meeting. Nominating Committee will recommend a second three-year term for at-large members who prove to be of good service.
- b) Representative members serve at the pleasure of the organizations appointing them.

## **Section 4. Vacancies**

- a) Vacancies of at-large members that occur between annual meetings may be filled by the Nominating Committee with approval of the Continuing Counsel Committee. Yearly Meetings may replace vacancies at their convenience.

## **Article III. Meetings**

### **Section 1. Site location and dates**

- a) The dates and locations of Steering Committee meetings for the following year shall be announced at the Annual Meeting with details approved by the Continuing Counsel Committee. Attention shall be made to rotate the meetings across North America.

### **Section 2. Annual Meeting**

- a) The Annual Meeting of the Steering Committee shall take place in autumn, the date and place to be determined by the Steering Committee.
- b) One purpose of this meeting, in addition to regular Steering Committee business, is to comply with national and state regulations requiring organizations to have at least one organizational meeting each year.
- c) A second purpose is to hold an annual gathering of all interested individuals to meet with the Steering Committee to address those items listed in Article I.
- d) Notice of this meeting shall be mailed to the Steering Committee members at least 60 days in advance, with the agenda made available at least 20 days in advance of the meeting.
- e) The agenda shall include those items listed in Article II, Section 2. To choose a Nominating Committee, a Naming Committee shall be designated from the floor early in the Annual Meeting. The Naming Committee shall bring forward nominations for the Nominating Committee before the close of the Annual Meeting. The new Nominating Committee is charged with bringing forward nominations at the next Annual Meeting.

f) The business conducted at the Annual Meeting shall be limited to that specified in the announced agenda.

### **Section 3. Spring Meeting**

a) The Steering Committee shall appoint one more meeting in the spring of each year. Notices shall be mailed to each member of the committee at least 60 days in advance.

### **Section 4. Special Meetings**

a) Special meetings of the Steering Committee may be called by the clerk or by written petition of at least 5 members of the Steering Committee. Notice of the agenda of such meetings shall be mailed to the Steering Committee at least 20 days in advance of the meeting.

### **Section 5. Decisions in meetings**

a) Decisions in meetings shall be made in unity after the manner of the Religious Society of Friends. Minutes of all meetings shall be recorded and kept on file. Copies shall be distributed to the members of the Steering Committee in a reasonable period of time following the meeting.

b) The business conducted at Steering Committee meetings shall be limited to that specified in the announced agenda.

## **Article IV. Officers**

### **Section 1. Selection**

a) The officers of the organization shall be the clerk, incoming alternate clerk or mentoring alternate clerk, recording clerk, and treasurer. They shall be proposed by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Steering Committee at the Annual Meeting.

b) The year prior to the member's first year as clerk, the member shall serve as incoming alternate clerk. The year following their last year as clerk, the member shall serve as mentoring alternate clerk.

### **Section 2. Term of Office**

a) The member serving as clerk shall serve no more than **one term of** two successive **years**, unless it is determined by the Steering Committee that it is in the best interests of the organization to have the member continue in this role. No individuals shall serve as recording clerk more than **one term of** three successive **years**, unless it is determined by the Steering Committee that it is in the best interests of the organization to have the member continue in this role. The treasurer shall serve **one term of three successive years** with no more than two successive terms, unless it is determined by the Steering Committee that it is in the best interests of the organization to have the member continue in this role. **New officers shall begin their terms at the close of the Annual Meeting.**

### **Section 3. Duties**

a) The duties of the officers shall be those generally performed by such officers.

b) The clerk can review and authorize any unanticipated, unbudgeted expenses up to \$300. The clerk will notify the General Secretary and clerk of the Finance Committee of this authorization.

### **Section 4. Compensation**

a) Persons shall not receive compensation for serving as officers.

## **Article V. Committees**

### **Section 1. Standing Committees**

a. Standing committees include Continuing Counsel, Spiritual Nurturance, Publications, Finance, Nominating, Outreach and Personnel Committees. Standing committees are permanent committees responsible for the administrative operations and the spiritual life of Quaker Earthcare Witness. Every member of the Steering Committee shall serve on a Standing Committee.

## Section 2. Standing Committee Functions

### b) Continuing Counsel Committee

The Continuing Counsel Committee is made up of the clerk; incoming alternate clerk or mentoring alternate clerk; recording clerk; **treasurer**; and clerks, or other representatives, of the Spiritual Nurturance, Finance, Outreach, **Personnel, Publications** and Nominating Committees; and the General Secretary (ex officio). The Continuing Counsel Committee will have at least one face-to-face meeting each year between the Annual Meeting and the Spring Meeting and will have at least one conference call between each twice yearly session. It is empowered to act on behalf of the Steering Committee when the latter is not in session to take care of occasional time sensitive administrative matters and/or decisions that cannot wait until the next Steering Committee session. The Continuing Counsel Committee shall report its actions to the next meeting of the Steering Committee.

Duties include:

- 1) Monitor the organization's performance and ensure the organization's focus (and that of its staff and committees) on its Vision and Witness Statement and its mission of outreach and connection.
- 2) Provide oversight for standing committees and consult with clerks of those committees as needed.
- 3) Provide consultative support, as requested, to the clerk in planning for upcoming meetings.
  - 4) Provide consultative support to the staff as requested.
  - 5) Provide consultative support to the Personnel Committee and clerks of other affected committees in the case that staff performance problems arise.
  - 6) Provide to the Steering Committee meeting agendas and a report on actions taken while the Steering Committee was not in session.
  - 7) Develop and/or review and refine proposals before presentation to the Steering Committee.
  - 8) Review and approve any requests for unanticipated, unbudgeted expenses over \$300.
  - 9) Handle any concerns or items of business that are beyond the areas of responsibility otherwise defined, and that cannot wait until the next session of the SC.

### b) Spiritual Nurturance Committee

The Spiritual Nurturance Committee shall give continuing attention to the need for all Quaker Earthcare Witness activities to be spiritually grounded and consistent with its statement of purpose.

### c) Publications Committee

The Publications Committee shall be responsible for implementing a policy of publications and official communications. It has oversight of the Publications Coordinator, and develops and updates the position's job description.

### d) Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall consist of the treasurer and at least two other persons from the Steering Committee. It shall recommend fiscal and accounting policy and contract terms for any salaried employee (in consultation with the Personnel Committee) and consult with the Treasurer on the preparation of the budget. **The Finance Committee is responsible for making sure that QEW investments and financial affiliations are consistent with Quaker beliefs.**

The treasurer may not serve as clerk of the committee.

- 1) The treasurer shall be the person with the responsibility of being the primary signer for all QEW bank accounts
- 2) **In order to have access to QEW bank accounts and the information concerning these accounts, the clerk of the Finance Committee and the General Secretary shall be named as alternate signers for all QEW bank accounts.**

3) The treasurer shall open and close bank accounts, when necessary, in the name of Quaker Earthcare Witness.

e) Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall consist of three persons each serving one three-year term. Openings on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Steering Committee after consideration of names brought forward by the Naming Committee (see Article III, Section 2, e). The committee shall select its own clerk. The committee's function is to bring forward nominations for officers, clerks of Standing Committees, members-at-large of the Steering Committee, and any other positions referred to it. An annual slate of nominations is to be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting. Interim nominations may be presented for approval of the Steering Committee or Continuing Counsel Committee as needed. Members of the Nominating Committee will assist the clerks of the Standing Committees in filling their committee membership.

f) Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee shall encourage individuals and groups to support Quaker Earthcare Witness through participation, communication, and/or financial contributions; maintain records of known supporters; and assist Quaker Earthcare Witness committees and staff to stay in communication with them. The Outreach Committee shall have responsibility for the programmatic activities of the organization.

g) Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee has oversight of the General Secretary and other office personnel, except for the Publications Coordinator who is under the oversight of the Publications Committee. It develops and updates personnel policies, reviews all staff members and recommends salary and benefits to the Finance Committee.

h) Other Committees

Other committees may be established as needed.

**Section 2. Clerks of Standing Committees**

a) Committee clerks shall be Steering Committee members nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Steering Committee. Clerks will be appointed for two-year terms, not normally to exceed three successive terms.

b) Establishment of Committee Memberships—Clerks of the standing committees, except the Continuing Counsel Committee, will appoint the members of their committees with the assistance of the current members of the committees and the Nominating Committee, as needed.

c) The clerk of the Steering Committee will serve as clerk of the Continuing Counsel Committee.

**Section 3. Working Groups, Projects or Concern Committees**

a) Working Groups, Projects or Concern Committees are committees that have concrete, ongoing programs but do not directly support the administrative operations or the spiritual life of Quaker Earthcare Witness. At the 2010 Annual Session, existing working groups included the [Finca La Bella Project \(formerly the Ann Kriebel/San Luis Project\)](#), Sustainability: Faith & Action, [United Nations Support Working Group](#), and the [FCNL Support Working Group](#).

b) An individual or group of Steering Committee members with a leading or concern may submit a written proposal with a budget request and recommended term to the Steering Committee, or the Continuing Counsel Committee when the Steering Committee is not in session, to establish a new Working Group, Project, or Concern Committee. The Steering Committee is responsible for approval of the proposal.

c) Members of the Working Group, Project, or Concern Committee and a convener shall be named by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Steering Committee or the Continuing Counsel Committee if

the Steering Committee is not in session. At least one member of the Working Group, Project, or Concern Committee shall be a member of the Steering Committee. The clerk shall be a Steering Committee member nominated by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Steering Committee.

d) A Working Group, Project or Concern Committee may request Steering Committee approval to raise its own funds instead of drawing funds from the general operating budget.

e) At the end of the initial term (and each subsequent term) the Working Group, Project or Concern Committee shall ask the Steering Committee for approval of a term extension or to be laid down.

#### **Section 4. Ad Hoc Committees**

a) Ad Hoc Committees shall be those committees that are established for specific, short-term purposes.

b) An Ad Hoc committee shall be created by the Steering Committee or the Continuing Counsel Committee when the Steering Committee is not in session, with budget requirements and term length.

c) Members of the ad hoc committee and a convener will be named by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Steering Committee, or the Continuing Counsel Committee if the Steering Committee is not in session. At least one member of the ad hoc committee shall be a member of the Steering Committee.

d) During its first meeting the ad hoc committee shall name its own clerk. The clerk is not required to be a Steering Committee member.

e) At the end of the initial term (and each subsequent term) the ad hoc committee shall ask the steering Committee for approval of a term extension or to be laid down.

### **Article VI. Representatives to Friends Committee on National Legislation**

#### **Section 1. Function**

a) Three members of the Steering Committee shall serve as representatives to Friends Committee on National Legislation.

#### **Section 2. Selection**

- c) Each year at the Annual Session, the Nominating Committee shall name and the Steering Committee shall approve a representative to the Friends Committee on National Legislation. Each representative shall serve a three year term and shall serve no more than two successive terms, unless it is determined by the Steering Committee that it is in the best interests of the organization to have the representative continue in that role.

### **Article VII. Fiscal Matters**

#### **Section 1. Assets**

a) The assets of this organization are irrevocably dedicated to educational and religious purposes. On the termination of this organization, its assets after payment of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to a non-profit educational or religious organization of similar concern or intent.

#### **Section 2. Expenditures**

a) All checks, drafts, demands for money and notes of the organization shall be signed in the name of the organization by the treasurer. Unbudgeted expenditures up to \$300 may be paid by the treasurer with approval of the clerk. All other unbudgeted expenditures must be approved by the Continuing Counsel Committee.

#### **Section 3. Fiscal Year**

a) The fiscal year shall begin on the first day of November (beginning in 2005).

## Article VIII. Amendments to the By-laws

### Section 1. Amendments

a) These by-laws may be amended at the Annual Meeting of the Steering Committee. A draft of proposed changes to the by-laws shall have been mailed to the members of the Steering Committee thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting.

### Reports of Committees, Working Groups, and Project

#### **Attachment I: 2010 Report of the Nominating Committee Rod Zwirner**

At Large - **bold** = second term

#### **2008-2011 slate**

Mary Gilbert

**eric joy (Pacific/Canadian)**

**Donn Kesselheim (Wyoming MM)**

Bill Holcombe (New York)

#### **2009-2012 slate**

Carol Ciscel (SAYMA)

Phil Emmi (Intermountain) (appt'd in April 2009)

**Dick Grossman** (Intermountain)

**Bill Howenstine** (Illinois)

**Judy Lumb** (SAYMA)

Allen Stockbridge (North Pacific)

#### **2010-2013 slate**

Alice Howenstine

#### **Steering Committee Officers**

Clerk; Dick Grossman (appointed 2008)

Alternate (Rising) Clerk: Shelley Tanenbaum (Nominated)

Recording Clerk: Roy Treadway (appointed 2008)

Treasurer: David Ciscel (appointed 2008)

#### **Committee Clerks**

Finance:—need new

Personnel: need new

Outreach: David Millar (appt2010) (Nominated)

Publications: need new

Spiritual Nurturance: Mary Jo Klingel (appointed 2008)

SF&A: need new

AK/SL: need new

UN: need new

#### **Appointees**

FCNL: Rod Zwirner (appointed 2008)

John Payton (appointed 2006)

Al Connor (appointed 2007)

FTE Donn Kesselheim (appointed 2007)

David Ciscel (appointed 2008)

UN Jack Bradin (appointed 2008)

Mary Gilbert (appointed 2008)

Ruah Swennerfelt, Gen. Sec. (appointed 2008) \_needs change

#### **Attachment J: 2010 Report of the Outreach Committee Susan Swanstrom**

The Outreach Committee met regularly over the past year, holding 8 conference call meetings in addition to lively and well-attended meetings at our annual gathering in fall, 2009 in Bellingham, WA and the Steering Committee Meeting in Chicago in April, 2010. In April, we tried once again, to showcase the need for every Steering Committee member to see themselves as sitting on the Outreach Committee, as we are all trying to raise the issue of earthcare in our yearly and monthly meetings, and increase Friends' awareness of the resources and networking possibilities available through QEW.

One of last year's (actually April 2009-April 2010) focuses for QEW's outreach work was to encourage YM reps to work on climate change. Though Copenhagen was discouraging, work in our yearly meetings on climate change

and contacts made with other Quakers worldwide are leading to very encouraging networking and unity among Friends of all persuasions. The <http://qewnet.ning.com> site has grown 35% over the past year to over 112 members from all over the world, and is now linked to our spiffy new website at [www.quakerearthcare.org](http://www.quakerearthcare.org). When Ning began to charge a \$10 fee per month for the blog and networking site in July of 2010, we were in unity to pay for it, as it is a valuable resource for Friends. In April 2010 in Chicago Outreach Committee proposed to Steering Committee, and Steering Committee agreed, to focus QEW's work of encouraging conversations about global change in concert with FWCC and setting up FWCC cluster meetings in our yearly and monthly meetings.

In 2009 we funded 10 mini-grants. This year, we began the year imagining we could fund only 5 grants in an environment of financially challenging circumstances, yet ended the year with 10 fully funded grants. Fundraising for the popular project was creative and remarkably easy. Application forms and information are now downloadable on the QEW website. The mini-grant powerpoint dvd, made available to Friends for presentation at their yearly meetings this year, is proving a powerful outreach tool for QEW.

Another focus we united on in Chicago in 2010 was to increase the age range of QEW Steering Committee members and supporters (as well as just plain increase the numbers). We talked about ways to do this: expand our electronic outreach through a larger *qewnews* e-list, using more social networking venues such as *Facebook* and *Twitter*, work to create video conferencing for meetings, talk it up at FGC, and offer scholarships to young Friends to attend QEW gatherings. *Qewnews* is slowly building (QEW's solicitation envelope's redesign now has a place to capture emails, and SC reps were encouraged to get email signups at their yearly meetings). We now have a new *Facebook* page (thanks to Publications) and there were scholarships offered to young Friends 20-35 years old to attend the fall gathering in Houston.

Attracting more Friends of all ages, especially supporters of QEW, will necessitate greater reliance on virtual conferencing capabilities. More and more Friends feel long distance travel is not in keeping with our leading to lessen the effects of climate change. (23 of 50 SC reps were not present in Bellingham and low attendance in Houston is projected to create a financial loss for QEW.) Friends on our committee are working on investigation of video and audio conferencing tools. In this vein, we proposed at 2009 fall gathering in Bellingham, that QEW hold only one face-to-face meeting per year in the future. Outreach continued the process of seasoning this idea over the year including sending out a survey. In April at the Steering Committee meeting in Chicago, unity was reached to move forward in the direction of one face to face meeting a year by setting up an Ad Hoc Committee on Meetings, though it was decided two meetings in Chicago would be held in 2011 given our staff transition.

There is concern that QEW's culture is a bit like Brigadoon, arising a couple of times a year with great warmth and enthusiasm, only to disappear into the mists between times. Too much work in these between times falls on the clerks of committees and staff. Follow through, continuing connections, the ability to weather transitions of staff and clerks, and recall of our history remain problematic. Helpful to our organization would be:

- v a thorough and updated compilation of committee and meeting minutes posted on the web
- v a steering committee members roster
- v regional supporters info
- v monthly meeting contacts
- v email and other contact information for all of the above
- v a regular email communication for QEW Friends, (especially SC reps) with reminders, resources and schedules
- v a system for accountability

Outreach believes our task is not the actual doing of this (we rely on staff for this) but the creation of policy and rationale for such action.

## **Attachment K: 2010 Report of the Mini-Grants Sub-Committee Ruth Hamilton**

The QEW Mini-grant Committee worked together to fund 10 grants this year. Fundraising went well for 5 additional grants over the 5 that are funded. Application forms and information are now downloadable from the QEW website.

In a conference call on May 30 the Mini-grant Committee agreed that:

- Groups receiving grants cannot reapply for three years to allow wider participation.
- Funding before the May 2 deadline is not a good idea even though we allowed this in 2010 for time-sensitive projects.
- Committee members will each take on 2 grants to superintend. Grants will now be awarded with the name of the follow-up person provided.
- In 2011 we will offer matching grants of up to \$500. The number of grants awarded may vary according to the Mini-grant budget.
- The committee is considering priorities if more applications are received than can be funded.

The QEW Mini-grant Power Point presentation is a most effective outreach tool. Ruth Hamilton has shown this slide show to: Las Cruces Friends Meeting, Socorro Worship Group, and Chapel Hill Friends Meeting's Peace & Social Concerns Committee. Chapel Hill Meeting was so inspired by the 2008 York Meeting "Science Ladies" project that they are considering a similar project for Carrboro Schools and are planning a QEW Mini-grant forum in May. The slide show is available for viewing at:

<http://quakerearthcare.org/AboutQEW/QEWProjects/QEWMiniGrants/QEW2009mini-grantsshort-2.ppt>

In 2010 matching grants of \$250 each were awarded to:

1. Illinois Yearly Meeting – green roof for the meeting house
2. Gwynedd Monthly Meeting, Gwynedd, PA – Energy Star refrigerator
3. Newton Monthly Meeting, Camden, NJ- drip irrigation for the garden and native plants for landscaping.
4. Ithaca Monthly Meeting, Ithaca, NY- low flush toilets
5. Olney Friends School, Barnesville, OH- school symposium on vision and energy conservation
6. Dover Friends Monthly Meeting, Dover, NH- Energy Star refrigerator
7. Richmond Friends School, Richmond IN- school garden and worm composter
8. Casa de los Amigos Guest House & Mexico City Friends Meeting - compact florescent light bulbs, a bike-lending program, and low-flush toilets for the guest house
9. Homewood Meeting, Baltimore MD – Solar panels for the meeting house. Rachael Neill
10. Pima Friends, Tucson, AZ- low flush toilets

One 2010 grant recipient, Olney Friends School, sits on 350 acres of rural southeastern Ohio in Appalachian foothills. The school is embarking on a planning process to re-imagine the future of the school. The process is intended as a demonstration project for other organizations. The board has felt called to widen the school's mission to be of greater service in two areas: (1) finding new models for sustainable independent schools, including Friends K12 schools; and (2) helping to create a new green economy in Appalachia. The school will host a summit gathering in October 2010 to which the public is invited to assist in the discernment process.

The Mini-grant Committee is inspired by the Scattergood Friends School who used their 2009 grant for a sustainability class. With QEW environmentalist David Abasz as a resource, five students and two adults spent two months studying the ecology and environment of the upper Mississippi River. The first month was spent on campus performing research, gaining skills and forming questions to guide field research. Each student picked a topic that

interested them, which included: renewable energy in Minnesota, the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico, Mississippi river fish, phenology (the study of plant and animal cycles), and useful & edible plants along the Mississippi River.

The second month was spent on the river. Starting at the headwaters in Lake Itasca, they traveled 500 miles south to St. Paul. Their goals were: to build community; to celebrate each other, the river and the planet; to conduct research on water quality and watershed issues; to educate themselves and others about the connections between the river, energy and agriculture; and to fund-raise for non-profit organizations working on energy and agricultural issues. The group took daily nitrate samples from the river (an indication of fertilizer run-off) and documented the wildlife they saw.

During this time, the group gave classes and presentations to over 750 students at three schools, to about 600 adults at four churches, as well as at informal gatherings with Friends and others along the way. The story of the group's journey was picked up by radio shows, TV stations and newspapers along the way. The journey culminated with a River Rally and concert at Friends School of Minnesota.

QEW's mini-grant helped leverage support from other organizations, including: Friends Council on Education, Clean Energy Resource Team staff, Piragus Canoe Company, Shalom Seed Sanctuary, Organic Consumer's Association, and individuals. You can see pictures of the trip at: <http://www.paddlefortheplanet.net/>

The Mini-grant Committee is thankful for the opportunity to provide seed money for large projects like those at Scattergood School, Homewood Meeting, and Olney Friends School. It will be crucial in 2011 that donations and carbon off-sets for the mini-grants continue. In 2011, Ruth Hamilton and Bill Holcombe will co-clerk the committee, with Ruth focusing on Outreach, advertising, and a QEW grant-making manual. This will also be a year of committee member changes in that three members are stepping down. If you would like more information about serving on the Mini-grant Committee, please contact: QEW Clerk and Representative for Piedmont Friends Fellowship.

For more information, contact [Ruth@ArtsCanHeal.com](mailto:Ruth@ArtsCanHeal.com)

### **Attachment L: 2010 Report of the FCNL Support Working Group Rod Zwirner**

Up until April our main activity was to help QEW and Monthly Meetings work on priorities for the 212th Congress. Reminding others to join FCNL's Green Team took on new energy when Marcia Cleveland replaced Devin who was off to grad school. Befriending Creation printed a good introduction to Marcia in the Sep-Oct issue. Her focus for some time has been the Cantwell-Collins bill that would replace cap&trade in the struggle over carbon in the economy. As in other area, corporate control of legislation is at the heart of the issue.

When we examined why so few people get the Green Team dispatches which are very helpful in explaining issues to others, we found many Friends are overwhelmed with information and are satisfied with FCNL' weekly bulletin. To join the Green Team, contact her, [marcia@fcnl.org](mailto:marcia@fcnl.org).

Another area of concern is how to help FCNL focus on the Growth Dilemma. With most all discussion and legislation centered on business-as-usual, finding points of contact toward a greener economy is very difficult. Corporate greenwashing makes it even more difficult. However, FCNL has a knack of finding allies on long-term issues.

As usual, your three reps and other QEW members will be on hand at the Annual Meeting to meet with staff and legislators, to participate in finalizing the Priorities, and to find allies for what seems most important.

**Attachment M: 2010 Report of the Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group**  
**Donn Kesselheim**

Richard Grossman succeeded in persuading the Center for Biological Diversity (an international non-profit organization with headquarters in Tucson, Arizona) to include the reduction of human population numbers as part of its overall program. Through a network of more than 5,000 volunteers, the Center for Biological Diversity has distributed 350,000 free Endangered Species Condoms in all 50 states — as well as Canada, Puerto Rico, and Mexico — to highlight how unsustainable human population growth is driving species extinct at a cataclysmic rate.

- The tri-fold, "Seeking Clearness on Childbearing in a Crowded World," was published in the fall of 2009, and is available for use. Two other pamphlets on abortion and adoption are in the process of revision.
- Donn Kesselheim did some work on a position paper entitled *Two Perspectives: Anthro-centrism vs. Eco-centrism*, attempting to understand why, in the face of overwhelming evidence that our species is about to walk over a precipice, we humans are incapable of generating an appropriate response. It is not yet finished.
- In 2009, Brad Ogilvie, Program Coordinator at William Penn House in Washington, D. C., requested QEW's help in further development of their family summer eco-work camp. Donn Kesselheim, who had quite a lot of experience with the work camp movement (five decades ago!) volunteered to be a resource person. Further correspondence demonstrated, however, that William Penn House has already designed a format for their eco-work camp that is quite sophisticated and that benefits from more recent experience.

A possible agenda of tasks for the committee to consider for inclusion during the coming year follows:

- The remarkably effective effort to "green FGC" at the 2009 Gathering of Friends General Conference was led by Bob McGahey and Geeta Jyothi. The tactic they employed was to ask attenders to make a commitment to move to new behavior, *e. g.*, carpooling, buying a more efficient refrigerator, installing photovoltaic collectors, *etc.* (The form they designed apparently needs tweaking.) Given this successful experience at one meeting, inevitably it suggests: how can we build on what we have learned?
  - 1) Can this approach be applied to other Quaker meetings?
  - 2) Can this approach be applied to other non-Quaker meetings?
  - 3) Can this approach be applied, in the context of an annually-revised, self-improvement plan for individuals and families? (Quakers in Lander, Wyoming, have discussed, but not yet implemented, this possibility.)
- Build upon George Owen's very effective statement describing the need for an initiative to define and disseminate a set of values that would lead us to nurture "the mutual flourishing of the whole commonwealth of life in which we live," by urging individual QEW members to take part in the FWCC worldwide Consultation on Global Change.
- Raise \$5,000 - \$10,000 to enable the Men for Men Project to undertake a trial experiment (in southern Colorado? in Livingston, Montana?), targeting women who have recently undergone an abortion, and are now willing to broach the idea of limiting fertility to their present and future male partners. . . . If the *Men for Men* and *Childbearing* tri-folds were to be placed into the waiting rooms of reproductive health clinics, it would probably be necessary to create secular versions of these tools.
- Consider recommending to the QEW Steering Committee inclusion of the need to conserve biological diversity as a major priority for Quaker Earthcare Witness.

## **Attachment N: 2010 Report of the UN Support Working Group Phil Emmi**

QEW UNSWG serves to mediate between UN organizations and the larger Quaker community. Many Friends are relatively unaware of international development issues, the institutions involved in addressing these issues, and the frames they use to shape perception of these issues particularly as they pertain to matters of community, ecology and sustainability. QEW/UNSWG seeks to increase awareness of these issues and provide opportunities for Friends to participate in UN affairs.

QEW members on the UNSWG include Jack Bradin, Mary Gilbert, Judy Lumb, Sally Merrill, David Millar, Ruah Swennerfelt, and Shelley Tannenbaum. Since our last report in April 2010 we have extended outreach and participation opportunities and added QEW-UN-related web resources.

As reported previously, the QEW-UNWSG has accreditations to several UN organizations. Accreditation permits QEW designees to attend certain UN-sponsored events. At present we have accreditation to attend events sponsored by the UN Environmental Program (UNEP), the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), the UN Department of Public Information (DPI), and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). We have also prepared an application for accreditation from the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). These organizations hold meetings on topics of interest at locations around the world. We have continued to provide attendance opportunities for Quakers to attend meetings in the following locations:

- . Bolivian Friends Bernabe Yujra and Ruben Hilare attended *la Conferencia Mundial de los Pueblos sobre el Cambio Climatico y los Derechos de la Madre Tierra*. We received and translated reports on this important event for publication in *Be-friending Creation*.
- . Lindsey Cook, US Quaker in Bonn, attended meetings of UN FCCC at their Bonn headquarters and reported back. This report was also published in *Be-Friending Creation*.
- . Andrew Bray, Australian Quaker, attended UN Department of Public Information / NGO Annual Conference on Health, held in Melbourne this September. We expect his report soon and hope it will be published.
- . We have arranged for 3 Bolivian Friends to attend the UNFCCC climate negotiations in Cancun this year. These include Ruben Hilare, Magaly Quispe and Juan Yujra Ticona, in addition to planned attendance by Judy Lumb and Mary Gilbert. Julian Stargardt from Hong Kong MM may also attend. All will write reports.
- . In February 2011, Kenyan Friend Moses Musonga, currently a staff person for FWCC, plans to attend the bi-annual meeting of UNEP at their Nairobi headquarters. We anticipate a report back.
- . Moses also plans to attend the 2011 UNFCCC climate negotiations to be held in South Africa.

We have also drafted guidelines for meeting participation and a common format for meeting reports. These activities sustain a network of Friends interested in international affairs and allows us a presence at UN events without a great amount of travel.

QEW UN Support Group members have attended the UNEP Regional Office of North America meetings in WDC, and are planning to attend monthly meetings of the Climate Change Working Group, under the care of the UN Congress of NGO's Committee on Sustainable Development. This group is planning strategy to work together for certain language to be included in the outcome document from Cancun.

We attended, for the 10th year, the May meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and participated there in work with other NGOs. We prepared in draft a response to a big questionnaire by Stakeholder Forum on behalf of the UN. The draft is now in circulation for review and comment.

In 1992 and 2002, The UNED sponsored the World Summit on Sustainable Development first in Rio de Janeiro and then in Johannesburg. Friends should be aware that there will be another meeting, "Rio + 20," to be held in Rio in 2012. We invite them to join us as we begin to discuss our presence there.

Friends can now find UN-related threads on QEWnet at <<http://qewnet.ning.com/profiles/blogs/un-threads-in-qewnet-forum>>.

## **Reports of Yearly Meeting Representatives**

### **Attachment O: 2010 Report of Canadian Yearly Meeting David Millar**

By way of introduction: CYM is a national YM, with dual affiliation to FGC/FUM of about 1200 active members spread across 3000 miles, so communications are always a challenge. It has helped to prepare us better for the work of outreach that face both QEW, and the current worldwide consultation of FWCC on [global change](#). I was drafted to the FWCC-GC ad hoc committee two years ago; and QEW minuted its full support to the task in April 2010.

As the rep appointed by CYM in 2009, I have:

- participated in QEAN (Quaker Ecology Action Network) special interest group at yearly gathering in Winnipeg, Aug 2010
- reported to yearly gathering plenary on QEW and FWCC world consultation on Global Change
- prepared a [Tar Sands handout](#) for monthly meetings, as member of the Tar Sands Working Group, an ad hoc committee of CFSC, in followup to a CYM minute 2009
- set a a QEWnet thread for [tarsands updates](#)
- contributed to research on Peaceful Energy (followup to CYM gathering 2009) on renewables, and opposing nuclear subsidies. An Ottawa MM Friend has set up a site <http://cstuart.ca> where research materials can be accessed and discussed.
- contributed regularly on earthcare topics to the CYM-QEAN listserv and QEW listserv
- took part by remote in Quaker Institute for the Future summer seminar, July 2010
- produced a web discussion paper [Environmental Networks](#) to encourage cooperation with other faiths and NGOs
- visited Iowa YM (FUM) as an ambassador for QEW (see separate report)
- administer a trilingual blog *Towards an Eco-Economy*, <http://mecteam.blogspot.com>, which started during the QIF Moral Economy Project whose MEC team wrote the book *Right Relationship*. In recent years this blog has expanded beyond reports from Friends (tagged "Quaker") in Canada and the US, to include activities and ecologists'/artists' spiritual reflections from every part of the world. It is linked on the QEW and QEWnet sites.
- (with other Friends) administer the QEWnet.ning.com discussion site, which provides reports on UN activities by QEW's Mary Gilbert, and increasingly from Quakers around the world. For instance, Mary arranged a meeting of Quaker delegates at Copenhagen COP-15 and Cancun COP-16, for Bolivian Friends to report on the April 2010 Cochabamba conference, etc. Threads have been established for backgrounders and updates on each of the UN agencies with which QEW interacts. Norwegian Friends have just set up a thread for their Global Change discussion, in their own language.

We hope that these resources, reports and exchanges will increase QEW outreach, and make it possible for new volunteers to learn from past experience. In coming years, we expect Canadian Young Friends will take a more active part as volunteers and reps in QEW activities.

Meanwhile, back in Canada, I participate in interfaith earthcare work as CFSC rep (appointed by CYM) to [KairosCanada](#) and (as Montreal MM rep) to its Quebec wing [ROJeP](#), attending national and regional meetings. This is an invaluable connection, since it allows me to transmit interfaith reflections, events and actions to both QEW and my YM and MM. A number of other volunteers and Young Friends are active.

FWCC work: Keith Helmuth, a Canadian founder of QEW and one of the *Right Relationship* co-authors, helped organize a major North East Regional Gathering (Fredericton NB May 2010) to discuss earthcare topics. Several other FWCC "clusters" are being held to worship-share about the six global change queries: Halifax, Toronto, Ottawa Valley regional and WHYM in Calgary (their reports will be posted under "Americas" [here](#)).

Fern Street Meeting in Victoria BC is grateful for a QEW mini-grant for its meetinghouse.

Anne Mitchell, the outgoing Clerk of CYM, has been selected as the new QEW general secretary, and has already started a mentoring period with Ruah Swennerfelt. This is a sign of QEW's increasing international outreach, not just to Canada, but in two-way communications with Friends on other continents.

#### **Attachment P: 2010 Report of Iowa (Conservative) Yearly Meeting Ken Lawrence**

Care for the Earth is a significant and growing concern among the members and attenders of Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative). Discerning a corporate response to that concern has been a challenge, however. Our Earthcare subcommittee struggles to find a focus. Our representative to QEW for most of the year found himself with additional responsibilities and was unable to spend much time on QEW activities.

Neither the current nor the former QEW representatives were able to attend Yearly Meeting sessions in July. The presence of Ambassadors Roy and Carolyn Treadway was greatly appreciated. The Earthcare Subcommittee presented a well received panel discussion, mostly about ways in which Scattergood School (the primary mission of the YM) is addressing Earthcare concerns. Among other things, we are gratified that Scattergood was able to secure a grant to install solar photovoltaic panels on the roof of the gymnasium. In the Spring a group of juniors and seniors participated in "Paddle for the Planet", an educational and service canoe trip down the upper portion of the Mississippi River (partially supported by a QEW mini-grant).

At Yearly Meeting sessions a challenge was approved, asking members to reduce the amount of lawn mowed, consider ways to reduce the distance food travels to reach our plates, and to consider traveling by bus or train instead of car or airplane as much as possible. Ken Lawrence and Jeff Kisling were appointed co-representatives to QEW for the coming year.

A yearly meeting committee working with the organizers of the 2011 FGC gathering in Grinnell, Iowa is considering ways to make that event as "green" as possible.

#### **Attachment Q: 2010 Report of Illinois Yearly Meeting John Hackman and Roy C. Treadway**

The earthcare focus of Illinois Yearly Meeting between 2009 October and 2010 October has been primarily on the expanded, now 12 acre, campus of the yearly meeting in rural central Illinois. Following the purchase of six acres adjacent to our historic meetinghouse last year, led by the Environmental Concerns Committee, we have continued to witness to others how to care for this special part of the earth.

1. At the request of the Stewards, the Environmental Concerns Committee completed the document, "Landscaping Guidelines for the Mills Property." The committee will also be involved in the visioning with the entire yearly meeting on how all of our campus might be used in the future, not only for witnessing for the earth, but for bringing the Quaker message of peace, social justice, and a spiritually grounded life to the wider world.

2. For over a year, the committee has been exploring procedures and materials to cover or "green" the Meetinghouse kitchen roof with plants – mostly sedum – to keep it cool in the summer and attractive. If we bought

already prepared materials, it would cost \$7,000-\$8,000. Thus, the yearly meeting received a \$250 mini-grant from Quaker Earthcare Witness to experiment on a 48-square-foot trial area. With a matching \$250 from ILYM, we have found suitable planting boxes, planting materials, and roof barriers and have successfully grown healthy sedum. We plan to install the experimental “green roof” next spring.

3. After a failed attempt during a warm and wet November 2009, the yearly meeting was able to burn the ILYM Prairie and “Old Field” in March and April (along with the two large wood piles). In April we re-seeded the prairie with Little Bluestem, Big Bluestem, and Indian grasses. The rejuvenated prairie had copious flowers and plentiful habitat for wildlife this fall..

4. During our times together, we worked on the yearly meeting grounds, cutting or trimming several trees and bushes, transplanting several trees, cleaning trash piles, removing unwanted plants throughout the property. A major project was to cut down all the trees and to remove 20 or 30 large stumps in the Old Field, in preparation for plowing it to remove weed seeds prior to readying it for long term use.

5. We are now exploring ways to enhance and enrich the property for attracting wildlife, by strengthening our fence rows with under-story plants, keeping old trees for woodpeckers, encouraging bats and owls, and reducing the effects of fertilizer and pesticide drift from neighboring farm fields.

6. Under Alice Howenstine’s guidance, we have developed a permanent processes for recycling and composting at all activities at the yearly meeting campus. We have also introduced the use of green products for all functions. We are emphasizing the value of the memorial trees on our campus and the lives the trees represent, and plan to plant a memorial tree for our long-time leader and inspiration, Bob Wixom, in cooperation with his family.

7. This coming year, we are working with Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of Americas, on their Global Change Clusters Project and taking our message about earthcare and climate change to other Friends.

In everything we do, we hope to show others what can be done for the earth by recycling, composting, caring for wildlife, careful using of water, and “greening” our buildings.

### **Attachment R: 2010 Report of Great Plains Yearly Meeting Jim Lynch**

The One Hundred Third Annual Assembly of Great Plains Yearly Meeting of Friends (formerly Nebraska Yearly Meeting) gathered at the Heartland Friends meetinghouse in Wichita, Kansas, June 3rd through 5th, 2010. GPYM’s QEW representative set up a display table with the QEW exhibit, leaflets and pamphlets, recent issues of *Befriending Creation* and a laptop running the Power Point on the QEW mini-grant program in an endless loop. Heartland Friends, in charge of local arrangements, focused on providing meals using locally grown foods from area farmers markets, fairly traded coffee and tea, and baked goods prepared by members of the meeting. Volunteers washed dishes, cups and silverware after each meal to avoid use of plastic & disposable utensils.

Rod Zwirner and Jim Lynch presented reports on QEW activities and concerns during business sessions. They highlighted the Cantwell-Collins bill in the U.S. Senate proposing an alternative in the cap-and-trade discussions, QEW’s endorsement of a Britain YM minute calling for policies and practices to reduce atmospheric CO2 level to 350 parts per million, the tragedy of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, QEW’s engagement/witness at the Copenhagen climate conference in Fall 2009, the QEW mini-grants program and the upcoming FWCC consultations on global change. The question of appointing a Young Adult Friend as a second QEW representative was passed to the GPYM Nominating Committee. Friends were concerned that a coal-fired electric generating plant was

still being planned in western Kansas.

**Attachment S: 2010 Report of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting**  
**Al Connor**

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Earthcare Committee continued working on restoration and regeneration of the Ohio River Valley and the Great Lakes bioregions. With Broadmead Monthly Meeting's impetus, we began a "Know your Watershed" program. Judy and Bill Greenberg and Jane and David Downes did yeomen work in putting together and displaying a montage of the eastern section of Maumee Rivershed and the developments within it. Some developments are eco-friendly, some are not. Other Broadmead members who helped put together and display montage include Jon and Sally Weaver-Sommer, Joel Devonshire, Melissa Falb, Donna Rodriguez, and Ed Marks.

The project was displayed at FGC in July and again at Yearly Meeting in August. Posters indicating the environmentally friendly and unfriendly developments accompanied the montage. It has also been displayed at the LEYM Teen retreat at Michigan Friends Center near Chelsea, MI and the American Association of University Women's group in Toledo, OH. It is now at Olney Friends School in Barnesville, OH. LEYM teens thought the display was cool. The teen retreat at Michigan Friends Center was all about the environment.

Ann Arbor Friends Meeting's Environment and Social Concerns Committee is in the process of making a smaller montage of the Middle Huron River watershed. The Huron flows through the city just north of downtown. A few AAMM members have volunteered to help monitor pollutants and aquatic life in the river. None of the teens have become involved yet. Cari Burke, of Friends Worship Group in Beulah in northwest Michigan, and Mary Ellen Newport from Olney Friends School facilitated the teen retreat.

Olney Friends School has completed its refurbishing and expansion and is now LEED certifiable. Red Cedar Friends have completed construction of their new meetinghouse in a portion of downtown Lansing that has been deteriorating physically and economically. It too is LEED certifiable. Athens Friends have not completed the refurbishing the ex-warehouse they are converting to a meetinghouse. They aim to make it LEED certifiable.

**Attachment T: 2010 Report of New England Yearly Meeting**  
**Rod Zwirner**

For two years NEYM has been under a Call to Jubilee with attention to Gospel Order. Our Clerk's perception that the committee structure is broken has been deeply considered by many, including Earthcare Ministry committee. On the surface the activities of our group belie such a pessimistic view.

It is easy to find new members, our 4 Fold Path for Transportation is gradually sinking in, and working with other committees is increasing. We support and are aware of many activities at the Monthly Meeting level. We meet about 5 times a year including a full two day retreat in Dec. Our website can be reached via NEYM and we are linked to other committees. Soon our Sessions intergenerational worship, Earthocracy Now, will be on the site.

However, having said this, it is obvious that community pathways to a sustainable world are very inadequate. Economic and political turmoil take their toll on available energy. This returns us to one of the reasons for the Call to Jubilee--present conditions must lead to a new level of awareness coming out of worship. Yet, after many hours of waiting worship, unity is difficult(see neym.org for Minutes of Exercise, Epistle, etc). Messages that seem prophetic to me are eldred. We are not supposed to be looking over our shoulders as we proceed in faith, but it is hard.

**Attachment U: 2010 Report of Northern Yearly Meeting**  
**John Payton and Jim Greenler**

NYM's QEW representatives set up a display at annual sessions, which were held over the Memorial Day week end, on the work of QEW, including distribution of several of QEW's newest trifolds and recent issues of *Befriending Creation*. In addition, the reps promoted and facilitated an FCWW cluster group on global change, which was well received. A written document summarizing Friends' sharing in the cluster group was sent to FWCC for inclusion in its on-going listening project.

As a follow-up to the cluster group held at annual sessions, the QEW reps wrote an article about FWCC and its global change initiative that was published in *Northern Yearly Meeting News*, the newsletter of Northern Yearly Meeting. The article invited Friends to contact them for assistance in publicizing and planning cluster group meetings in their own monthly meetings or worship groups. QEW reps plan to follow up with reps to NYM's executive committee to encourage them to facilitate cluster groups in their respective monthly meetings.

Discernment on establishment of a committee charged with seasoning proposals that integrate peace, social justice, and earth care continue in Northern Yearly Meeting.

**Attachment V: 2010 Report of South Central Yearly Meeting**  
**Sally Merrill**

Meeting as usual in April in the Texas Hill Country, South Central Yearly Meeting was very receptive to hearing about my 2009 United Nations participation in the Commission on Sustainable Development policy meetings in New York, and the Clerk and others in the Meeting for Worship with a concern for Business made the connections we in QEW are making, with FWCC and other Quaker bodies, to witness well and globally, but efficiently in terms of resource usage, viz., sending local people to Bonn, Cochabamba, etc. I reported and was reappointed as our Rep., but I encouraged others to become involved, too. I tried to recruit volunteers to attend the UN CSD in New York in May, and Cochabamba, and this fall, in Cancun, MX for climate talks that promise to be explosive and full of the dissatisfaction people globally feel...

I set up QEW Materials in our Display room, and handed some out, also participating in the long singing sessions... and meetings for Eating usually with members of the Earthcare Committee from Austin and Houston meetings, for planning the QEW Annual Meeting. [do i need all names? Victoria, et al.]

We did have some birding occurring, wildflowers being enjoyed, and outdoor worship (until the rains came)... and even then, too.

I volunteered to work with our children, and worked both inside and supervising outside with the primary class due to a shortage of childcare/educational staff at Yearly Meeting. We did some plant identification with the young students.

We always have some sessions on simple living, many ecologically oriented books relating us to the rest of Nature, in the bookstore, and at least one vegetarian (always an option) and one "recycle the leftover food" "simple" meal at the end at our Yearly Meeting.

I did not request reimbursement from the Yearly Meeting as I had been assisted (gratitude!) by QEW's travel funds..... but may encourage the next Yearly Meeting Rep. to do so in future.

Lots of people carpoled to Yearly Meeting, but some of us drove ourselves the long trip, from states all around, and far afield.

## Reports of Visitation

### **Attachment W: 2010 Report of Visitation to Iowa (Conservative) Yearly Meeting Roy C. Treadway**

With my wife, Carolyn W. Treadway, I was fortunate to represent QEW during two full days (2011 July 27-29) at Iowa Yearly Meeting Conservative (IYMC) at Scattergood School, near West Branch, Iowa. Both Carolyn and I were members of Des Moines Valley Friends meetings as children and youth and were greatly influenced by IYMC while growing up. Some Friends attending the 2010 annual sessions knew either us as youth or our parents over six decades. Our experience was a homecoming.

Since Jeff Kisling, IYMC's representative to QEW, or Ken Lawrence, a previous representative to QEW, could not attend these sessions, I was able to describe the work of QEW to several members of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. I was also able to answer questions of the Nominating Committee about the work of QEW and about the responsibilities of a QEW representative as they considered their nominations this year.

As the QEW ambassador to IYMC, I set up QEW's display with the large poster board background and many of QEW's trifold and pamphlets, which attracted some interest. The pamphlet most noticeably taken was the one by Carolyn, "Slowing Down to the Speed of Life." Carolyn's interest group on her book, *Held in Love*, which focuses on how we can live spiritually in face of the ecological and other challenges in the years to come, attracted many people and extended the message of QEW to IYMC Friends.

I attended the meeting of the Earthcare Subcommittee, whose clerk is Ken Lawrence. They are a dynamic group and are already involved in planning for the 2011 FGC Gathering in Grinnell, Iowa, (about 80 miles from Scattergood school) to help "green" the Gathering even more, possibly through addressing transportation and carbon issues. Two staff of the Scattergood farm and kitchen and a former Scattergood student talked about what the Scattergood farm (strictly and vigorously organic) was doing and how it played an important educational role at Scattergood. Some saw Scattergood using the Transition Town model and striving toward significantly reducing their energy consumption. They mentioned briefly working with Olney and the Meeting School on plans for the QEW Center at the Gathering.

During one afternoon, I was able to talk with the new President of William Penn University, Ann Fields, about QEW. She has an agriculture background and currently has a small organic farm. An appropriate follow-up by QEW might lead to some beneficial future action or projects between QEW and William Penn University.

In a gathered Meeting for Worship for Business, Friends considered carefully the responses of monthly meetings to a strong set of queries on personal and meeting environmental action from the Advice and Queries in IYMC's Discipline. The Yearly Meeting Peace and Social Concerns Committee also brought a challenge to the Yearly Meeting, and Friends were in unity to come under the weight of the challenge as meetings and as individuals. The challenge on **Living in Harmony with the Earth** states:

Many Friends are already thinking and acting on the way their lives and life styles impact the environment. We offer three positive challenges to help you directly change the impact of how your behavior affects the earth:

- a) Mow half as much lawn in the coming year as in the past.
- b) Consider how far the food we eat travels to get to our tables. Seriously consider how much diesel and jet fuel is needed for the food we choose to consume.
- c) Seriously consider our modes of overland long distance travel with the understanding that bus and train travel are the most environmentally economical, and flying and car travel are worst.

Friends are encouraged to begin sharing with each other what we are doing, so we can be accountable to each other and learn new ideas from each other. These are small things, but they are a beginning step to changing our lives. Friends are asked to share what they are doing with the Peace and Social Concerns Committee at Midyear and Yearly Meeting annual sessions.

After about half an hour in Worship, listening to what Friends Meetings were doing on earthcare, the members of the yearly meeting in session approved committing themselves to this challenge.

Thursday evening, Maia and Ken Tapp (Beloit, Wisconsin) with the music of Ken Jacobsen presented a very powerful nature photography and poetry plea for the earth, "Prayer of the World," showing the brilliant colors of nature, which enrich our spiritual life, gradually turning to gray and brown as we pollute the earth. This presentation could be appropriate for one of the QEW meetings in Chicago in 2011.

IYMC is already strongly committed to earthcare and many members of IYMC strive to live their personal lives simply by conserving. In my personal conversations, I learned of several persons farming organically, one using horses to plow the fields of his small farm, and at least two persons building zero energy homes, including solar and wind energy. Marshall Massey is an active member of IYMC. Many Iowa Conservative Friends are quietly but steadfastly doing what they can to care for the earth.

#### **Attachment X: 2010 Report of Visitation to Iowa (FUM) Yearly Meeting David Millar**

Iowa Yearly Meeting (FUM) are programmed Friends. Their meetings are led by pastors, some of whom I saw recorded as ministers for their exceptional service. I really knew I was in Iowa when during the yearly gathering at William Penn University, the men reminisced for an hour or more at breakfast about tractors they had known and loved. But to my surprise, this middle-American YM is extraordinarily well-connected around the world, with exchanges and missions on every continent. YM as a whole is under Trustees and a Superintendent (Ron Bryan bryanrj@makaska.org tel. 641 673-9717 in Oskaloosa). He is currently visiting Africa and perhaps Cuba.

My first morning began with four hours of Bible study and discussion with my Des Moines host, Rev Rich & Patti Kopp <richkopp@hotmail.com>, Rev Kevin & Gayle Mortimer <kevinsmortimer@gmail.com> of Middle River, youth workers Manny Garcia and Zane Raber (now studying at Earlham with a wife and new baby, and a new church), several other Friends, and some Methodist pastors. The discussion was fascinating. It was unusually long because Kevin Mortimer had been invited to Baltimore YM to speak about various Quaker traditions, and we spent additional time discussing his paper.

I continue to exchange emails with all of the above, as well as West Branch Friends Church pastor Ruthie Tippin <tynwald@mchsi.com> 319 341-6018, Ed & Tanya English, <drenghish@blest4today.com> tel. 319 325-4325 who are currently visiting a mission in Belize. Chip Daleske adaleske@yahoo.com tel. 319 939-6611 runs Camp Quaker Heights, took a work camp group to William Penn House, and participates in Mid-America's annual "spring invasion": a work camp in Mexico. His father Rev Arlen Daleske was just recorded after 12 years as a pastor. Manny Garcia ypmanny.mrfc@gmail.com is a powerful young preacher, involved in Salt Shaker and Youth Ministries. With Rev Victor White & his wife Brenda, who run Mesquakie Friends mission <mesquakiefriends@yahoo.com>, I discussed the possibility of holding an FWCC-GC cluster among native people. Prof Charlotte Stangeland <stangelandc@wmpenn.edu> tel. 641 673-1105 is developing a Kenya Peace Curriculum for Quaker schools, which may be adopted by schools throughout the country as a preventive against tribal conflict. Karen Mendenhall kmendy.hall@gmail.com is Iowa's FWCC rep. Karen Bauer is a main supporter of Kaimosi Bible College, Hospital and Rural Service. I also met Terri Johns of FUM Global Missions, and Listone Ayodi of the Rural Service Programme in Kaimosi <listoneayodi@yahoo.com> -- all four are friends of QEW's Mary Gilbert. See also the story by Grinnell FFC members Jim & Kathy Kessler <jkkessler@iowatelecom.net> 621 236-

1952 about their leading to restore tallgrass prairie: <http://mecteam.blogspot.com/2010/08/prairie-restoration-and-gods-healing-by.html>.

I did not meet Keith Mardock of FCNL and William Penn House, with whom Karen Bauer works Iowa YM's other rep to FCNL. At the Oct 2010 FCNL meeting, Mary Gilbert will be in touch with both.

At the yearly gathering itself, I announced that I was there to listen. My visit may provide an opening for future cooperation with QEW. There is great interest in missions around the world; Iowans have strong ties to those in Kenya (e.g. Listone Ayodi whom I helped apply for QEW mini-grants), Rwanda, Ramallah, Philippines, Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Mexico and Belize. to the world of Christocentric Friends. They may glad to take the initiative for FWCC-GC in contacting other parts of the world as well as EFW and similar groups in the USA, to arrange clusters to discuss earthcare concerns. Most of the Iowans I met are conservative, bible-centred, Jesus-my-personal-Saviour Christians. Yet I was deeply moved by their faith and commitment. There are many among them who care deeply about stewardship of Creation, and right sharing. We all seek how God's love could act through us.

### **Attachment Y: 2010 Report of Visitation to North Pacific Yearly Meeting Donn Kesselheim**

The experience of participating in the 2010 sessions of North Pacific Yearly Meeting was rewarding. Held on the campus of the University of Montana in Missoula for the second year running, the sessions were varied, ranging from plenary sessions and worship groups to do-it-yourself entertainment and interest groups. Slightly more than 250 persons were in attendance.

Certainly the highlight of this event was the time spent with the Friend-in-Residence, Bridget Moix, a senior staffer who works primarily on issues of war and peace with the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). Accompanied by her husband Alberto and son Pablo, Bridget was present for the entire time, interacting both with adults and young friends.

Bridget Moix built her deeply moving keynote presentation around a quote from George Fox – “I saw also that there was an ocean of darkness and death; but an infinite ocean of light and love, which flowed over the ocean of darkness. In that also I saw the infinite love of God, and I had great openings.” – coupled with an ungrammatical exclamation by 2 and 1/2-year-old Pablo – “. . . *y un barquito grande*, . . . and a big, little boat.” Her thesis: We are not called to be successful; rather, we are called to be faithful. If, with integrity, we simply do what Quakers typically do – sailing along in our big / little boats – the outcome, ultimately, will be positive.

Bridget also led an experiential workshop, organized around some of FCNL's answers to the question, “If war is not the answer, what is?” In succession, she shared with us four tools, each time creating an immediate opportunity to practice use of the tool with another of the workshop participants. This design worked very well.

Impressive, too, was a late-evening showing of the 2005 movie *Joyeux Noel*. “When war breaks out in the summer of 1914, it pulls millions of men into eastern France in its wake. The Christmas season arrives, with snow and an abundance of family presents for soldiers of three nationalities. But the surprise won't come from inside the generous parcels that lie in the French, Scottish, and German trenches. On Christmas Eve, a momentous event will turn around the destinies of four characters: an Anglican priest, a French lieutenant, an exceptional German tenor and his fiancée -- a soprano and singing partner. That night, the unthinkable happens: responding to the haunting strains of *Stille Nacht, Heil'ge Nacht*,” soldiers come out of their trenches, leaving their rifles behind, to shake hands with the enemy, and begin to know them as people much like themselves. When their respective headquarters order a tit-for-tat shelling, they share the warning in advance, and take refuge in each other's trenches. . . The experience left all of them quite unfit to continue the killing.”

During one of the plenary sessions, four minutes on important topics were referred to, but neither read nor discussed. The topics were:

- immigration reform;
- climate change;
- torture; and
- in support of military personnel seeking clearness about war participation.

At the same session, the invitation from Friends World Committee on Consultation to participate in the worldwide consultation on global change was discussed. It appeared likely that NPYM would encourage participation.

Another of the interest group sessions brought together twelve persons who shared a lively interest in issues related to the stabilization and reduction of human populations, globally. This group resolved to continue to communicate with each other after leaving Missoula. Some of them also agreed to work together with drafting a minute on population to present to a future session of NPYM.

The experience was enhanced by the lush plantings that grace the UM campus, both indoors and outdoors -- initiated, perhaps, by the well-regarded Department of Forestry. For example, the University Commons Building surrounds two, three-storey tropical trees with huge, crinkly leaves, in an atrium with many other plantings. Most of the sessions were held in this building.

In 2011, the location of North Pacific Yearly Meeting will be Salem, Washington.

My wife and I are indeed grateful to have been afforded the opportunity to observe this memorable gathering of Quakers from the Pacific Northwest (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana).

#### **Attachment Z: 2010 Report of Visitation to Northwest Yearly Meeting Allen Stockbridge**

I was pleased to serve as the QEW Ambassador to the 2010 Northwest Yearly Meeting held at George Fox University in Newburg, Oregon from July 25-29th.

I was excited to be on the campus of George Fox University for an extended period. The university was founded in Newberg, Oregon, in 1885 by Quaker pioneers. It originally served as Friends Pacific Academy for several years before becoming a college in 1891 and being renamed to Pacific College. In 1893, the school was incorporated as a joint-stock company and became a four-year school in 1925. Herbert Hoover's uncle Dr. H. J. Minthorn served as the school's first president, and Hoover was an early student at the academy. The school's name was changed to George Fox College in 1949 to honor George Fox.

The NWYM is based in Newburg, OR and includes "the men, women, and children of sixty-seven churches in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington who join together to worship God, to serve Jesus Christ both personally and through outreach ministries, and to pray that, through the leading of the Holy Spirit, we will impact society with love in action." NWYM is associated with Evangelical Friends Church International.

Part of the joy of being present at the NWYM was to be present on this campus, and explore their facilities, including the library, and the local coffee shops. This was also my first time spent around Evangelical Quakers, and their high-energy, music filled, passionate services and activities. There was a lot of joy in the air, and it was contagious.

I had many opportunities to meet new Friends, and explain my presence at the NWYM. This resulted in rich conversations about QEW and EFI, and liberal Quakers primarily. There was a strong interest in our work, and hearing of QEW from me was the first time for many Friends.

The entire process of buying the materials needed to create the QEW display, print out the panels sent to me as PDF files, and mount them on the display could not have been easier. I had received a box full of QEW pamphlets to put out in front of the display, and I was pleased that by the end of the week, all but a few pieces had been taken away by the NWYM visitors.

The displays were in a high traffic area, and the QEW display looked good among the others. I used a black three panel foam core board for the display with tiny colored pushpins to attach the printed panels. This resulted in a crisp, high contrast look. I suggest a black cloth skirt around the table for the future, but this may be difficult based on the local logistics of getting the materials before knowing the exact set-up parameters.