

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting & Gathering 2007

General Information: Walton Lecture, Clerk's Welcome

• Youth Information • Registration/Lodging/Food Information •



SEYM invites you to attend the Walton Lecture Workshops/Retreat

Wednesday night: *Quaker Leadership* (an interactive presentation)

Thursday morning: *Clerking: Serving the Community with Joy and Confidence*

Walton Lecture: *Quaker Leadership*

Arthur Larrabee

On Wednesday evening, Arthur will lead an interactive presentation on Quaker leadership. We will consider the following questions: What is the nature of Quaker leadership? Is Quaker leadership different from other kinds of leadership? What is your experience of leaders in a Quaker context? Why does it seem that Quakers have a hard time accepting leaders and leadership? Do you have the experience that Quakers sometimes find it hard to delegate authority? Why would this be true? Is leadership a useful quality within the Society of Friends? How would you describe the leader, Quaker or otherwise, who you would be willing to have lead?

On Thursday morning, Arthur will lead a clerking workshop. He will use materials from his Pendle Hill workshops—*Clerking: Serving the Community with Joy and Confidence*. He will cover highlights of the Quaker decision-making process and of the role of clerk.

Quaker Leadership

On Saturday night, Arthur's topic will be Quaker Leadership. On Tuesday, August 22, 2006, Philadelphians awoke to a story on the front page of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* (the City's main newspaper) with a headline: "Friends frustrate some of their flock- Quakers bogged down by process, two leaders say." And then these are three of the first four sentences:

"Two leading Quakers say the denomination and its agencies are being hobbled by an institutional disdain for leadership."

"The famously liberal sect has become 'stuck in its old ways,' he said in a recent interview, and has grown 'utterly resistant to leadership and new ideas.'"

"For the Society of Friends to have a future, it has to change its culture,' he said. 'And I don't know if that's doable.'"

Arthur will use the occasion of this lecture to explore some of his thoughts in response to these issues. He will also share his thinking about a model for Quaker leadership.

Biography

Arthur Larrabee is a member of Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting and has twice served as its Clerk. He is currently the Clerk of Interim Meeting of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and a member of the Board of Trustees of Westtown School. Formerly, he has served as Clerk of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Arthur is a lawyer by training and he practiced law in Philadelphia for 23 years. At the present time he is a consultant, workshop leader, speaker, author and volunteer.





Gathering Committee:

Clerk: Steve Kinney
Registrar: Andrea Walsh
Program Coordinator: Ellie Caldwell
Volunteer Coordinators:
Eileen Zingaro
Judy Schmalstig
Committee Members:
Becky Steele
Gary Arthur
Jack Bradin
Warren Hoskins

Youth Workers:

Kathy Hersh, Coordinator
Wee Friends (preschool-K)
Marie Marcinkowski
Young Friends (Grades 1-5):
Kathy Hersh
JYM/ Middle/Teen Friends:
Will Patterson

Junior Yearly Meeting Clerks:

Alan Schmalstig
Jessica Begin
Daniel Doan
Amy Carlie, Rec. Clerk

SEYM Yearly Business Meeting:

Susan Taylor, Clerk
Nancy Fennell, Clk Interim Bus. Mtg.
Sybil Brennan, Assist. Clerk
Ed Lesnick, Recording Clerk
Neil Andersen, Treasurer
Herb Haigh, Clerk of Trustees
Caroline Lanker, Finance Clerk
Cecilia Yocum, Peace&Social Concerns
Dan Vaughen, Nominating Clerk
Barbara French, Worship & Ministry
Wendy Clarissa Geiger, W & M
Phoebe Andersen, Faith & Practice
Bill Rapp, Archives Clerk
Karyn Begin, Half Yearly Mtg. Clerk
Phoebe Andersen, Membership Clerk
Steve Kinney, YM Gathering Clerk
Kathy Hersh, Youth Committee Clerk
Al Webber, ProNica Board
Barbara Wolfe, ProNica Board
Herb Haigh, ProNica Board

Administrative Secretary:

Lyn Cope

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 45th Gathering of Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM): ***Skill Building, Foundations for Quaker Leadership***. It never fails that I feel profound joy in being with our wider family of Friends during these few days together. Each time, I recommit as a member of the Religious Society of Friends—not just of my monthly meeting. I always learn more about discernment in the Spirit, especially during those few times that feel painful. With patience, I've felt the peace within that comes from opening through the anguish to God's urging and direction as we prayerfully seek together. This year, I am also eager to learn more about ways to increase my effectiveness as both clerk and member of SEYM. What else can I discover about living Quaker testimonies in the world? These are my thoughts. What is it that draws you to attend Yearly Meeting? What keeps you from becoming involved? If you are someone who has never attended or are unclear about the value of Yearly Meeting, please consider coming this time and see what might speak to you. Though SEYM is more than our Gathering, the Gathering is where we meet face-to-face in the power of love in a variety of ways. Such engaging can spiritually nurture us in surprising ways that may lead beyond ourselves.

As a preview: In addition to the major support of being with one another, we are fortunate to have Arthur Larrabee leading two workshops and giving the Walton Lecture, "**Quaker Leadership**". Our creative young Friends are always an inspiration. Please follow any leading you may have to be with them and/or on the Yearly Meeting Youth Committee. Reports from and actions by our committees, representatives to Quaker organizations, individual Friends, and a variety of workshops make visible some options that can stop wars, global warming, discrimination, and other behaviors that violate humanity and all creation. As a Yearly Meeting, we can speak as a body to further reinforce these efforts. We will be continuing discernment on the relationship of SEYM with Friends United Meeting (FUM). Please read all the reports from our faithful representatives to FUM, Phoebe Andersen (Tallahassee MM) and Lisa Stewart (Palm Beach MM) and remain mindful of your meeting's or worship group's discernment on this prior to meeting for worship for business. What are the foundations for Quaker leadership? Family dancing to the tunes of the Faith and No Practice Band and calls by Friend Gary Arthur bring another dimension to that query.

"What is the sense of our small effort? They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time, we can be responsible only for the one action of the present moment. But we can beg for an increase of love in our hearts that will vitalize and transform all our individual actions and know that God will take them and multiply them as Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes."

—Dorothy Day, *Loaves and Fishes*;

from *The Whole World in His Hands*, Dorothy Steere, 1965

May that love work within and among us throughout our entire time together and afterwards.

In peace and with wishes for a safe journey,

Susan Taylor

Clerk

JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING

This page is for parents and children

Parents and Sponsors

Junior Yearly Meeting is a structured program of learning, fun and friendship; a time to build Friendly camaraderie with peers and Quaker leaders. Since the program is sequential, your child/children will benefit most by attending the *entire* Gathering, if at all possible.

The structured children's and youth programs are scheduled daily at specific times during the mornings and after supper. Teens have scheduled sessions on Thursday and Friday afternoons, including the **Teen Fishbowl** on Friday, which adults are encouraged to attend with them. At other times, children and youth are invited to participate in activities with the adults if they desire. A variety of inter-generational activities are planned during the afternoons and some evenings. All children and youth are welcome to attend meetings for worship and worship sharing.

The children and youth make their reports and read their epistles in the final YM Meeting for Business on Sunday morning, and there will be First Day School for children during Meeting for Worship on Sunday morning. Youth may attend activities on the adult program, including the Walton lecture, the retreat sessions with the Walton lecturer, committee meetings, special sessions and activities and interest sessions.

The parents and sponsors of young Friends under age 19 are responsible for their whereabouts when they are not in the scheduled youth sessions. In particular, the parents and sponsors of younger children are asked to meet them or pick them up promptly at the end of scheduled sessions, so that the youth leaders can also participate in other activities.

Parent/Child Meeting—Wee and Young Friends. 1-1:30 pm, Thursday, in child's classroom.

Note: Parents/sponsors should not bring or send children to the Gathering who are not interested in participating in our planned activities. Also, **no video or electronic games are allowed in youth program sessions.**

Every child under age 19 **must** have a parent or adult sponsor who:

- 1) is responsible for the child during his/her stay at Gathering.
- 2) Is named on the registration form.
- 3) Sponsor provides a **signed** medical release letter from parent(s)

NOTE: Medical release letter must include:

- Child's name
- Age
- Address
- Phone number
- Sponsor's name (if applicable)
- Allergies
- Current medications
- Family doctor's name and phone number
- Permission to treat at the camp and hospital
- Parent's signature and date.

Wee Friends Birth to Kindergarten. Blue Room.**Times of Program: 8:45am-12:05pm and 6:45pm-8:35pm.****Coordinator: Marie Marcinkowski****Children must be picked up PROMPTLY from their program.**

Play, naps, and story time. ***Parents are expected to volunteer for one session.*** The camp has NO equipment for this program; please bring toys, pillows and blankets. Friends who would like to share a song, story, or show and tell, please so indicate on the Share the Work form.

Young Friends Grades 1-5. Green Room.**Youth Program Coordinator :** Kathy Hersh, Miami, (305.667.6779)**Times of Program: 8:45am-12:05pm and 6:45pm-8:35pm.****On Friday morning, the Young Friends will join the Jr.YM/Teen Friends in the Ropes Initiative for community building (minimum age 8).****Children must be picked up PROMPTLY from their program.*****Parent is expected to volunteer for one hour.*****Junior Yearly Meeting and Teen Friends** Gold Room.*Grades 6-8 and Grades 9-12***Advisor: Will Patterson****Teens and Middles are expected to participate in all sessions listed in their schedule.****On Friday morning, the Jr.YM/Teen Friends will join the Young Friends in the Ropes Initiative for community building (maximum age 18). Friends will be paired for size.**

Please come on Wednesday and don't miss out on anything! Teen Friends will explore their theme of *Quaker Inventions and Contributions*. We will hear from adult Friends, ask questions, interview, brainstorm, play games, share and have some fun. As always, a certain amount of our time will be put into creating an "interesting" presentation for the First Day Plenary Report.

FUN! The real theme underlying anything we do at Yearly Meeting will be fun. Check out the activities to choose from in the afternoon free time. **NOTE:** Free time is also the time to check in with family and enjoy hanging out.

Swimming. Children 6th grade and under **must by accompanied by a supervising adult.** No more than four children per adult. Swimming at posted time ONLY—see activity schedule.

Junior Yearly Business Meeting Plenary Sessions conduct the business of the Middle and Teen Friends.

This includes:

- Reports from each group concerning this year's program.
- Committee meetings for epistle writing.
- Choosing clerks
- Choosing theme for Gathering 2008
- Planning for Half-Yearly Meeting (HYM)
- Planning for activities during the year.

Closing plenary will hear reports, Minute any decisions, review and complete our Epistle and prepare our report for the **Yearly Meeting Plenary Session.**

School Excuse. SEYM sessions are considered a religious holiday. Letters are included in the registration packet, and are available, if needed, from SEYM office via email (admin@seym.org), snail-mail, or may be

Registration/Lodging/Food Information

What to Bring/What NOT to Bring

Registration

The SEYM Gathering Committee is pleased to welcome all 'Old Timers' and 'First Timers' to the 2007 Yearly Meeting Gathering. We hope your stay is pleasant, interesting, and meaningful. Please note that new attendees are identified by a blue dot on their meeting badges. When you come across a blue dot, please take a few moments to say "Hello" and "Welcome."

Please register early, either by **snail-mail** or **on-line** at <www.seym.org>. This helps us plan better for your stay, and allows the Life Enrichment Center to have the correct number of rooms cleaned, and order appropriate amounts and type of food (vegan, gluten-free, etc.).

PAY now, or at check-in; mail form immediately. Registration for on-line lodging and food must be received no later than 03/1/2007!

A **Day-use charge** of \$5.00/person is charged for Friends staying off-site.

Check-in at the Life Enrichment Center ASAP after you arrive.

Registration/check-in is open:

Wednesday 4:00-5:30 P.M. and 8:30-9:30P.M.,

Thursday-Saturday 4:00-5:30 P.M.

NOTE: if you will be arriving after Registration Desk closes, please ask a friend to pick up your key during regular registration hours and show you to your room.

Remember to **park in designated areas only**.

Lodging Choices

Life Enrichment Center: Rooms have twin beds/private bath (a few queen sized beds are some times available). A 3rd person in room on floor is free. A cot is \$10/night (reserve in advance). Bedding & towels provided. **Offered only in lodging and meal packages/person.**

Sharing Rooms: Please pre-arrange room sharing and register accordingly ON ONE FORM. SEYM no longer acts as a matching-up agent.

Warren W. Willis Lodges are located across the road from the Life Enrichment Center. There are 4-6 bunks/room. Families are placed together. You must bring bedding & towels. Per person price/night. Lodge #3, which we have reserved has a kitchen. Limit: 24 people.

Tent camping is located in the woods north of the pavilion; charges are per camp site/per family unit—honor system.

RV Camping is located west of the pavilion in the more open area. Price/RV/night. Full or partial electrical hook-ups are available (see Registration Form).

All WWWCamp and LEC RV and tent camping reservations must be received by March 1, 2007.

Food Choices

The Life Enrichment Center now offers Lodging and Meals as a package. Additional dining room meals may be reserved prior to March 1, 2007. (See Registration form.)

SEYM has also contracted to pay \$75/day for camp-ground Pavilion so that Friends may prepare their own meals there or in a lodge kitchen. Please note the \$5.00/day charge for Kitchen-Use at either location. Bring your own stove, pots, pans, utensils, and coolers—none are provided.

The SEYM Gathering Committee plans to provide a coffee pot and toaster in the Pavilion.

Note: The Gold Room youth-area kitchen is reserved for youth and evening snacks only. It is not available to individuals for meal preparation.

LEC dining room meals include pre-reserved vegan, vegetarian, diabetic, gluten-free and other meal choices as requested.

All SEYMers who have reserved meals will be given meal tickets. Those who have requested special diets will be given specific tickets to assist the kitchen in servicing what you have ordered.

There are always abundant salad choices.

For those of you wishing to purchase food in town, there are abundant fast food restaurants about 3-5 miles from the camp.

Movies

Love Amid the Ruins—Quaker relief and/reconciliation work, narrated by Scott Simon, NPR, w/study guide; ages 12-96. (30 minutes)

Before You Enlist! voice to counter seductive and deceptive recruiting practices of the U.S. military. (15 minutes)

Rights on the Line: Private militias patrol U.S.-Mexico border. (25 minutes)

Bringing the War Home: Eyes Wide Open exhibit documentary. (11 minutes)

LEC Rules

Park in designated areas only.

Quiet time from 11:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M.

No skate boards, in-line skates, or scooters are permitted on campus.

Alcoholic beverages and recreational drugs are prohibited.

Pets are allowed in the camping area, on a leash.

Cleanup— we're responsible for our own cleanup.

SEYM Rules

Sponsors—all children 0-18 must attend with a parent or a designated adult sponsor the entire time at the camp.

All youth need a parent/guardian signed Medical Release form.

Swimming is available Friday and Saturday from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. You may swim only during this time when the pool is reserved for SEYM use.

Alligators are in the lake. No swimming in the lake!
Furthermore, lake is polluted—not safe.

Display/table space is limited and reserved for SEYM Representatives for their Quaker and other Organizations and for Committee Clerks who wish to display their labors or items of interest. It is the responsibility of the Representative and/or Clerk to bring, tend, and pack up materials.

What to bring

Those staying in Lodges bring:

Linens for single beds, pillow, blankets, towels.

Toys for toddlers, children's supplies (throw pillows, toys to share, soccer balls, etc.) puzzles and games for all ages.

Rise Up Singing hymnals, musical instruments, craft supplies, books to trade and share.

Musical Instruments: Quaker Family Band musicians needed.
Questions?

Contact Steve Kinney <steve10k@yahoo.com>

Books for Book Swap located on one table just inside Auditorium door to left.

Your books-to-buy list. The FGC Bookstore is in the entrance to the Auditorium. (*The LEC Methodist Bookstore is in building west auditorium.*)

SEYM Representatives to Organizations bring Displays and literature.

Walking shoes so that you can take a nature walks: check out the Path of Silence.

Bring a friend/Friend new to your Meeting. Let them see first hand how wonderful it is to be involved in **the** mini-SE Quaker Gathering: SEYM's YM Gathering.

What NOT to bring

Alcoholic beverages and recreational drugs

Skate boards, in-line skates, or scooters

*Please Save trees:
Bring these programs to the Gathering*

Directions

Florida United Methodist Life Enrichment Center 352-787-0313

1-75 to Hwy 27:

On I-75 go to Wildwood Exit 66 at State Road 44.

Go east on State Road 44 (right if coming from south; left if coming from north).
(State Road 44 is 14th Street in Leesburg).

Go approximately 12 miles to Hwy 27.

Go north or left onto Hwy 27 through center of town.

Turnpike to Hwy 27:

On the Turnpike go to Leesburg/Ocala Exit 285.

Go north on Hwy 27 through center of town.

Everyone — Hwy 27 to the Camp:

Turn "East" on county Road 466A, Picciola Road, between the ABC Liquor store on the right and Walgreen on the left.

Go 3 miles. The Life Enrichment Center (LEC) is on the right.

WWWillis Camp lodging and swimming is on left across road from LEC.