Quaker Earthcare Witness

Seeking emerging insights into right relationship with Earth and unity with nature

From: Quaker Earthcare Witness Representatives
      Allen Stockbridge and Steve Schreiner

Date: July 17, 2013

Re: QEW Annual Report to North Pacific Yearly Meeting

Overview: Quaker Earthcare Witness is a network of Friends (Quakers) in North America and other like-minded people who are taking spirit-led action to address the ecological and social crises of the world from a spiritual perspective, emphasizing Quaker process and testimonies. North Pacific Yearly Meeting has created positions for two representatives who will serve on the Quaker Earthcare Witness Steering Committee. (November, 2013 Coordinating Committee). Our representatives are expected to attend one or both yearly Steering Committee Meetings and serve as liaisons to the NPYM, Quarterly Meetings and Monthly Meetings, as possible. A complete job description is available upon request.

Appointees:
This year two representatives have been nominated for staggered two year terms. Allen Stockbridge’s term ends 9/2014. Allen has served for the last four years on the QEW Steering Committee as a Member at Large from Intermountain Yearly Meeting and is now a North Pacific Yearly Meeting representative. Allen was just approved to serve on the Nominating Committee of QEW, and also serves on the Outreach Committee and the FCNL Support Group. Steve Schreiner’s two year term will begin 10/2013 and end 9/2015. Representatives may be reappointed one time.

QEW Steering Committee Composition

The Quaker Earthcare Witness Steering Committee is made up of representatives from Yearly Meetings in the United States and At-Large
members. The QEW Steering Committee meets twice a year in various locations. The next meeting is in Chicago in October of 2013.

**NPYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee interface:**

Since the NPYM support of QEW and nomination of two Yearly Meeting representatives has just occurred, the representatives are in the process of beginning an interface and dialog with the NPYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

**Monthly Meeting Liaisons to QEW:** The best way for a Monthly Meeting to become more engaged with QEW is to name a Monthly Meeting Liaison. This person will receive news directly from QEW and be able to report QEW activities to the Monthly Meeting and to bring earthcare work of the Monthly Meeting to QEW. QEW welcomes submissions for BeFriending Creation and other QEW publications, and participation at Steering Committee Meetings. The QEW Mini-grant program is an important deliverable program for Monthly Meetings.

**The Summer Steering Committee Meeting:** The meeting was held from June 27th–30th at the Boulder Meetinghouse in Boulder, CO with about 30 Steering Committee members in existence.

The Committee prepared and sent a letter to President Obama indicating that his words on climate change were a good first step and more needs to be done;

The Committee prepared a 500 word statement - based mainly on the “**The Kabarak Call** for Peace and Ecojustice” which was approved at the Sixth World Conference of Friends at Kabarak in Kenya in 2012. The QEW statement will be submitted to the International NGO liaison office of the UN in response to the post 2015 sustainable development goals;

Finally, Shelley Tanenbaum was appointed as new General Secretary of QEW and will begin in December of 2013.

More complete information about the Steering Committee meeting and the work of Quaker Earthcare Meeting can be found inline at [http://www.quakerearthcare.org](http://www.quakerearthcare.org)

**Our Goals for 2013-14:**

- Nurture and share spirit inspired continuing revelation that awakens, transforms, and empowers effective action to meet the physical challenges we face.
- Turn to our Friends’ roots, develop a Friends’ response plan, pose the right queries and questions, and give us hope
- Work with other Quaker organizations, including: FCNL, the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) and the Quaker Institute for the Future (QIF) to develop a strong Quaker voice and actions on living in right relationship.
- Use our website and other social media to enable our constituency to share concerns and information on vital issues, tell our stories of what we are trying to do to address these problems, and help each other make the transformational changes that are necessary for us to address the ecological, social and spiritual crises that we face.
Contact Information

Please contact any of the Steering Committee Members with questions, concerns or leadings.

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