

Northern Yearly Meeting 2008 Session -- May 23-26

at the Wisconsin Lions Camp in Rosholt, Wisconsin.

The wooded camp surrounds a small lake and has modern, accessible facilities.

--- Please register by May 2 ---

"Then in the early 1700's something happened... There were certain things that Friends did that many other Protestants did not do and those things took on way too much importance. For example, George Fox would sometimes spend an hour in silent prayer and then he would preach for two or three hours. These second generation Quakers opted to forget the sermon and concentrated on silent prayer. One historian stated that friends "settled down into a peaceable, respectful sect proud of their past and content to preserve their distinction."

--from Early Quaker History

THEME

Here I Am: Understanding and Shining My Inner Light

As Quakers, have we settled down into a "peaceable, respectful sect proud of their past and content to preserve their distinction"? Or, are we empowered by Divine Love to engage our gifts and resources and envision a world where our testimonies of equality and social justice are more widely practiced? Do Quaker fires still burn and do we take steps both corporately and individually to follow Divine leadings to share our vision? Do we nourish the creativity and inspiration in our children and in adults from social groups that have not traditionally been a vital part of our meetings? Or do we welcome the passions and actions of youth, of people of color, and of victims of war and abuse only if they conform to our own visions of peace and respectability?

How do we, as meetings and as individuals, recognize and name spiritual gifts in each other and in ourselves? What are our processes and what responsibilities come with the naming? Do we nurture those gifts that may bring us discomfort-- or only those that are familiar and preserve the status quo? Do we use processes of corporate discernment to make right action effective-- or do we judge others' -compatibility with our peculiar quiriness?

We chose this theme because it seems timely in a troubled world where individuals can burn out in desperation at the many fronts needing action. Friends know the joy and the terror of taking on an individual leading, the security of our F(f)riends support, and the creative strain of conflict. How can we base our actions in Love and let that shine forth, no matter how the people with whom we share our gifts are reacting?

We also chose this theme directly from the epistle our children brought to us at last years session! They know the light! We think this theme lends itself to queries, that the plenary (all-attending meeting) and workshops and other offerings centered on this theme will bring their own light to our hearts and minds. Leading topics represented in the plenary and workshops will include Sustainable Earth and Race Inclusivity.

So we hope you join us at Sessions and envision ways your own life can be faithful to God's Truth. Join us in dancing our way towards "understanding and shining our Inner Light" moving closer to our corporate truth. May the trees of Camp Rosholt clap their hands in joy as we each declare, "Here I Am." Let us build a blessed community, sharing our vision and supporting each others actions.

PROGRAM

Friends will be welcomed Friday night by a brief orientation for our community, including an inter-generational activity. Children and Youth orientations follow later in the evening. Each morning we will have worship sharing sessions, followed by Meeting for Worship and Meeting for Business. The afternoons will feature a combination of workshops, games, ropes course, waterfront, and free time. We invite Friends to initiate activities during free time as they feel led, including but not limited to: singing, interest groups, and intergenerational activities. There will be a place in the dining room to post notices about activities Friends initiate. Please check this board each day.

Worship Sharing and Workshops

Friends are invited to facilitate workshops that are related to our theme. If you would like to facilitate a workshop (afternoon, following lunch), please contact John Greenler (608-873-0637 jgreenler@zephyrfarm.com) before May 2.

Worship

On Saturday morning our whole community, including children, will gather for worship. On Sunday, we will gather for worship prior to Meeting for Business, and on Monday we will end our Meeting for Business with worship. Sunday's Meeting will be open to the sharing of joys, sorrows, and memorials. In addition, at 6:30 each morning there will be an additional opportunity to worship, sponsored by Friends in Unity with Nature (FUN). At some time during the session, time to be announced, El Salvador Friends will lead a Meeting For Worship.

State of Society Reports

We will meet on Sunday evening in five groups for discussion time and presentation of the State of Society Reports. These reports detail the life of our Meetings/Worship Groups over the past year and include: memorable events and statistics, struggles, insights, and general thoughts on who we are and how we handle our differences. Of particular interest also will be how we as meetings have supported leadings for those in our meetings.

Talent Show

The Talent Show will be held on Sunday afternoon to provide talented Friends more time to demonstrate their skills. If there is something that would facilitate your participation and sharing of your unique talent, please bring it along. We encourage all who share to limit their offerings to approximately five minutes.

Young Adult Friends (YAFs)

Last year for the first time YAFs were a presence among us at the annual session. The group will again have their own space and housing and plan their own program. All YAFs are welcome! Be sure to mark this as your housing preference on the registration form.

Children's Program

Parents are responsible for their children throughout the weekend.

Mornings

Each morning children participate in the Children and Youth Program (described later in this brochure).

Afternoons

Games and waterfront activities will be offered during the afternoon workshop sessions on Saturday and Sunday.

Evenings

Friday evening's welcoming event is intergenerational. During Saturday's Plenary there will be a campfire. Vespers (8:30 – 9:00 p.m.) is a time for quieting children down before bed. It may include some singing, storytelling, or other quiet activities. Parents are encouraged to attend with their children. Sunday afternoon's talent show is intergenerational; this will be followed by a campfire and vespers.

Volunteers

Volunteers help the program run smoothly! Volunteers support the children's programs, assist with dining room and camp clean-up, work at the FGC bookstore, and help carry trays for those who cannot carry their own. Please come in the spirit of helping and sign up at the registration table at camp.

Bookstore

A selection of books from the FGC bookstore will be available for sale in Memorial Hall.

Display Spaces

Display space, in the basement of Pinewood Lodge, will be available for organizations that wish to share materials.

CAMP INFORMATION

(The nearest town is Rosholt, Wisconsin, where there are gas stations and mini-marts.)

- **Emergency phone number:** 715-677-4761. Leave a message and it will be conveyed as soon as possible.
- **Phones:** There are phones in all cabins that may be used with calling cards.
- **Copy machine:** There is an office copy machine available at 10 cents per copy.
- **Wheel chairs:** Some are available. Please include request on registration form.
- **Parking:** Parking is free in the camp lots that are close to the central area.
- **Lost and Found:** Box will be in Dining Hall. After session, contact Ellen Brooks (608-735-4821 or davellen@mwt.net).

Camp Facilities

The Lions Camp is in rural Wisconsin, approximately 20 miles from Stevens Point. It is a summer camp for children and adults with a full range of disabilities. Thus the camp is totally accessible, and every cabin has large accessible showers. For special needs/concerns, please contact NYM's facilities coordinator, Carl Houtman (608-251-4719 / choutman@wisc.edu). Our session will be concentrated in a compact, flat area. There are almost seven miles of hiking trails and a large lake for boating and swimming contiguous to where we will meet. The camp offers a climbing tower and a challenge course, both of which are available at no charge to those 12 years and older. The camp will offer one of these Saturday and one Sunday during the early afternoon, as announced. Bicycles are allowed in camp and local roads are bike-friendly for long bike trips.

Camp Rules

Friendly practice and camp regulations prohibit smoking in buildings as well as use of alcohol or illegal drugs. Designated smoking areas will be available for adults. Please observe a quiet time in and near sleeping areas after 10 p.m. *Pets, skateboards, scooters, and in line skates are **not** allowed at the camp.*

LODGING

Cabins

The camp cabins are all modern, and have single beds, heat and air conditioning. There are different size cabins:

- Duplex cabins with two rooms, each sleeping ten people, in a dormitory style arrangement and connected by a lounge in between the sleeping rooms.
- Cabins with rooms that sleep eight people (Pinewood Lodge).

- Cabins with four rooms, each sleeping five people. These five person rooms have spacious floors and are suitable for families with children sleeping on the floor who want to share the room with another family. Children under 13 years of age, accompanied by a paying parent or sponsor, may sleep on the floor with their own bedding at no charge for lodging.

Separate housing areas will be available for men only, women only, couples only, families, **adult** young friends, teens, and quiet/early to bed. One of the duplex cabins will be available for those needing to be closest to meeting and dining rooms. Please note your housing needs and preferences on your registration form to facilitate our making appropriate housing assignments.

We have a small number of single rooms available to us this year. We are offering them to those with a specific medical need for a private room. These rooms do not have private baths. If you would like to be considered for one of these rooms, please contact Mary-B. Newcomb at n52.maryb@gmail.com or (218) 724-6141. Please register by the May 2 deadline if you want to be considered.

Camping

Tent camping will be available on the point overlooking the lake, with pit toilets close by. Two other camping spots are in fields on the west side of the camp. Showers/flush toilets are available at the nearest cabin complex. RVs are allowed in a parking lot, with electrical hookups available at additional charge (see registration form). Waste/water hookups are not available for RVs.

Off-site Accommodations

The Road Star Inn (800-445-4667) in Stevens Point is about 20 minutes from the Lions Camp. Please make your reservations in advance.

What to Bring

Cabin lodgers: there are closets for each bed, which may be padlocked if you provide a lock. The camp will provide sheets, pillows, and blankets; towels are not provided.

For all attendees, suggested items to bring include: towels, flashlights, rain and cool weather gear, insect repellent, swimsuit, musical instruments, and songbooks. Bikes are permitted; helmets required. There are tennis courts available.

FOOD (Three Options for Meals)

1. Camp Meals

Friday dinner through Monday lunch will be prepared by camp staff and will accommodate a variety of tastes and dietary preferences, including children and vegetarian. Please register for your meals and check off the vegetarian/vegan option if that is your preference. The staff will be ordering food for our session based on our pre-registrations, so please register by **May 2**.

*Persons with **severe food allergies** may contact George Owen (414-967-0898 / gcowen01@yahoo.com) with information about their particular food needs. He will coordinate with the camp cook to address campers needs as best as possible.*

2. Cooperative Simple Foods

Everyone who wishes to prepare and eat simple whole foods together in a small group should contact Joan Francis (608-735-4408 / 16652 Orchard View Road, Gays Mills, WI 54631) by **May 2**. Pre-registration is appreciated, but not required. The cost is \$2 to \$3/person/meal (sliding scale) PLUS \$10/adult/session charge for kitchen use. Joan will collect these fees on site.

3. Fasting

A very simple food option: consider a three-day fast during NYM. Those interested may meet at mealtimes for fellowship, to share information, and for spiritual support. Some will participate in a water fast and others may do a

juice fast (bring your own supplies if this is your desire). Please obtain any needed medical advice ahead of time if you wish to participate in fasting. For further information, contact Mark Helpsmeet at 715-874-6646, or via e-mail at helpsmeet@usa.net.

Snacks

A snack table will be available in the dining room each day from 6:30 a.m. until 9:30 p.m. It will contain beverages and snacks such as peanut butter, jelly, crackers, bread, and fruit. There are small refrigerators located in every cabin for snacks and special foods Friends wish to bring. The camp store will be open periodically with soda and ice cream available for purchase.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAM (C & Y)

Children and Youth Orientation Meetings-- Please attend parent information meeting on Friday!

Infants through older elementary (parents, children, leaders, interested volunteers)—**Friday, 7:00-7:30 p.m.**

Young Teens (teens, parents / sponsors, teen leaders)—**Friday, 9:30-10:00 p.m.**

Older Teens (teens, parents / sponsors, teen leaders)—**Friday, 9:30-10:00 p.m.**

Please indicate the appropriate age group for children on the registration form. Parents, please use knowledge of your child's abilities/interests, and your judgment in selecting the appropriate class for your child. For example, a child who has finished kindergarten may be ready for the early elementary program. Teens who wish to be placed in a program other than the one suggested for their age group must consult with the C&Y coordinator before registering (phone number below).

Children will join the All Gathering Worship on Saturday at 8:45 a.m. and then proceed to their groups from there, meeting until 12:30 p.m. On Sunday and Monday, children will meet with their groups from 8:30 to 12:30. The older teens have a more flexible schedule and will set their own hours throughout the weekend.

General Expectations for Children, Youth, and Parents

Parents are responsible for their children at all times. Friendly coordinators will provide supervision during scheduled morning program times only. It is expected that all children will participate in the scheduled Children and Youth Program. If parents or guardians believe there are special circumstances that could affect participation by a child, please discuss these ahead of time with the C&Y Coordinator, Margaret Krome (608-238-1440/mkrome@sbcglobal.net). Any child not participating in the morning program must be with a parent / sponsor, and the appropriate age group coordinator must be informed.

Parents, please be on time to pick up your children!

You can imagine why this is important. With a full morning behind them, and often their own children waiting for them, leaders need to be released on time.

Infants and Toddlers (IT)

Free play, close adult supervision, and snacks during morning meetings (8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.). Please bring diapers and any special food or equipment your child needs. If you wish, bring books or toys marked with your name to lend to the group.

Preschool / Kindergarten (PK)

Structured activities, free play, and snacks during morning meetings (8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.). Please bring diapers and any special food or equipment your child needs. If you wish, bring books or toys marked with your name to lend to the group.

Early Elementary (EE—Completing Grades 1-3 this spring)

Structured program of learning activities, snack, games, and crafts, during morning meetings (8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.).

Older Elementary (OE—Completing Grades 4-6 this spring)

Structured program of learning activities, snack, games, and crafts, during morning meetings (8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.).

Young Teens (YT, Completing grades 7-8 this spring)

Structured program during morning meetings. Activities may include discussions of Quaker values and history, arts and drama, crafts, recreation, and sports. One cabin will be designated a young teen cabin, and an overnight chaperone will stay with the group.

Older Teens (OT, Completing grades 9-12 this spring)

A program with structured and unstructured intervals, ongoing through the weekend. Activities will include workshops, discussion groups, worship sharing, and an off-site adventure, plus, of course, quality time to spend with other Quaker teens throughout the weekend. One cabin will be designated an older teen cabin, and several of the teen group leaders will also lodge here.

NYM C&Y Program Staff Leaders

Coordinator: Margaret Krome (608-238-1440 / mkrome@sbcglobal.net)

Infants and Toddlers: Phil Grove

Preschool / Kindergarten: Lee Greenler, Linda Hall

Early Elementary: Cathy Nagler, Shel Gross

Older Elementary: Jane Schallert, Logan Colby

Young Teens: David Abazs, Leslie Davis

Older Teens: Dave French, Mary Klos

REGISTRATION

Registration will occur in the camp dining hall on Friday, May 23, from 3:30 – 9:30 p.m., and at other times as posted at the registration table. When you register you will find out about lodging, obtain a camp map, have the opportunity to sign up for worship sharing and workshops, and sign up to volunteer.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY	
3:30 – 9:30 pm	Registration
5:30 – 7:30 pm	Dinner
7:00 – 7:30 pm	Orientation Meeting for Infants to Older Elementary
7:45 – 9:00 pm	All Gathering Welcome & Intergenerational Activity
9:30 – 10:00 pm	Orientation Meeting for Young Teens & Older Teens

SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
6:30 – 7:30 am	Early Worship	6:30 – 7:30 am	Early Worship	6:30 – 7:30 am	Early Worship
7:15 – 8:30 am	Breakfast	7:15 – 8:30 am	Breakfast	7:15 – 8:30 am	Breakfast
7:45 – 8:30 am	Worship Sharing	7:45 – 8:30 am	Worship Sharing	7:45 – 8:30 am	Worship Sharing
8:45 – 9:45 am	All Gathering Worship	8:45 – 9:45 am	Meeting for Worship	8:45 – 11:30 am	Meeting for Business
9:45 – 12:30 pm	Meeting for Business	9:45 – 12:30 pm	Meeting for Business	11:30 – 12:30 pm	Meeting for Worship
12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch	12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch	12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 – 3:30 pm	Workshops & Intergenerational Activities	1:30 – 3:30 pm	Workshops & Intergenerational Activities		
3:30 – 5:30 pm	Free Time	3:30 – 5:30 pm	Talent Show		
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Dinner	5:30 – 6:30 pm	Dinner		
6:30 – 7:00 pm	Free Time	6:30 – 7:00 pm	Free Time		
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Plenary	7:00 – 9:00 pm	SOS Reports		
7:00 – 8:30 pm	Campfire	7:00 – 8:30 pm	Campfire		
8:30 – 9:00 pm	Vespers	8:30 – 9:00 pm	Vespers		
9:30 pm on	Singing, Dancing	9:30 pm on	Singing, Dancing		

Children & Youth
 Saturday: start at All
 Gathering Worship
 end until 12:30
 Sunday: 8:30 – 12:30
 Monday: 8:30 – 12:30

~Parents, please be on time to pick up your children.~

Directions To Camp

From Stevens Point, WI go east on Hwy 66.

(The route to Lions Camp is marked with obvious highway signs.)

Follow 66 about 15 miles to Rosholt.

About one mile east of Rosholt, turn north on County Hwy A.

Go north on A just over one mile. Lions Camp is on the left.

From the east, take Hwy 49 north from Waupaca, through Iola, to intersection with Hwy 66.

Go west on 66 about 3/4 mile.

Turn north on County Hwy A.

Go north on A just over one mile. Lions Camp is on the left.

Northern Yearly Meeting
6210 Devon Ct.
Madison, WI 53711-2408

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