

Report to Illinois Yearly Meeting from Quaker Earthcare Witness
Illinois Yearly Meeting Continuing Committee, 2013 March 9
Roy C. Treadway, ILYM representative to Quaker Earthcare Witness

Since last fall's ILYM Continuing Committee meeting, just after the Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) Annual Meeting in Chicago (2012 October 4-7), QEW continued its time of transition as Louis Cox, QEW's Publication Coordinator, stepped down after 22 years of service to QEW. Katherine Murray, member of First Friends Meeting in Indianapolis with a Master of Divinity degree from the Earlham School of Religion, began her responsibilities as Publication Coordinator on 2013 January 1. She will edit QEW's bi-monthly publication, *BeFriending Creation*, and coordinate (on alternative months) a new bi-monthly electronic newsletter (e-newsletter), "Resources for Earth Action," which will be available to all who are interested. Katherine will also oversee all the printed publications (pamphlets, tri-folds, and books) of QEW. We welcome Katherine to her service with QEW.

QEW is gradually changing our website to be more interactive and useable by QEW for committee work; in the meantime QEW's "current" website is not being maintained. We hope the new website will be available to all Friends and others in spring 2013.

QEW is forming several committees of discernment (COD) for investigation and action. Under consideration currently are committees of discernment for climate change, energy, and the economy.

QEW's next face-to-face meetings are:

Spring Steering Committee, 2013 June 27-30, hosted by the Boulder Friends Meeting, Boulder, CO, just before the Friends General Conference Gathering;

Earthcare Center and outdoor meeting for worship at the Friends General Conference Gathering, 2013 June 30 to July 6, at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, CO; and

2013 Annual Gathering, 2013 October 24-27, again in Chicago at the Cenacle. While planning for this meeting is just beginning, the tentative theme is: Climate Change and Population from Friends' Perspective."

Friends at the Gathering will explore the relationship between current and projected future population and climate change, in the context of food, agriculture, and consumerism.

All Friends are welcome to join with QEW at these meetings, on our general discussion list serv, and in all our activities.