

1 **Summary of Results from 2017 SCYM Sessions Evaluation Form**

2 13-16 April at Greene Family Camp, Bruceville, TX

3 *45 forms were returned • 150 were printed*

4

5 **This is my ____ time at SCYM.**

6 4 first time attenders responded, other Friends reported they had attended 2-40 times.

7

8 **I Came Because: First Timers**

- 9 2 Keynote speaker
- 10 1 Topic in general
- 11 A particular workshop
- 12 1 Worship
- 13 Under appointment and I needed to make a report
- 14 Booktable
- 15 4 Fellowship/meeting new people/catching up with F/friends
- 16 Youth Programs
- 17 2 Community events (campfire, star gazing, singing, etc.)
- 18 Other (please tell us)

19

20 **I Came because: 2 + Timers**

- 21 16 Keynote speaker
- 22 15 Topic in general
- 23 3 A particular workshop
- 24 11 Worship
- 25 6 Under appointment and I needed to make a report
- 26 5 Book table
- 27 29 Fellowship/meeting new people/catching up with F/friends
- 28 6 Youth Programs
- 29 13 Community events (campfire, star gazing, singing, etc.)
- 30 14 Other (please tell us)

31

32 **How far did you travel to get to SCYM this year?**

33 Less than > 1hr (2); 1.5hr (4); 2.5hr (5); 3hr (15); 3.5hr (1); 7hr (1)

34 Miles, 83, 90, <100, 135, 148, 180, 200, 475, 1000

35

36 **How much farther would you be willing to travel, if yearly meeting were held at another location?**

37 None (5); 100-300 miles (7); 6 hours (7); as far as necessary (5)

38

39 **What did you like best about this year’s SCYM?**

- 40 Keynote & workshop
- 41 Speakers & fellowship
- 42 The speakers, especially the funny one, He was a riot.
- 43 Theme & youth program

- 44 ○ That somehow, I connected with the elementary YF and share a Sat night skit
- 45 ○ The fox
- 46 ○ Greene family Camp
- 47 ○ Keynote, The people
- 48 ○ The chance to meet, listen and worship with SCYM Friends, keynote speakers
- 49 ○ The program, speakers, having ???from Sierra Club
- 50 ○ Workshop, weather, people
- 51 ○ Panel of keynote speakers, child's class (Kathy Brooks)
- 52 ○ The singing birds, the trees, the stars, the wind, the lake, the exercise, the music, the togetherness, the
- 53 friends
- 54 ○ People
- 55 ○ The theme of climate change
- 56 ○ Keynote
- 57 ○ Theme. I could park right in front of my motel room.
- 58 ○ Worship & business
- 59 ○ Keynote, children's program, friends, business meeting
- 60 ○ Fellowship
- 61 ○ Keynote, Reggie James' workshop, Frank Barch & Jean-Marie Preswick Barch sessions
- 62 ○ Keynote address
- 63 ○ Workshop topics and meeting new friends
- 64 ○ I enjoyed the familiar things this year. Familiar faces, routines and the nature that surrounds us. New
- 65 mattresses in the motel room are wonderful.
- 66 ○ Seeing F/friends and having conversations
- 67 ○ Friends & fellowship
- 68 ○ Great fellowship, great workshops
- 69 ○ Keynote speakers, esp. Sheryl and Gerald
- 70 ○ Plenary speakers, inclusion of JYM & YF epistles
- 71 ○ Keynote
- 72 ○ The community, as always
- 73 ○ Cheryl Angel's sung prayer
- 74 ○ Family groups
- 75 ○ Home groups, meal times
- 76 ○ The fellowship
- 77 ○ Fellowship, atmosphere, night worship
- 78

79 **What did you like least?**

- 80 ○ Nothing
- 81 ○ Chairs stacked in front of windows, Fake food.
- 82 ○ Cardboard pizza
- 83 ○ Meals better than last year, but still a bit "iffy."
- 84 ○ Workshops were extra stacked because there was only one session.
- 85 ○ Short bed (I am 6' 1")
- 86 ○ The food was not OK
- 87 ○ Visual announcements. I couldn't read them easily (old eyes) and never bothered to read them carefully.
- 88 ○ Schedule adult ropes course & swimming, not at same time. Desserts not up to par.
- 89 ○ That we did not do a good job of cleaning up the tables after we ate. The electronic message boards do
- 90 not have a human voice.
- 91 ○ Electronic message board instead of verbal announcements.
- 92 ○ Food

- 93 ○ Need moveable chairs in bedrooms.
- 94 ○ Announcements: do both orally and message board (selected announcements for oral.)
- 95 ○ That it was over so soon.
- 96 ○ Electronic messages
- 97 ○ The keynotes did not talk about climate change or solutions. Eggs are great for any meal. Meals were
- 98 better this year than last, but more veggie, non-gluten protein would be good. It was absent from Sunday
- 99 breakfast.
- 100 ○ Peace & Justice meets too late at night. Food was unsatisfactory.
- 101 ○ Cool weather to me.
- 102 ○ Variety show almost *** too long. 1.5 hr max
- 103 ○ Food mgt. still an issue—more quantity and variety; clearer signage for veggie and non-veggie.
- 104 ○ Juice ***on tables at meals.
- 105 ○ Oddly enough; home groups. Must be fluke, usually very good. Also campfire was puny.
- 106 ○ People did not police themselves with regard to vegetarian meals. I showed up late to dinner on Sat and
- 107 vegetarian option was already gone. Separate lines and stations for vegetarian options.
- 108 ○ Although the food was better this year, I missed the pickled okra, cottage cheese and a free flowing salsa.
- 109 ○ Youth staying in groups, Keynotes not engaging and did not give big picture to hear their points.
- 110 ○ Simple meal of chicken (?)
- 111 ○ Plastic chairs
- 112 ○ “Fun night” Great idea, needs better execution (first timer)
- 113 ○ Lack of sugar-free options at meals
- 114

115 **Do you have suggestions that SCYM could use to improve your experience?**

- 116 ~ Clear the windows and return to more whole food.
- 117 ~ Peanut butter would be nice.
- 118 ~ Fruit should be again be available 24/7.
- 119 ~ Ropes course should be scheduled after community time please—swimming is fun too.
- 120 ~ Limit length of announcements to 15 words or less on two slides and post the full note on the bulletin
- 121 board.
- 122 ~ ECW: Or responsible Friend team set up compost and see its delivery to where it will be used. Work with
- 123 GFC to ask for 100 % renewable power source during our stay.
- 124 ~ Fruit at every meal. Fix water filters in dining room water fountains.
- 125 ~ Thanks for the detailed evaluation form.
- 126 ~ Please do not schedule rope course to start until after swimming. Also give older kids option to do the
- 127 ropes course if they don’t want to do swimming.
- 128 ~ Announcements: do both orally and message board. (Selected announcements for oral.)
- 129 ~ Keep on doing the great job that you are currently doing. Thank you all for such a lovely and memorable
- 130 experience. My mother and I truly enjoyed everything so much.
- 131 ~ The workshop time periods should be expanded. I would suggest trying an open space format.
- 132 ~ Early bird and night owl worship should have people sign up for it on registration. Shake things up, do
- 133 things differently. Would prefer a different location.
- 134 ~ Have a list of attendees posted on wall by name, by meeting. Also available on line.
- 135 ~ Not SCYM, but I would like a yard light in the parking lot.
- 136 ~ Please consult with camp to provide reusable/washable plates, cups, etc. in place of Styrofoam. Even
- 137 pasteboard is better than plastic.
- 138 ~ Put session times on all sign-up sheets. If there is a logo display it. (clerk’s table skirt!?)
- 139 ~ Better organization. Volunteer by explaining who, how and when to serve.
- 140 ~ Separate line for vegetarian meals.

- 141 ~ Children’s program should provide bottled water and snacks for the baby room.
- 142 ~ Suggestion: perhaps the kitchen manager could review old orders to see what they used to provide.
- 143 Opening little packets of salsa, honey and butter is frustrating. Missing the old menu.
- 144 ~ Recycling bins available please.
- 145 ~ Announcements: do video and verbal.
- 146 ~ Spread the memorial minutes out over Sat & Sun similar to the MM reports.
- 147 ~ Have a dessert like ice cream with every dinner.
- 148 ~ Several layout and organizational comments: Having Q&A after variety hour instead of after plenary
- 149 deprived us of one of the speakers and probably some attenders—would have fit better in the afternoon
- 150 home group slot. Ideally it would have happened after the plenary and business meeting moved to the
- 151 afternoon. Perhaps business meeting, workshop, business meeting since it seems you stay away from the
- 152 3pm business meeting format. I was going to the sunrise worship until I saw it was not laid out in a circle.
- 153 Speaking of circles, both the Peace & Justice Forum and the Q&A circles were way too small for the
- 154 numbers of people who attended. Question—what happens to the holding in the Light requests? They
- 155 were invited but I never heard any invitation to hold any one in the Light during business meeting worship
- 156 periods.
- 157 ~ More workshop times. There were too many for too few times to go.
- 158 ~ Sugar free desserts.
- 159

160 **The adult program for 2018 is being planned by Bayou Quarterly with a tentative theme of “Rise up Through**
 161 **the Arts.” The keynote might be a concert. Would that theme affect your plans to attend?**

162 *Results from 44 forms. Some left the question blank, some checked more than one choice.*

- 163 17 I like the idea and would plan to attend.
- 164 26 I plan to attend regardless of the theme.
- 165 6 I do not like the idea, but would attend anyway.
- 166 0 I do not like the idea and would not plan to attend.

167 **Comments related to this question only.**

- 168 We are in a crisis in history. Hope SCYM sessions would address it.
- 169 Topic is fine but not a concert for keynote.
- 170 Do not like the concert idea. Love the arts idea in general.
- 171 So long as arts relates to service.
- 172

173 **Jane Houser, clerk of the YM Planning Committee, thinks...**

- 174 ➤ One good thing. For the second year, no one complained about acoustics in the theater. Inviting those who have
- 175 trouble hearing to sit up close, explaining that the speakers are on the stage and turning off the blowers during
- 176 business meetings seem to be effective ways to address this challenge. *(Also, the clerks reminded Friends to use the*
- 177 *microphone, which most Friends did.)*
- 178 ➤ About recycling: the camp had bins outside the dining hall and theater for paper, plastic and cans and at least two
- 179 blue bins for paper in other locations. Announcements were made early in the week-end about the locations—I do
- 180 not know what else we could do.
- 181 ➤ The dishes are plastic but are washed and reused. Last year, there was a shortage of coffee cups. Advance materials
- 182 suggest that people bring their own coffee cups and water bottles.
- 183 ➤ Planning committee will discuss modes and methods of announcements.
- 184 ➤ Several people seem confused about scheduling of workshops, as if those were the only program elements of which
- 185 they were aware. Last year I had a discussion with two individuals who were both new to SCYM and Quakers, who
- 186 did not seem to understand that the business sessions were the heart of the yearly meeting and that everyone was
- 187 invited to observe or participate. Some more orientation or education at the monthly meeting level might help.