

### SCYM Report on BQ, 2023

Bayou Quarterly met at the Uskichitto Retreat Center near Kinder Louisiana from Sep 22 through 24, 2023. This was the first time using that Center and we found the facilities well enough to our liking that BQ will be using it again this coming January.

While socializing was an important component of the meeting, most of our time was dedicated to scoping out a theme for the 2024 SCYM Adult Program. Clerk, Rich Corl had solicited theme input from past BQ attenders as well as any other interested Friend in the Quarter. Our task was, then, to find where a common interest lay. This led to settling on the theme “**Being a Quaker Today: Nurturing Our Soul, Brightening Our Light, and Acting on Our Faith**” which was broad enough to encompass all the proposed sub-topics that Friends had submitted and in which they were already serving.

Pamela Haines of the Philadelphia YM has accepted our invitation to be the guest speaker. She knows our theme and will plan her contributions accordingly if SCYM accepts the proposed BQ theme.

The time required to decide on the theme used most of the weekend and prevented us from hearing reports on the states of the BQ constituent meetings and worship groups. However, we still found time for the Saturday night “Show-and-Tell. This community time serves us well as a means of better understanding the interests and activities BQ Friends are involved in. We heard presentations on computer techniques, an ocean-going voyage carrying news of the Palestinian situation, recent personal travel and projects and a brief summary of the asteroid impact at the end of the age of dinosaurs.

BQ’s January meeting will be used to flesh out more of the structural details associated with the 2024 Adult Program.