

Epistles from Junior Yearly Meeting Groups

New York Yearly Meeting, Summer Sessions 2017

2017-07-56 1st and 2nd grade group

The first and second grade group came to Morse Hall at Silver Bay, New York by car and by van to celebrate God, to have fun, to be with family, and to look at nature. We went to the nature center, and to the beach with the high schoolers. To make the Peaceable Kingdom, we used paint, paper, markers, crayons, cardboard, and scissors. When we listened to the stream it said calm down; it was peaceable; it sang a song to us. We learned what games each other enjoyed and did not enjoy by playing everybody's it, blob tag, and Mrs. Mumbly. We felt the energy of the trees with green man. We liked being together.

2017-07-57 3rd and 4th grade group

The 3/4s gathered t created our Peaceable "something"-dom. We were greatly enriched by games, the turtle "tiny-mo", our lovely bracelets and face painting for the Fun(d) Fair, the beach, and our inspiring visitors. We survived rain, cold weather, and bad jokes (by certain adults). We went on to build our "something"-doms, that became peaceable, using shadow puppets and a light box. Our kids will now show their puppets and we will hold them in the light!

2017-07-58 5th and 6th grade group

Welcome friends,

today we will express our epistle in skit form. We will also explain what we did throughout the week.

On Monday we met in Munn Hall and learned each others' names. We also created our committees. Unfortunately we ended up using too many plastic cups in what ended being known as the "great cup massacre." It raged on for three whole days, with cups wounded and dead, left and right.

On Tuesday it was beach day, and also a special visitor came. The special visitor was Nadine. Nadine talked to us about phobias and how most conflicts were caused by not being near each other and avoiding each other. Then, we headed off to the beach.

On Wednesday we had a lot of fun out on the water, and throwing sponges into Quakers' faces. Early in the morning, during JYM, we walked down as a group to the boat house to go canoeing. On our way out we were all laughing from the huge waves that were crashing into our boats! About halfway between the boat house and Slim Point, we connected our boats and had a moment of waiting worship.

When we were coming back, we saw a huge groundhog, and some of us chased after it, but sadly it hopped into the bushes. But before that, a military plane flew about 50 feet above the water. In the end, we still wonder what happened to that groundhog.

After lunch was the fun fair. At the fun fair, our booths were the sponge toss and the lemon-lime challenge. We had a lot of fun helping and supporting Powell House.

On Thursday we practiced meditation. We all went in our imaginations to our peaceable kingdoms.

We also decided who going to be what in the epistle. Even though no everyone could have a spot, we listened to each other to make it possible.

On Friday, the last day of JYM, we went down to the boat house to sing and do worship. After that we said goodbye to all of our friends that we made this week, and some that we're not going to see for a long time.

2017-07-59. 7-8-9 Group

eddy: this week at silver bay was indeed interesting...

Maia: On Monday, we spent the day getting to know each other using a few name whips, and then our guest speaker Nadine came to visit. She spoke to us about how she helps introduce violent and closed off communities to Quakerism and showed us how we could too. She gave us ideas for more name whips. we also played games like sun and umbrella, honey if you love me, and a big wind blows. We had another name whip.

Corina: Tuesday, we started out the day with committee meetings before heading down to the nature center where we touched live creatures, and started a cult based around a turtle named "tiny mo" *max screams* Chris and Mike were inducted *cough* included too (we played games).

Matt: the following day, we had a calming guided meditation lead by the amazing Abby; meanwhile, some of us played fainting goat tag, don't ask... we proceeded to take a trips to da beechs to shred some gnarly waves dude (said by Matt) After that happened we went to subject ourselves to an onslaught of water balloons and silly string aka the fun fair, *patrick* fun fair with a ph *maxwell qqq* so puuun faiiiiiir *eddy* PUNNSSSS

Pippin: On Thursday, we played amoeba tag and everyone fell. After we got up and migrated to the lake where our attempted water worship was thwarted by evil sentient rain... don't ask about that either. Then we went back to Field Memorial where we had snacks and tried to finish our worship. Unfortunately that was also ruined by strange alarm noises ...

Corina: we couldn't think of any good jokes so I was told to do this in an accent.

On Friday however, confusion persisted despite everyone's exhaustion. We played games, worked on the epistle *cough Olive* disaster. Later we went down to the boat house and sang quakerly songs. 'Twas a good day.

and our new clerks for next year, as nominated are Josie Mack and Talullah Klein.

2017-07-60 Senior high group.

High School Junior Yearly Meeting Epistle

By Irena Rosenberg and Juliet Ramey-Lariviere

It was a rainy Monday when we met at the Boathouse
Learned each other's names and worshipped quiet as a mouse
We traveled a bunch right before lunch
Each chose an airport, but our game was cut short by a report

Next day we did more much more than before
We spoke of the draft and filled a spacecraft
With historical Quakers, we were the makers
Of a new land which would be grand

Wednesday rolled in and began with Nadine
We listened and learned about the unseen
With a bounce in our step we met our buddy first grader
Then swam and played and walked them back later

On Thursday we discussed politics and divisions
We created a new party and voiced our decisions
Then we split
some joined business others used clay
The sculptors went boating and the worshippers thought of pay

Last day we sat down and did worship sharing
We reflected on our community and how it is caring
Then we played games to pass the time
Creating the peaceable kingdom in rhyme
Then we gathered to sing altogether
Before we went to lunch in the beautiful weather