

Iowa Yearly Meeting Conservative Young Friends Epistle 2019

July 27, 2019

Dear Friends Everywhere,

The Young Friends gathered again for Iowa Yearly Meeting Conservative annual sessions at Scattergood Friends School in West Branch, Iowa. It was a fun, exiting, and tiring week. Many memories were made as we spent the week together in friendship, worship, and the occasional pillow fight.

We started the week talking about the theme of this year's annual sessions, Accompaniment and Giving Voice, and wrote an epistle to the greater Yearly Meeting expressing our concerns and hopes with the world from our perspective as young people. We also went swimming at the Scattergood Pond that same afternoon. Our plastic swan friends from last year were still present, so we temporarily removed their heads once again. We also gave them nicknames, Bill and Billie Eyelash. That evening we played Capture the Flag with Junior Yearly Meeting and IYMC Staff Members, which was a blast.

On fifth day, we started the day with a walk to the Scattergood Prairie with our Friend Bill Deutsch. Then came our annual out trip. Due to heavy rains and flooding in Iowa earlier in the year, we were unable to take our canoe trip on a river like we usually do, so we went to Terry Trueblood Recreation Area for canoeing and kayaking on Sand Lake instead. Afterwards, we stopped in Iowa City for ice cream. We would like to specifically mention how delicious this stop was. We finished the day with a movie night with JYM, complete with popcorn.

On sixth day, we went to Scattergood Farm for our annual service project. We had a great time helping harvest potatoes and picking a variety of flowers and prairie plants to make bouquets for the cafeteria that could be enjoyed by everyone. In the evening we had a "pondfire" where we made s'mores by the Scattergood Pond, after another swim of course. We roasted marshmallows for Bill and Billie Eyelash, but they didn't want them, so we ate them instead.

On our last day, we finally finished the puzzle we had been working on all week. In the afternoon, we went to the Tipton Swimming Pool with JYM. We had a lot of fun there, although we were sad that our swan friends were not with us. We also went to Dairy Queen and ate even more ice cream, with few regrets. We wrapped up the week emceeding the IYMC Talent Show.

It was a blessed week, and we are excited to meet again next year!

In Friendship,

Rhyla, Chris, David, Gillie, Thomas, Bill, and Billie

IYMC Young Friends 2019

