

Presenter & Workshop Leader Bios

Iowa Yearly Meeting Conservative 2021 In General Order of Schedule

Thursday, July 22

Becky Musselman is the Director of Sponsored Programs Administration at Iowa State University, a grandmother of twins, and dabbles in various types of healing, mysticism and spirituality. Becky has received training in Andean Energy, Esoteric Healing, Reiki and Shamanism. She coordinates the Ames Friend Meeting Experiment with Light group and finds that this group work allows participants to witness and share the light.

Ebby Luvaga is on the faculty in the Iowa State University Department of Economics and helps lead the Global Resource Systems Program. A member of the Ames Meeting, she has been building a library in her home country of Kenya with help from Quakers and others.

Chris Roesel grew up in a rural community in Georgia. After being a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala, he has worked with starving and sick people in 20 countries of Africa, Asia, and the Americas on issues of health, nutrition and water. Recently, he has been working with communities in Uganda, Kenya and the Gambia on water, sanitation, and hygiene systems and assisting them and several other countries in Africa with micro-loans. He attends Penn Valley Meeting.

Friday, July 23

Elizabeth O'Sullivan raises organic chickens and hogs with her husband and children in Minnesota. Author of the Pendle Hill pamphlet *"Building Bridges: Four Stories from the Bible,"* she attends Laughing Waters Preparatory Meeting. She also attends seminary in her spare time.

Alicia McBride is director of Quaker leadership for Friends Committee on National Legislation. She joined the FCNL staff in 2004 and currently leads the organization's work to nurture, expand, and deepen relationships with Friends across the United States. She also tries to ensure that everyone engaged with the organization understands the spiritual basis of FCNL's advocacy. She joined the FCNL staff in 2004. She lives in Takoma Park, Maryland, and is a member of Sandy Spring Monthly Meeting (Baltimore Yearly Meeting) and serves on the Earlham School of Religion Board of Advisors.

John McCutcheon is an internationally known singer-songwriter, storyteller and multi-instrumentalist, and author of several books, including *"Flowers for Sarejevo."* A Quaker, he grew up in Wisconsin and now lives in Georgia.

Saturday, July 24

Lucy Duncan serves as Director of Friends Relations for AFSC. She writes, teaches, and organizes Quakers to work for justice. She recently published "A Quaker call to abolition and creation" in Friends Journal and organized the AFSC annual meeting program, Making New Worlds: Pursuing peace with justice, all sessions of which are available to watch online. She has been instrumental in the adaptation of Quaker social change ministry as a tool for reclaiming Spirit-guided social change work focused on companioning those most impacted

by injustice. She has been a storyteller for 20 years and has worked with Quaker meetings on telling stories for racial justice and of spiritual experience. Before working for AFSC, she was director of communications at FGC, managed QuakerBooks of FGC, and owned and managed her own children's bookstore, The Story Monkey, in Omaha, and was a member of a storytelling troupe, The Five Bright Chicks. She is a member of Green Street Friends Meeting (PhYM) and is the proud mom of a 19-year-old son. She is excited to present at Iowa YMC as she became a Friend within this yearly meeting.

Mark Quee is the Farm Manager, Humanities & Seminar Teacher at Scattergood Friends School. He has worked there since 1999 after spending eight post-college years continuing his education by traveling, working in homeless shelters and learning the hows and whys of organic vegetable production. Mark's job at Scattergood allows him to nurture his many selves: the teacher, lover of books and films, outdoors explorer, organic farmer and one who appreciates living in community. Mark and his wife Jennie were married at Scattergood. Their daughter Gillie will graduate from Scattergood in 2022.

Lee Tesdell, from Slater, Iowa, is a landowner and conservation leader. He recently retired from Minnesota State University, Mankato, where he was a professor of English. Lee is a member of the advisory board for the Center for Rural Affairs and active with the Practical Farmers of Iowa, which awarded him and his family the PFI 2019 Farmland Owner Legacy Award. Lee is a graduate of Scattergood Friends School and attends the Ames Friends Meeting.

Kathy Byrnes is the founder and director of Birds & Bees Urban Farm. A country mouse at heart, Kathy always kept a garden but wasn't an actual farmer till she moved to "the big city" of Des Moines. She soon discovered that, in contrast to the Iowa farmland she was used to, dirt in urban settings might be - well - just dirt. She soon learned - with the help of her partner, Ed Fallon, to build soil with compost and manure from a variety of local products - one being manure from their very own chickens. Now Kathy uses her experience as a teacher, writer, beekeeper, foodie and climate activist to help others learn to turn their yards into dinner.

Tom Wahl owns and manages [Red Fern Farm](#) with his partner Kathy Dice, a family owned nursery and farm specializing in tree crops, located in southeast Iowa. They sell container-grown trees and medicinal planting roots well-suited to the Midwest and have a U-pick Chestnut business. Both Tom and Cathy are known as educators, researchers and advocates for tree crops and forest farming systems. Tom and Kathy are members of Iowa City Friends Meeting and Tom is a board member of Scattergood Friends School.

Sunday, July 25

Jana Schroeder first experienced Quakers as a student at Earlham College. She worked in the nonprofit sector including staffing the American Friends Service Committee's Ohio Criminal Justice Program. She returned to Earlham to direct the college's community engagement initiatives and support high financial need students. She has been on the AFSC Corporation and just concluded terms on the AFSC Board and clerking their Friends Relations Committee. She is currently contracted to carry out interviews and other research for the Earlham School of Religion to learn about the needs of today and tomorrow's Quaker meetings and leaders. Jana is a member of Clear Creek Friends Meeting in Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.