Carolina Woman

March – May 2025 A publication of North Carolina United Society of Friends Women

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this issue:

- ●2025 USFWI Reading List
- 2025 projects and payment page
- Scholarship applications due March 15, 2025
- •Memorials due Mary Anna McCullen April 15, 2025
- Registration due April 21, 2025 for the May 3, 2025 NC USFW Spring Conference at Quaker Lake .
- Pictures (jpg or png) of your meeting's USFW activities to Lindsay Shore Wright by April 15, 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sherry Hylton

He has saved us and called us to a holy life-not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time. 2 Timothy 1:9

GRACE! Wow, what a powerful word! I believe that any good Christian knows the word and understands the meaning of "God's grace". It is part of God's best gift to us. Forgiveness. God will forgive us, if only we ask. That is **grace.** All of this was made possible because God gave His one and only Son to die that heinous death on the cross, so that OUR sins could be forgiven. It was his plan, even before the beginning of time.

Why then, is it so hard for us to find grace for ourselves? If you are a good Christian, I don't think it is hard for you to find grace for others, in most circumstances. However, when you make even one small mistake, it seems to remain forever. Honestly, I can remember even the smallest ugly remark I've ever made to someone. I can remember when I have had an ugly thought. I mean, I can remember things from when I was very young. Why can God forgive me for the BIG stuff, but I can't forgive myself for the little stuff?

For me this is one more reason that I must read God's word and talk to him daily. When I found the above verse, I thought it was so beautiful, and so comforting. "This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time". So, the next time a memory of mistakes I have made appear to haunt me, I will remember these words. I hope they will bring comfort to you also.

As I continue to travel this journey of President, I hope you find the grace to forgive me when I make mistakes, because I have, and I will continue! I will continue to be grateful for the group of ladies on the Executive Board who guide me. We just met on Saturday, and I am very excited about upcoming events. I hope you will take note of the following reminders and that you will feel the grace and mercy of our God as we enter the Spring season! I hope to see you all on Saturday, May 3 at Quaker Lake for our Spring Conference!

Reminders:

- NCUSFW Spring Conference at Quaker Lake, Saturday, May 3rd. Registration begins at 9:00. Meeting begins at 10:00. Our speaker's will be Jane & Max Carter. Cedar Square's Quaker Men will serve us lunch at noon. I hope you will join us!!!
- Please continue to collect \$\$\$ for **Love**, **Hope**, **and Farming**. This collection will go toward the tractor that was bought for the farm in Africa where we are helping to make them self-sustainable.
- Please send photos of activities your group has performing to Lindsay Shore-Wright, by April 19. She is putting together a slide show for the Spring Conference. You may email PDF or JPEG to shorewright@gmail.com.

SCHOLARSHIP

Bennie Burton

It is a critical time for students to be working on their applications for the Eliza Armstrong Cox Scholarship. Application forms for 2025-2026 are to be <u>postmarked no later than March 15, 2025.</u> The applications should be mailed to Bennie Burton, 155 Toms Creek Bluff Lane, Pilot Mountain, NC 27041.

All application forms are found on the website, www: <u>friendschurchnc.org/usfw</u>. The forms can be folded and sent by regular mail. For new applicants, the application is two pages, a personal written information letter, and a third page for the applicant to hand to their 3 references. Students reapplying only need the one page application form and a copy of his/her college transcript. All candidates must be a participating member of a meeting that actively participates in NCUSFW.

GUIDELINES FOR ELIZA ARMSTRONG COX

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- 1. The amount of the grant will be determined by <u>funds available</u>.
- 2. The candidate shall be a participating member of a meeting that actively participates in NCUSFW.
- 3. The candidate shall have successfully completed secondary education requirements and shall have been accepted by a college.
- 4. First time applicants must submit the two-page application, 3 reference forms and a personal letter.

- 5. To be considered for a grant for the succeeding academic year, recipients must summit updated information on the returning applicant form plus a transcript from the college.
- 6. Scholarships shall only be awarded for a maximum of four (4) years.
- 7. Funds must be requested from USFW NC Treasurer by December 31 of the academic year applied.
- 8. Applications for new and returning students must be postmarked on or before March 15, and are on the website, www: friendschurchnc.org/usfw.

ELIZA ARMSTRONG COX LIFETIME FELLOWSHIP MEMBER

We cannot be neglecting to <u>feed the coffers that fund the Eliza Armstrong Cox Scholarship Fund</u>. Please do so by the end of March 2025. The amount of funds at the end of March determines the amount of money each of our approved applicants receive. The Eliza Armstrong Cox Lifetime Fellowship membership is an honor and a recognition for service and dedication to the meeting and NC USFW. Circles submit \$25 per nomination, (\$12.50 goes to USFWI and \$12.50 goes to the Eliza Armstrong Cox Scholarship Fund). A certificate, signed by the USFWI President as well as the NC USFW President, is sent to the Circle who submits the name(s) for recognition. Nominations can be made at any time of the year but members are recognized at the Annual Gathering in the fall each year.

Enclose \$25.00 per nominee payable to NC USFW and send the form to NC USFW Treasurer with you check. A pin may be requested from the NCUSFW Treasurer if available. Support for the Eliza Armstrong Cox Scholarship Fund is needed and greatly appreciated.

Member(s) to recognized:	
Meeting:	
Name & Address of person(s) to receive Certificates(s):	
	Date:

Enclose \$25.00 per nominee, payable to NC USFW and send the check to the NC USFW Treasurer, Alicia Sharp.

In the late 1800s while living in Western Yearly Meeting, **Eliza** (**Clark**) **Armstrong Cox** (**1850-1935**) caught a clear vision of the part Quaker women should contribute to the Master's great plan of world evangelization. Through her untiring efforts she initiated the movement which developed into the Woman's Missionary Union of Friends in America which is known today as the United Society of Friends Women International (USFWI).

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

Esther Creed

I am happy to be on the USFW Board. I am filling Linda Kersey's term. Linda wrote such good articles and is a good example of peace.

There is a lot of Scripture that promotes peace. It would do us good to read each one and think on them during the year. Do we practice peace in all situations?

- Let us be satisfied with what we've got and not look at others and wish to be like them but look to God who gives us what we need. Be satisfied with your own possessions.
- Our faith is stronger than our difficulties if we have that inner peace that passes all understanding.
- Be truly thankful for life.
- Think positive thoughts and not negative thoughts.

Philippians 4:8 "Whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

If you feel like we are being negative, we probably are. No one likes to be around negative people.

If we have peace in our hearts, we will put our trust in God, in good times and bad.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Kim Beeson

HAPPY SPRING LADIES!!! SPRINGTIME IS A TIME OF RENEWAL:

2 Corinthians 5:17 says "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." This verse tells us that when we accept and live in Christ, we will have a new life; a new soul. Our old spiritual condition and life are no more."

I was looking at some Pinterest posts a few nights ago pertaining to redoing old furniture. I came across a little side table that appeared aged, with layers of milk paint (stubborn old stuff and yes I know from experience!) and lots of dings and gashes. It was dull as the author stated "from years of time and use" Over a few days, she scraped through layers and layers of paint using various techniques and she sanded and polished years off of wear and tear. The finished product was a cute little pristine table that had been given a new life! Isn't that what Christ does for us?!!! Ephesians 2:10 states that we are God's masterpiece; He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.

He takes us where we are, like the little table, layers and layers of old, with scrapes and scratches knowing we are still useful and gives us a make-over. This is Him not giving up on us. This enables us to shine for Him; we are renewed. This my friends, is LOVE.

LITERATURE

Sarah Cox

Talk. Talk. Talk.

We can't wait for children learn to talk so they can better communicate their thoughts and wants to us. Once they learn, they enjoy practicing this new skill and sometimes they give our ears very little rest. Their conversation is pretty self-centered. Telling us what they want. Telling us what they DON'T want. Asking why.

Often, they ignore what we say because they are so intent on their own agenda. We try to teach them to use the words "Please" and "Thank you", hoping they will learn to use them without our nudging, but they often forget.

I'm sure God looks at us, His children, the same as we look at our children. He is so glad when we learn to talk to Him. He wants us to spend time practicing that skill. Praying often; praying without ceasing. We can tell Him our wants and needs. But so many times we forget to say "please" and "thank you" as we hurry on to present our agenda to our Heavenly Father.

Talk. Talk. Talk.

Sometimes that's all we do, never stopping, be still and let God speak to us. Our theme this year is "God Still Speaks." He really does, but we have to give Him a chance!

Slow down, center down and let God talk to you. He has so much He wants to show us and share with us.

You will find the USFWI Reading List 2025-26 in this Newsletter!!!

Looking forward to seeing all of you on May 3rd at Quaker Lake for our Spring Conference, where we will learn more about how God speaks to us in our daily lives.

Yours in Christian love, Sarah Cox Literature Secretary 336-963-2710



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UNITED SOCIETY OF FRIENDS WOMEN INTERNATIONAL READING LIST

"Love in Many Languages"

2025-2026 1 Thessalonians 2:8

FICTION

<u>A Lineage of Grace</u> by Francine Rivers. The Bible is filled with inspiring stories of unlikely candidates that God chose to change eternity. This historical fiction follows the lives of five women, Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary, as they lived daring lives and often made big mistakes. Their stories still hold great meaning and guidance for us today. \$20

<u>The Forge</u> by Chris Fabry. The Forge is about the power of prayer, the transformation only God can achieve, and the lasting influence one person can have on others. It is the story of a single mom who sees her child drifting away and turns to prayer and God to believe the impossible. This book was recently made into a motion picture and highlights the impact a mother can have on her child's life. **\$18**

<u>The School Mistress</u> by Tess Thompson. This story, based in the year 1910, follows Quinn Cooper on a train headed West to accept the position of schoolmistress in a small town in Colorado. She faces difficult travel of the day, the task of providing for her family back home, and the responsibility to instruct the children living there. The book is a sweet love story with a mix of mystery. The characters are well-developed and set a good example of kindness throughout the book. \$18

The Traveling Prayer Shawl by Jennifer Lynn Cary. A sweet story about letting God heal all our fears, bitterness, and poor decisions. The faith in God and love of family and friends shine in this book. Everyone knows the only way to survive life's problems is to wrap them in prayer. \$16

BIOGRAPHY

<u>Finding Baby Holly</u> by Holly Marie. Finding Baby Holly is the true, inspiring story of a wife and mother who was "missing" for over forty years after her parents' murders, the persistent detectives who never stopped investigating and the birth family who never lost hope in finding her. It is an incredible story of how powerful faith and family are in your life. \$19

Worth Celebrating by Miriam Dixon. This is an unusual book as it is a biography of a book, *Celebration of Discipline*. The original manuscript was written longhand on a yellow pad in a small Oregon town by a Quaker pastor describing twelve ancient Christian disciplines. This spotlighted the superficiality that had come to characterize Christianity and ignited the spiritual formation movement. This is the story of how a book can change a subculture. **\$23**

<u>Evidence Not Seen</u> by Darlene Deibler Rose. Darlene Deibler Rose was a Christian missionary in Papua New Guinea during and after World War II. During the war, she survived 4 years in a women's prison camp, her husband did not survive the war. Her Christian faith sustained her during those years. After the war, she remarried and continued her missionary work in New Guinea. **\$17**

The Watchmaker's Daughter by Larry Loftis. This novel is one of the greatest stories of World War II. Corrie ten Boom, a female Dutch watchmaker, and her family saved the lives of hundreds of Jews – at the cost of their own lives and survival in a concentration camp. She not only survived but forgave her captors and lived the rest of her life as a Christian missionary. Her ability to forgive is a testament of her faith. **\$22**

GROWTH AND CHALLENGE

Everybody Always by Bob Goff. In Everybody Always, Bob shows you the simple truths about life that have the power to shift your mindset. Bob teaches you that the path forward is found in one simple truth: love people, even the difficult ones, without distinction and without limits. Learning to love as Jesus did is something we should all strive to do. \$20 **God Never Gives Up on You** by Max Lucado. Struggling with doubt, insecurities, selfworth? This book will fill you with God's grace. Through the example of Jacob, Max gives us a lesson on God's perfect plan to use imperfect people to do great things. \$20 **Pray First** by Chris Hodges. This book is a guide to revitalizing your prayer life, making prayer a daily priority, and experiencing deeper intimacy with God. No matter what you are doing throughout your day, praying first keeps you tethered to the One who loves you most. To know God at a deeper level you should Pray without ceasing, Pray with other people, and always **Pray First!** \$20

Keep It Shut by Karen Ehman. The average woman speaks over 20,000 words a day – not to mention the ones she types online! Often our words land us in a heap of trouble. This book will help you define gossip, think before you speak, and regard what the Bible teaches us about our speech laced with grace, as sweet as honey, and yet seasoned with salt. **\$20**

BY AND ABOUT QUAKERS

<u>Palestine and Israel: Understanding Encounters</u> by Max L. Carter. This book is a sequel to Max Carter's book "Palestine and Israel: A Personal Encounter," also published by Barclay Press. The first book covered Max's experiences in and about Palestine and Israel from 1970 to 2006. The Sequel draws from his experiences and posts from two dozen trips to the region since then, including the annual Friends United Meeting "Living Letters" service-learning trips that he and his wife Jane lead. \$30

<u>Close to the Surface</u> by Bethany Lee. Written by a Quaker pastor, the author recounts her family's story, her own uncertain pilgrimage, and the courage it takes to sail over the horizon and find your way home. The journey is beautifully written. \$27

<u>The Quakers</u> by Captivating History. It is always good to know how we started. The Quakers is a great read of the history of the Quakers from pre-colonial America through modern times. It highlights the contributions made to the abolitionist movement, disaster relief and peace movements. \$15

<u>Step by Step</u> by Rigaud and Penn. After *Brown v. Board of Education* was decided in 1954, a group of Black mothers in the small town of Hillsboro, Ohio, marched their children to the white school, demanding admission. After being rejected, they repeated the walk the next morning and every morning after that for two years. During the two years these students were homeschooled by their mothers with the help of a Quaker

teacher. This book highlights these elementary students who became activists, even if they did not realize it at the time. \$22

CHILDREN AND YOUTH EDUCATION

Pat Core

In late January, we experienced a winter wonderland in eastern North Carolina. It is not often that we get much snow in this area, so whenever those fluffy flakes come, there is much excitement especially for the younger folk. As I gazed out the window from the cozy comfort of a warm home, I was instantly reminded of our loving God, who is the creator of all. There are no two snowflakes that are the same. They are all different. However, an accumulation of fluffy, white flakes made a beautiful scene to be enjoyed by all.

Just as the snowflakes are unique, so are we humans. We have different personalities, characteristics, interests, talents, and gifts. Think about how amazing, creative, and innovative our God really is. The snow is beautiful and so are his children. We are made by his hands and in his image.

It is not unusual to look at others—adults and children—and wonder why a certain behavior is tolerated. It is also easy to complain that something has been done inappropriately without any knowledge of why or any understanding of the situation in question. Rather than dwelling on the differences would not it be more productive to focus on unity, respect, and love for each other? As adults we are responsible for teaching, modeling, and guiding our young ones and youth in proper behavior and spiritual training. At times, it is easy to overlook our purpose because of a lack of interest from those with whom we are working. However, we must not give up, but rather keep seeking approaches to accomplish our desired goals.

As I think back to that beautiful blanket of snow on the landscape, I am reminded of God's impressive creation all around us every day. Of special interest are the boys and girls who look to caring adults for guidance in developing their lives. Let us support, encourage, and love each other. Now that would be a beautiful site!!

"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." Genesis 1:31



Help to carry one another's burdens.

STEWARDSHIP

Brenda McKinney

Give God what's right, not what's left

I saw the above phrase on a church marquee. Some people don't like cute or funny sayings on church signs, but this one resonated with me. I have been reading the Old Testament and there are many "rules" given by Moses about what and when to give to God. Many Bible scholars have referenced giving one-tenth. Having served as a treasurer, I believe many Christians determine from their incomes the appropriate amount and give cheerfully to support their monthly meeting and their ministries. Then there are those who give "what's left".

I believe we as Quakers are led to give how the Spirit leads. That's why I like the verse in Matthew 6:3, "But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing." Just give as you are able or led and not worry about a certain amount. Giving abundantly shows God we truly understand everything we have comes from Him. I appreciate the prayers before an offering that say, "thank you Lord for the bounty you have provided as we give back a portion to you."

Giving demonstrates our trust in God that He will always provide. One of my favorite Billy Britt sayings was "you can't outgive God". You can try, but whatever time, money, or talent you give, the Lord will bless you even more mightily. I believe NC USFW subscribes to that belief as we are known for giving generously and unselfishly to bring hope not only to our communities but to our world. Indeed our NC ladies give more money than any other USFW in the world. A big thank you to all the circles throughout our state that give unselfishly and cheerfully to help the "least of these." Thank you for giving "what's right."

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202 Community Bldg Rd.

Birthdays of Workers And their families

March

3 Miriam Mmbali 18 Suhail Mosarsaa

April

8 Joseph Thuita 12 Rania Maayeh 18 Del Livingston 25 John Muhanji 25 Wilson Ayodi

The March-April Advocate 2024 has the workers' location, address, email address, and family members



NORTH CAROLINA UNITED SOCIETY OF FRIENDS WOMEN 2025 GREENSHEET PROJECTS

JAN Four Funds-Hope Ramallah: Rania Maayeh

Peace & Christian Social Concerns

Cuba: Quaker Institute of Peace

NC Project

Scholarship Fund Eliza Armstrong Cox F

NC Project Scholarship Fund FTC

FEB Children & Youth Kenya: Turkana/Samburu: Shepherd Boys Christian Service Native American: Kickapoo Friends Center

Keys to the Kingdom The Advocate Subsidy

MAR Peace & Christian Social Concerns
Children & Youth

FEMAP-Friends Emergency Materials A P

E. Africa Friends Church Peace Team

Ramallah: Eli & Sybil Jones Scholarship Fund

Keys to the Kingdom Latino Funds Ministry
NC Project Matamoros, Mexico Missions

APRIL Four Funds-Joy Kenya: Getry Agizah

United Thank Offering Kenya: E-Learning via Friends Theological College

NC Project Friends Homes Quaker Assistance Fund

MAY Children & Youth Ramallah: Special Needs Children at Friends

Keys to the Kingdom USFWI Triennial Program & Travel Subsidy

NC Project Spring Conference Offering - Quaker Lake

JUNE Four Funds-Love Belize: Oscar Mmbali

Christian Service Native American: Mesquakie Friends Center

NC Project

JULY
United Thank Offering
Keys to the Kingdom
Peace & Christian Social Concerns

NCUSFW Projects
Jamaica: Pastoral Care
FUM Solidarity Fund
Belize: Miriam Mmbali

AUG Children & Youth Kenya: Turkana/Samburu: Girls' Secondary

Christian Service Kenya: Lugulu Hospital Adopt-A-Bed

NC Project Annual Gathering Offering:
1- Friends Center: Guilford College

2- Campus Ministry -FCNC

SEPT Four Funds-Faith Kenya: Robert Wafula

Peace & Christian Social Concerns Kenya: RSWR Kenya Staff Support

NC Project Membership #____at \$10 each Apportionment to USFWI (\$8) NC Scholarship (\$2) Belize: Friends

OCT Children & Youth School Feeding Program

United Thank Offering Kenya: Samburu Ministry Staff & Pastors

NC Project NCUSFW Scholarship Fund

NOV United Thank Offering Kenya: Turkana Ministry Staff & Pastors

Christian Service Belize: Church Food Pantry
DEC NC Project Friends Disaster Service-NCYM

Any Members Recognized at the Annual

Gathering

time

MEMBERSHIP TO:

ELIZA ARMSTRONG COX FELLOWSHIP \$25.00

(\$12.50 goes to USFWI, \$12.50 stays with NCUSFW)

Mail Payments for Projects and for the Spring Conference

Alicia Sharp 908 Scottish Rite Drive Apt 219 Greensboro, NC 27407

MEETIN	G:	TREASURER NAME	
-MAIL		DATE: CHECK	
IAN	Four Funds-Hope	Ramallah: Rania Maayeh	\$
	Peace & Christian Social Concern	Cuba: Quaker Institute of Peace	\$
	NC Project	Scholarship Fund Eliza Armstrong Cox F	\$
	NC Project	Scholarship Fund FTC	\$
EB	Children & Youth	Kenya: Turkana/Samburu: Shepherd Boys	\$
	Christian Service	Native American: Kickapoo Friends Center	\$
	Keys to the Kingdom	The Advocate Subsidy	\$
	NC Project	FEMAP-Friends Emergency Materials A P	\$
ΛAR		E. Africa Friends Church Peace Team	\$
	Children & Youth	Ramallah: Eli & Sybil Jones Scholarship Fund	\$
	Keys to the Kingdom	Latino Funds Ministry	\$
	NC Project	Matamoros, Mexico Missions	\$
APRIL	Four Funds-Joy	• •	\$
	United Thank Offering		\$
	NC Project	Friends Homes Quaker Assistance Fund	\$
ИΑΥ	Children & Youth	Ramallah: Special Needs Children at Friends	\$
	Keys to the Kingdom	USFWI Triennial Program & Travel Subsidy	\$
	NC Project Four Funds-Love	Spring Conference Offering - Quaker Lake	\$
UNE	Christian Service	Belize: Oscar Mmbali	\$
		Native American: Mesquakie Friends Center	\$
	NC Project	NCUSFW Projects	\$
ULY	United Thank Offering	Jamaica: Pastoral Care	\$
	Keys to the Kingdom	FUM Solidarity Fund	\$
	Peace & Christian Social Concern		\$
AUG	Children & Youth	Kenya: Turkana/Samburu: Girls' Secondary	\$
	Christian Service		\$
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		1- Friends Center: Guilford College	\$
EDT	Farm Francis Falk	2- Campus Ministry -FCNC	\$
EPT	Four Funds-Faith	Kenya: Robert Wafula	\$ \$
			<u>\$</u> \$
	NC Project	Membership # at \$10 each Apportionment to USFWI (\$8) NC Scholarship (\$2	
ОСТ	Children & Youth		•
JCI	United Thank Offering	Belize: Friends School Feeding Program	\$
	NC Project	Kenya: Samburu Ministry Staff & Pastors NCUSFW Scholarship Fund	\$ \$ \$
VOV	United Thank Offering	Kenya: Turkana Ministry Staff & Pastors	<u>۲</u>
101	Christian Service	Belize: Church Food Pantry	\$
DEC	NC Project		\$
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NC USFW Spring Conference Registration Saturday, May 3, 2025 Quaker Lake Camp Climax, North Carolina



Max and Jane Carter will be our guest speakers for the 2025 NC USFW Spring Conference. Max and Jane will share about their work in Palestine and Israel through the annual "Living Letters" service - trips they lead for Friends United Meeting. Together, they have led three dozen trips since their first one in 1979. They have insights into the Quaker work at the Ramallah Friends School and the broader situation in Palestine and Israel.

Max is a retired professor of Quaker Studies at Guilford College, and Jane is a retired Associate Head of New Garden Friends School. They are members of New Garden Friends Meeting. Max's books "Palestine and Israel: A Personal Encounter", "Annice Carter's Life of Quaker Service in Palestine and Kenya," and the new "Palestine and Israel: Understanding Encounters" are selections on the USFWI Reading List.

9:00 – 10:00 am Registration and Bookstore with light refreshments 10:00 am – 12 noon Welcome, Music, Program and Business 12:00 noon Luncheon – catered lunch @ \$15.00 each

Please send memorials by April 15th to Mary Anna McCullen, deetsmaryanna@gmail.com

If you can't attend, please watch the live stream video on You Tube- search for Sam Sprinkle. https://youtube.com/@samsprinkle

If you have questions contact Sherry Hylton 336-339-8058 or sbhylton3@yahoo.com

NC USFW Spring Conference at Quaker Lake Please clip and send by April 21, 2025		
Name(s)	• ———	
Meeting		
Number of Lunches at \$15.00 each	Total \$	
Please attach this form with check written to	NC USFW and mail to:	

Alicia Sharp 908 Scottish Rite Dr, Apt 219 Greensboro, NC 27407