

April 27, 2014

Auburn Prison Meeting is a preparatory meeting under the care of Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting. 2014 marks its fortieth year. Barring lockdown or other exceptional circumstance, it meets weekly on Saturday evenings. In recent years 20-25 inmates are on the callout with 8-14 of those typically attending a given meeting. They are joined by outside volunteers. Currently, four volunteers, Friend and non-friend, are frequent attenders. Occasionally others also attend.

On Saturday evening a brief period of socializing occurs as inmates arrive. Release from the various cellblocks typically is not synchronized. It takes time to gather. Meeting starts with one or more short readings and expressions of concern. Thirty minutes of silence follows. This is followed by a program and discussion conducted by an inmate or volunteer. Meeting with a concern for business occurs monthly on the first Saturday.

In addition to the meetings for worship, a study group meets weekly on Monday evenings. Volunteers rarely attend these sessions. In recent months the group has been reading and discussing the Gospel of John and Quaker literature, including Advices and Queries and Questions.

The inmates' donations were part of funds used to support a family during the Christmas holidays.

Submitted by J.C. Frisch, Member, Farmington-Scipio Prison Oversight Committee.