

# Sweet Home Monteverde

Documentary Film

**Length:** 56-minutes

**Filming Locations:** Costa Rica, Alabama, Vancouver

**Official Site:** <https://sweethomemonteverde.com/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/SweetHomeMonteverde>

**Fiscal Sponsor:** Denver Film <https://www.denverfilm.org/>

## How far would you go for your beliefs?

In 1950, a group of Alabama pacifists went further than most. And they never looked back.

During the buildup to the Korean War, four young men from rural Fairhope, Alabama, all of them Quakers, refused to register for the draft and were sentenced to a year in prison. When they were released, the “Fairhope Four” and their families – some 40 people in all – took a resounding stand: they left the U.S. and immigrated to Costa Rica, which had just abolished its army.

**Sweet Home Monteverde** follows this small group of Quakers as they uproot themselves from both the comforts and conflicts of life in America during wartime. Their overland journey leads them to a remote Costa Rican mountaintop and the new home they call Monteverde.

The film chronicles their environmental stewardship, their pioneering work on ecotourism, and their early clarion calls to fight climate change. Their legacy of peaceful activism is passed down to succeeding generations.

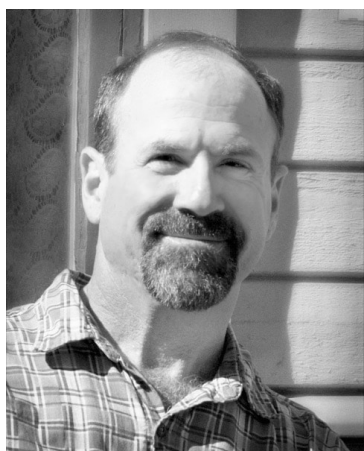
In addition to extensive interviews with the surviving founders of Monteverde, the film features newsreel footage, home movies, archival photographs and news clippings from the time. There are interviews with Quaker scholars and historians, the most recent past president of Costa Rica, and current and former students and teachers at Monteverde Friends School.





**ROBIN TRUESDALE • DIRECTOR,  
EDITOR**

Robin Truesdale is a documentary filmmaker and the founder of Two Hands Films. Her work deals primarily with social justice, cultural, and humanitarian issues. She is based in Colorado, USA.



**BILL ADLER • PRODUCER**

Bill Adler is a journalist and author. Between 2012 and 2015 he lived in Monteverde, Costa Rica, where he began working on this documentary. He is based in Colorado, USA.

MAIN CAST:  
LUCKY GUINDON, MILDRED MENDENHALL,  
MARVIN ROCKWELL AND MARY ROCKWELL

MUSIC BY KIP KUEPPER



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