

**The Religious Society of Friends
Pacific Yearly Meeting**

**2008
Representative Committee**

**Visalia Friends Meeting
Visalia, California
Third Month, First Day, 2008**

Pacific Yearly Meeting

2008 Representative Committee

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The Representative Committee sessions of the third month, first day, 2008 opened with worship at 9:00 a.m. in the meeting house of the Visalia Monthly Meeting in Visalia, California. The Presiding Clerk, Joe Franko, welcomed Friends, distributed the agenda, and reminded Friends of the role and responsibilities of the Representative Committee, as described in *Faith and Practice*. The Clerk announced that Kim Lacey would serve as Assistant to the Clerk in the absence of Sue Torrey, who became a grandmother yesterday.

Introductions

The Clerk read his letter of introduction for Elaine Emily, with some responses from Friends in Australia (where Elaine recently traveled).

Kim Lacey read the list of monthly meetings and worship groups in Pacific Yearly Meeting, inviting Friends from each to rise and be recognized. Friends were asked to record their names and to provide current contact information. We heard a concern that only about half of the monthly meetings and worship groups of Pacific Yearly Meeting seem to be represented today.

Nominating Committee – Stratton Jaquette, Clerk

The Nominating Committee's report to Representative Committee was presented by Stratton Jaquette, Clerk. [See Attachment 1] Nominees were brought for three positions:

- **Registrar (2009):** Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2008)
- **Discipline Committee (2009):** Jorge Martinez, Mexico City (2008)
- **Unity with Nature Committee (2010):** Stephanie Freeman, La Jolla (2008)

These names will be presented later for approval.

Stratton Jaquette announced several corrections to the slate of nominees approved at our 2007 annual gathering and told us that two members of the Nominating Committee have resigned, leaving the Nominating Committee with reduced membership. The corrections to the 2007 slate follow:

- **Finance Committee:** Donna Smith (Orange Grove / Redwood Forest) was approved at our annual gather of 2007 for the class of 2010.
- **Junior Yearly Meeting Committee:** Evan Nelson (La Jolla), class of 2009, has resigned.
- **Nominating Committee:** Heather Levien (Berkeley) and Pat Daggerty (Orange Grove) have resigned.
- **Friends General Conference representative:** The term for Tom Farley (Palo Alto) expires in 2009, not 2008 (as listed).

The Nominating Committee's report summarized the past few years' history of consideration of issues related to the nomination and appointment of representatives for positions involving expenses for which Pacific Yearly Meeting has not budgeted sufficient allocations. Nominating Committee has felt unable to offer nominations for these positions. The Presiding Clerk told us that the Finance Committee's report today would inform us of the costs we would incur if these positions were all fully funded. The Clerk thanked Nominating Committee for making us aware of this aspect of our commitment to integrity.

Naming Committee

In response to the Presiding Clerk's request, Jim Anderson expressed his willingness to continue to serve on the Naming Committee. The Clerk will try to contact the other two members of the Naming Committee today and advise us later on their willingness to continue to serve. Friends in attendance were asked to consider their own willingness, and whom they might recommend for this service.

The Clerk summarized concerns voiced by several Friends with the remark that many of our committees are in trouble. We will return to this issue later.

Ministry and Counsel Committee – Laura Magnani, Clerk

Laura Magnani, Clerk of Ministry and Counsel Committee, distributed the Committee's report [See Attachment 2] and explained that the former Ministry and Oversight Committee has adopted its new name in response to the ministry of Vanessa Julye (of Friends General Conference) on race in the Society of Friends. The term "oversight" has connotations from the American heritage of slavery that "counsel" does not.

Ministry and Counsel Committee reported on its work and recommendations for a new position for a Youth Coordinator, on *community agreements* for our annual gatherings, and on two new subcommittees it has established under its care: *Subcommittee on Ministry and Leadings* and *Subcommittee on the Future of the Yearly Meeting*. Ministry and Counsel Committee is exploring ways of reducing our ecological footprint while maintaining or enhancing the effectiveness of our work together.

Youth Coordinator. The Ministry and Counsel Committee has joined with Junior Yearly Meeting and Young Friends in support of a proposal to hire a Youth Coordinator for Pacific Yearly Meeting. Their report includes a statement of background, rationale and objectives, and financial implications of this proposal, with a job description and recommendations for a hiring process designed to have a person active in this position by April, 2008. The cost of the position is expected to be approximately \$50,000 per year.

Our wide-ranging discussion explored aspects of the proposal and accompanying job description, [See Attachment 3] as well as more general issues and varied ideas for enrichment of our programs for youth. Suggestions were offered for alternative ways to structure the position (such as a shared position for two staff), for revised goals and responsibilities, and for emphasis at the local and regional levels. We were urged to give high priority to fostering youth development and youth involvement in Pacific Yearly Meeting, with year-round activities and integration of youth from College Park and Southern California quarterly meetings. Friends affirmed our commitment to the young people of our Yearly Meeting. We were reminded that this proposal comes to us within a context of many challenges to Pacific Yearly Meeting that involve human and financial resources, some of which are consequences of changing demographics and lifestyle trends.

The Clerk voiced his dilemma: although aware of a sense of urgency to move forward, he was also aware that many who should be heard before this decision of great magnitude is made are neither present nor represented here. Friends acknowledged the wisdom of respecting the limits of Representative Committee's authority regarding policy initiatives, but spoke to the need to provide additional support for Pacific Yearly Meeting's youth without delay. We approved the following minutes:

- RepCom 2008-1:** Representative Committee recognizes the importance of supporting our youth and recommends that Pacific Yearly Meeting move forward on funding a Youth Coordinator position, but we also acknowledge the need for deep discussion of Ministry and Counsel's proposal. We ask monthly meetings, quarterly meetings, and Yearly Meeting to season this discussion and bring their thoughts to both Ministry and Counsel and Pacific Yearly Meeting at our next annual session.
- RepCom 2008-2:** Representative Committee asks Finance Committee to allocate \$5,000 for youth support for this Pacific Yearly Meeting annual gathering, to use as way opens in consultation with Junior Yearly Meeting, Young Friends, and Ministry and Counsel.
- RepCom 2008-3:** Representative Committee approved the interim service of Sandy Farley as recording clerk in the absence of Claire Gorfinkle.

The second item brought by Ministry and Counsel Committee was the matter of our *community agreements*, which will be considered at our annual gathering. We need to hold this issue over until Tuesday at the annual gathering, when we will have a special discernment session. Joe Franko particularly invited Junior Yearly Meeting participation in these deep discussions, and middle school members were invited also to participate.

Treasurer's Report.—Gary Wolff

Gary Wolff, Treasurer, circulated a travel reimbursement request sheet. He presented the final financial report from 2007. Our income was up slightly and our expenses were down, so some funds were transferred to reserves. In the sessions expense, the Yearly Meeting made a little money last year – about as much as we lost the year before, so the two years at Redlands were “pretty much a wash.” [See Attachment 4]

A concern was raised that unspent committee funds may represent committee work not done that should have been done. Another Friend suggested that our session attendance was down because we have not done a good enough job of “selling” the benefit of attendance at Yearly Meeting sessions.

RepCom 2008-4: Representative Committee accepted the Treasurer's report.

Site Committee -- Liz Baker, Co-Clerk

Liz Baker, Co-Clerk of the Site Committee, reported that there have been a lot of improvements at Walker Creek since 1993. The dining room is expanded. We reduced our fees by agreeing to bring our own bedding. Our annual gathering will take place July 28—Aug 2, 2008.

Finance Committee: David Barrows, Clerk

David Barrows, Clerk, laid out the requests that Finance Committee had received. [See **Attachment 4**] Friends House Moscow requested that money previously allocated for Julie Harlow to attend the board meeting be used for her attendance at the Executive Committee because she was unable to attend the annual meeting of the Board. Discussion ensued. Is this an individual concern which should be funded as a ministry and leading? What is East West Committee's responsibility here? It is not time to lay this down.

Delegate funding in general remains an unresolved issue. Full funding would require an increase in Yearly Meeting assessments. We noted that representative travel is a financial as well as an environmental issue. There are two means tests, financial as well as available time, for our representatives. Has the use of new technology changed how we do business as Friends? How much do we need "face time?" Ministry and Counsel is looking at the benefits of alternative communications systems. The Electronic Sub-Committee of Ministry and Counsel will be surveying monthly meetings to learn how technology is being used now in the conduct of Friends business and activities. Finance Committee can fund the Youth Coordinator through reserves for the first year. The Children's Program Coordinator will be included in the session expenses.

Naming Committee

RepCom 2008-5: Representative Committee approved Liz Baker, Trudy Friedel, and Jim Anderson to serve on the Naming Committee. The Presiding Clerk will ask Sally Davis to serve as an alternate. Jim Anderson will convene the first session, and the committee will select its clerk.

Finance Committee (continuing): David Barrows, Clerk

The following budgetary augmentation requests were brought to us from the Finance Committee and approved.

RepCom 2008-6: Representative Committee approved the following budget augmentations:

- \$3,500 for Friends Bulletin/Western Friend Editor transition costs
- \$933 for Unity with Nature Committee for Ruah Swennerfelt to attend address PYM
- \$5,000 for Youth Coordinator position
- \$2,700 for Children's program coordinator at PYM [actually in the sessions budget]
- Use of money allocated for FHM board meeting travel, to be used for executive committee this year.

RepCom 2008-7: Representative Committee approved fully funding all representatives, delegates, and liaisons to other organizations. We also need to evaluate whether we need the number of representatives to which we are entitled, how our delegates report to the plenary, etc. The Future of Yearly Meeting subcommittee will review these representative functions and the number of delegates. Ministry and Counsel will report back to the annual gathering of 2008.

David Barrows reported on our sessions budget. We are anticipating a larger attendance this year. We considered hiring The Conference Managers to be our registrars. They come highly recommended from Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC). They are bonded. Their fee is about \$18.50 per registration [with a minimum of 350 attenders], plus their travel and stay. The total cost is expected to be about \$12,500.

RepCom 2008-8: Representative Committee approved using a professional registration service, The Conference Managers, for our 2008 annual gathering.

RepCom 2008-9: Representative Committee approved the 2008 Pacific Yearly Meeting sessions budget of \$140,450.

Kim Lacey presented the proposed registration fee structure for this summer's session: Adult costs will be \$30.00 per day for a commuter plus \$33.80/day for all meals; \$66.00 per day for a camper with all meals; \$86.00 per day for a person in a dorm room [bringing linens]; \$113.00 for a person in a semi-private room with linens provided. Scholarships are available from Yearly Meeting and from monthly meetings. We need to encourage people to apply and make the procedure easy. One Friend expressed a desire that we keep costs down so people don't have to ask for scholarships. If you can't afford it, it's hard to ask; it's a class issue. We need to explore the possibility of camping with only the dinner meal. Our Christian tradition is to offer hospitality to all. Jesus didn't have a registration at Bethlehem, but he didn't get great accommodations either.

RepCom 2008-10: Representative Committee approved the 2008 Pacific Yearly Meeting fee structure as set out by the Site Committee, recognizing that there may be changes.

Secretariat – Don Bean, Clerk

Don Bean, Clerk of the Secretariat Committee, reported that minutes and attachments from the 2007 annual gathering are available on the Pacific Yearly Meeting web site <http://pacificyearlymeeting.org> and (in limited numbers) in hard copy here.

Nominating Committee

Stratton Jaquette, Clerk of the Nominating Committee, requested approval of the nominees who were brought to us this morning:

RepCom 2008-11: The Representative Committee approved these nominees:

- **Registrar (2009):** Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2008)
- **Discipline Committee (2009):** Jorge Martinez, Mexico City (2008)
- **Unity with Nature Committee (2010):** Stephanie Freeman, La Jolla (2008)

The Nominating Committee proposed Dirk Neyhart (Berkeley) for a term on the Unity with Nature Committee through 2010. This nomination will come before us later for approval.

Children's Program Committee – Elizabeth Bills, Co-Clerk

The report of the Children's Program Committee was presented by Elizabeth Bills, Co-Clerk. [See Attachment 5] Heather Levien (Berkeley) has been engaged to serve as Program Coordinator for the 2008 annual gathering, at a proposed cost of \$2,550 plus Pacific Yearly Meeting expenses. Heather will begin recruiting and hiring teachers promptly. The committee is currently defining the role of volunteers in the Children's Program and is considering the desirability of limiting the number of volunteers present in the children's classes.

Discipline Committee, Brian Vura-Weis, Clerk

Brian Vura-Weis, Clerk of the Discipline Committee, reminded us that *Faith and Practice* has been published in a Spanish-language edition as *Fe y Práctica*, and summarized the responsibilities of the Discipline Committee in the period between revisions of our book of discipline. Currently, our Unity with Nature Committee is considering how a *harmony with earth* testimony might be integrated into a future edition of *Faith and Practice*.

Our Presiding Clerk placed before us his personal concern that thousands of copies of *Faith and Practice* are still in storage at the American Friends Service Committee office in Pasadena, advising us that he will ask the Finance Committee to consider reducing the price in order to encourage monthly meetings and individuals to purchase and become familiar with our book of discipline.

Junior Yearly Meeting Committee

Gabe Martinez, Co-Clerk of Junior Yearly Meeting, and Keenan Lorenzato, Clerk of the Junior Yearly Meeting Ministry and Oversight Committee, shared their thoughts on the proposal to hire a Youth Coordinator, with emphasis on facilitation of networking among Junior Friends that the Coordinator could provide. They described plans Junior Friends have made to clarify guidelines for participation in annual gathering and commitment to those guidelines by Junior Friends. Junior Friends in attendance at Representative Committee and members of the Junior Yearly Meeting Committee introduced themselves.

Unity with Nature Committee – Joe Morris, Clerk

Joe Morris, Clerk, distributed the report of the Unity with Nature Committee. [See Attachment 8] Mindful of the increasing urgency of care for the planet as a spiritual issue, the Committee has met frequently. For the 2008 annual gathering the Committee is making plans that include reporting responses by monthly meetings to the minute on global climate change that was approved at our 2007 annual gathering. Consideration of a *harmony with earth* testimony has nourished the spiritual development of those involved, expanding their perspectives on the mysteries and unifying threads that link all living beings. Joe Morris described walks of witness by Ruah Swennerfelt and Louis Cox and by Rolene Walker, and the Committee's work to promote dialogue on the controversial issue of nuclear energy as one response to global climate change. He alerted us that the Committee is evaluating practical steps Pacific Yearly Meeting can take to become a "greener yearly meeting," conducting our work in more earth-friendly ways and purchasing carbon offsets to help neutralize greenhouse gas emissions that result from our annual gatherings.

Preliminary Yearly Meeting Gathering Agenda Review – Joe Franko, Presiding Clerk

Joe Franko, Presiding Clerk, distributed the preliminary agenda and schedule for our 2008 annual gathering [See Attachment 9] commented on some features of these plans, and invited Friends' reactions and suggestions. We heard concern about the limited time the schedule provides for interest groups, and a recommendation that additional interest groups might take place in time that is now allocated for games. A Friend suggested that additional programs be offered at the same time as we have meetings for worship and plenary sessions. We were asked to be sensitive to the need for worship sharing opportunities for Friends who serve as teachers in the children's program, which coincides with morning worship sharing sessions, and we heard that afternoon worship sharing options will be planned. One Friend asked that we seek ways to open more opportunities for Friends to engage in personal dialogue, as we do in worship sharing, and as we cannot do in more structured sessions (such as plenaries devoted to business). We heard enthusiasm about plans for games and other activities that can bring us together in direct, intimate ways that help us build community. A Friend suggested that the proposed *open time for community* on Tuesday evening could include ad hoc gatherings of small groups around common interests developing out of the afternoon intergenerational plenary, as one way of meeting the needs Friends have expressed for additional interest group time. Another Friend expressed deep appreciation for this schedule, with its many opportunities for spiritual growth together through Bible study, worship, worship sharing, and the plenary sessions in which our worship is applied actively to the conduct of our business. We were reminded that through service in our programs for children and youth there are many opportunities to offer interest groups that involve younger Friends. A request was made for ways that adult Friends can be made aware of the rapidly emerging plans Junior Yearly Meeting makes for activities during our annual gathering, day by day.

Latin American Concerns Committee – Dottie Vura-Weis, Clerk

From Dottie Vura-Weiss, Clerk of the Latin American Concerns Committee, we heard that on May 2, 3, and 4, 2008, the Second Meeting of Unprogrammed Friends in Latin America will be held in Mexico City at the Casa de los Amigos, entirely in Spanish. The El Salvador Projects Committee of Palo Alto Meeting is offering three one-week trips for teenagers this summer, with some opportunities for participation by adults. Representative Committee attenders were encouraged to take descriptive materials on these events to their monthly meetings. From Jean Lester, we learned that the Mexico City Subcommittee of Ministry and Counsel Committee is again active.

Nominating Committee

RepCom 2008-12: The Rep Com approved the nomination of Dirk Neyhart (Berkeley) for a term on the Unity with Nature Committee through 2010.

Friends General Conference Affiliation – Gail Eastwood, Co-Clerk, Religious Education for Children Committee

Gail Eastwood, Clerk, brought us a proposal from the Religious Education for Children Committee for affiliation with Friends General Conference (FGC). Gail distributed a report with a minute and a statement of background for this proposal [See Attachment 5]. Sandy Farley read a report from our representative to FGC, Tom Farley, who is in Florida this weekend attending a meeting of the FGC Youth Ministry Committee [See Attachment 7]. We learned that western Friends are increasingly active in FGC (Davis and Sacramento are among the nine monthly meetings that are affiliated with FGC, along with 14 yearly meetings.)

The Presiding Clerk advised us that tonight we are continuing the dialogue on this issue, not making a decision.

One Friend was apprehensive that to affiliate with FGC would designate Pacific Yearly Meeting a “liberal” yearly meeting, making Friends with a conservative religious orientation less comfortable in Pacific Yearly Meeting. Another who has attended FGC described encountering there Friends from all parts of the spectrum of Quaker religious perspectives. We heard diverse viewpoints on the effects that affiliation with FGC could have for our sense of who we are as Friends, and for how we would be perceived by others. It was suggested that we use the structures and services of FGC but also of Friends United Meeting (FUM), and that our dialogue should consider how we might best relate to both organizations. For one Friend, although positive engagement with FUM remains desirable, affiliation with FUM is unacceptable because FUM has set itself apart from LGBTQ Friends. Another asked for specific, clear information on the implications of affiliation with FGC – financially and otherwise. Our Presiding Clerk told us that two Pacific Yearly Meeting Friends met with FGC three years ago to obtain that information, so we know that affiliation would imply representation by Pacific Yearly Meeting on the FGC Board, service by Pacific Yearly Meeting Friends on FGC committees, and financial support by Pacific Yearly Meeting for FGC.

Hearing both christocentric and universalist Friends in Pacific Yearly Meeting say that they don’t feel heard, one Friend told us, convinces him that we need to discover who we are together, and he fears that affiliation with FGC might dilute that dialogue. A Friend with extensive experience with FGC spoke with feeling of having met there Friends from all parts of her large Quaker family, including those from monthly meetings that are affiliated with both FGC and FUM. To her, affiliation is immaterial; what matters is opening to the Spirit as we are led. Within FGC, young Friends communicate within a national and international context that we, as Pacific Yearly Meeting, cannot provide, and they do so in a Biblically literate manner. A Friend who thinks our engagement with FGC will lead inevitably to affiliation worried that this connection to a larger unit may cost us our uniqueness as a yearly meeting that includes Friends with quite diverse and nontraditional religious views. From a Friend who feels at home in FGC but has attended only one FGC gathering, we heard urging that if Pacific Yearly Meeting does affiliate with FGC the Nominating Committee should “means test” nominations for representatives, to make attendance possible for people who could not afford to attend at their own expense.

The Presiding Clerk asked the Ministry and Counsel Committee to take the proposal to affiliate with FGC under consideration.

Our session concluded with several announcements, and with the Presiding Clerk's expression of gratitude to Visalia Friends for hosting the 2008 sessions of the Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee.

Faithfully submitted,

Jamie, Recording Clerk

Sandy Farley, Substitute Recording Clerk

Joe Franko, Presiding Clerk

NOTES: These minutes were approved during the Representative Committee sessions.

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PYM Nominating Committee Report to Representative Committee, Third Month 2008

Recommendations for Current Year Positions

When we left summer sessions last year, there were several positions for which Nominating Committee did not have recommendations. Subsequently additional vacancies developed when Friends found themselves unable to serve in positions to which they had been appointed. Nominating Committee has recommendations to fill some of these officer and committee positions and hopes Representative Committee will approve these recommendations.

Note: By Winter, PYM had no Registrar. Therefore Nominating Committee and the Presiding Clerk appointed Kim Lacey (Central Coast) to serve through 2008 according to good order as practiced in PYM. Nominating Committee is unable to bring a recommendation for clerk for the Site Committee but can report that Liz Baker (Berkeley) is acting as convener of the Site Committee for the balance of this year.

Registrar: 2009 **Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2008)**
Discipline Committee: 2009 **Jorge Martinez, Mexico (2008)**
Unity with Nature Committee: 2010 **Stephanie Freeman, La Jolla (2008)**
2010 **Dirk Neyhart, Berkeley (2008)**

Recommendations for Service Beginning August 2008

Nominating Committee hopes it can complete its work by the first day of PYM sessions 2008.

Appointment of PYM Representatives to Friends' Organizations

Since 2004 there has been an explicit concern about inadequate funding for the costs of some of PYM's representatives or delegates to outside Quaker organizations and activities. Representative Committee minuted its concern in:

RepCom 2005-03 We approved asking our Finance Committee to adopt a policy of providing full and equitable funding, in accordance with our spiritual practice, for liaisons and delegates. We ask our clerk to appoint an *ad hoc* committee to develop guidelines for the implementation of this policy, in light of financial, social, and ecological considerations.

The *ad hoc* committee was formed but did not return recommendations, and PYM has not been able to address the substance of the original concern, articulated by Finance Committee in 2004 sessions.

When PYM budget does not cover the costs of a Friend's service as a PYM delegate or representative, Nominating Committee is implicitly forced to use "means testing" in preparing the proposed slate of representatives. The only alternative is to be deceitful by not telling the nominees that they may be appointed, but they cannot actually serve, since there are not adequate funds to pay their travel costs. This conflicts with what we see as good order in selecting PYM representatives. Since Nominating Committee is not the appropriate PYM body to determine the value of our representatives to other organizations – this value to the individual being both to the individual who serves as a PYM representative by being enriched in the Spirit through the service and to the Yearly Meeting and his/her Monthly Meeting by expanding our view of these Quaker organizations and the Quakers in them, met and appreciated by dint of their service. The value to the Friends' Organization is also usually unclear, in part because those representatives seldom are given plenary time to share their experience and explain the value of the service. In fact, it would seem that neither Nominating nor Finance are the proper committees to determine these values, from whence one might judge whether PYM should reduce (or increase) the number of representatives, and if not to reduce, how to raise the funds to pay their ways. To go beyond the spiritual and financial evaluation into the environmental impacts is certainly beyond the scope of either committee. The *ad hoc* committee formed in 2005 to consider all aspects of benefits and costs, imputed as well as explicit, was unable to complete its charge. Thus PYM has yet to resolve the budgetary impasse. This has left Nominating Committee with its own quandary.

Last year Nominating Committee could not put forward more nominees for representative/ delegate service than the budget seemed to support because of stops of members of the committee. Those stops remain. Here we report an extract and minute from Nominating Committee's most recent meeting.

We spent time prayerfully considering a stop we have had bringing a full slate of representatives/delegates when those serving cannot be fully reimbursed for their bare essential costs of service. We worked on a minute to bring to Representative Committee indicating our unwillingness to bring forward nominations to serve as PYM's representatives to other Friends' Organizations when these positions have not been funded within our budget.

Nominating Committee is unwilling to bring forward representative nominations for which travel costs are not budgeted.

Stratton C. Jaquette
clerk, PYM Nominating Committee

PYM Ministry and Counsel Report to Representative Committee Third month, 2008

Ministry and Counsel, formerly called Ministry and Oversight, met twice since PYM. One of our members asked that we consider changing the name of our committee so as not to use language that has been associated with chattel slavery and is hurtful to some people, especially people of African descent. The Yearly Meeting has had the gift of Vanessa Julye's ministry, from Friends General Conference, for the last two years, and several Meetings have invited her to work with them on issues around race in the Society of Friends. (Vanessa will join us for a third year this summer). It seemed an appropriate time for us to change our name and we chose "Ministry and Counsel" as our new committee name. Although the word "oversight" has had a positive meaning of "caring for the meeting" among Friends, we felt that "counsel" conveyed more of a sense of partnership and less a sense of power over.

Youth Coordinator:

For several years M&C has been considering whether we are ready to recommend hiring a youth coordinator to serve the yearly meeting. We asked JYM and Young Friends to consider this possibility at PYM 2007 and both came back with positive encouragement. The intention is to invest resources in supporting our youth in a much more consistent way - helping them to come together, helping the larger Quaker community to understand its youth and incorporate them into the life of the Yearly Meeting. We also see a need to develop safe practices, and to carry them out consistently from year to year. (At the present time we are relying on dedicated committee volunteers to provide continuity and it isn't working). In the years when we have held youth-led plenaries, our community has been enriched. We are seeking better ways to become an intergenerational body that allows youth to flourish in their own setting, but also opens the doors to cross-generational learning and growing. We are ready, therefore, to ask Representative Committee to approve establishing a 4/5 time staff position for a youth coordinator to serve the entire yearly meeting. A job description has been prepared, and is attached, which has three primary elements: 1.) The person would convene four gatherings of youth between 12 and 18 during the year, two in the North and two in the South, for service projects, teaching and learning, and fun. 2.) The person would coordinate a week-long emersion program, similar to the Koinonia Project or the Shalom Project, for the week prior to yearly meeting. 3.) Finally the person would serve as a liaison between yearly meeting and quarterly meeting youth and their respective committees - serving as a resource person for those gatherings, but not responsible for the actual program at either of them.

We anticipate that the cost of this proposal would be approximately \$50,000 a year and have been consulting with the Finance Committee. Funds could come from increased assessments as well as from special contributions. Our hope is to begin the hiring process soon, if Representative Committee reaches unity on this proposal, so a person could be in place by the end of April. Our expectation is that the hiring committee would consist of the clerk of PYM, the clerk of M&C, the adult clerk of JYM committee, and representatives from JYM and Young Friends. M&C has developed a supervision structure and is exploring the possibility of having the person paid through one of our existing Quaker organizations, so that taxes and benefits will be taken care of. However if such an entity is found, it would not have responsibility for supervision.

Community Agreements:

M&C has been considering reinstating the policy of having all friends sign a statement on their registration form agreeing not to use drugs or alcohol during yearly meeting, or engage in sex outside of committed relationships. We believe that the statement should say that violating the agreement could result in someone being sent home. As this idea circulated among Friends over the months between our two meetings, it clearly generated strong reactions. Although we are less inclined, at this point, to insist that people sign a statement, we are clear that being a part of a community brings with it expectations and responsibilities, and that stating these is necessary for everyone's well being. We are also deeply concerned about the amount of time many Friends spent at last yearly meeting, dealing with the three people who violated the agreements that had been worked out with junior Friends. Three members of M&C spent countless hours involved in this process, as did many others, and they were not available for other service the committee needed. We have been very pleased, on the other hand, with the work that four monthly meetings have done since yearly meeting, meeting with the people involved and discussing their relationships with the community and their own life style choices. It has been a rich experience for all involved.

M&C would like Representative Committee to discuss the registration process and we would also like to report that we will devote our plenary session at PYM this year to an intergenerational discussion, and deep searching, about what it means to be a faith community and how to come together in integrity. The schedule is being developed to allow a full afternoon on Tuesday for this work.

New Subcommittees

M&C has established two new subcommittees under its care, a **Subcommittee on Ministry and Leadings** and a **Subcommittee on the Future of the Yearly Meeting**. Ministry and Leadings is developing ideas for structures and procedures to help Monthly Meetings engage in discernment around individual members' leadings and ways those leadings could be recognized at various levels of our organization. They have been looking at specific issues presented by different people's ministry, interviewing others, and will come back to us with recommendations when they are ready. Friends are reminded that *Faith and Practice* already describes the use of minutes of introduction and travel minutes and Meetings are encouraged to appropriate these as needed.

The Future of the Yearly Meeting subcommittee has been following up on our Year of Discernment by looking at how our gatherings are held, and whether they are "rightly held." We are exploring the committee structure, and whether it is serving our needs, our ecological foot print and creative ways to shrink it, and generally asking the question "What is the work of the Yearly Meeting?" One place we would like to start is by recommending that fees for our annual sessions include a contribution toward public transit or ride sharing choices. If these options were subsidized, our hope is that more of us will take advantage of them.

Laura Magnani, clerk
PYM Ministry and Counsel

PYM Youth Coordinator – Job Description

The PYM Youth Coordinator is responsible for arranging gatherings for PYM youth between PYM sessions, for organizing a week-long PYM pre-session gathering, and working with the JYM committee to plan and support the PYM session. It is a three quarter time position to serve the Yearly Meeting, providing organizational leadership for youth in the yearly meeting between the ages (approximately) of 12 and 18.

Skills Required:

A deep understanding and appreciation for teenagers and demonstrated experience working with them.

A deep grounding and experience of Quaker beliefs and practices.

Knowledge of and experience with Quaker business processes.

Demonstrated spiritual life.

Knowledge of Quaker discernment processes.

Familiarity with issues of contemporary Quakerism.

Ability to travel and work irregular hours.

Experience as a self starter, and event planner.

Strong organizational skills.

Successful experience with teaching/learning with teenagers and with curriculum development.

Skills Preferred:

Knowledge of Quaker history, social justice theology, progressive Christian theology.

Knowledge of faith based movements (e.g. sanctuary movement, Christian Peacemakers, Sojourners, Catholic Worker)

Knowledge of and experience with non-violence practices.

The job entails four basic components:

1. Arranging, publicizing, and supporting gatherings between PYM sessions for youth 2 times a year, in both Northern and Southern California. These would be envisioned as weekend adventures in service, learning, and fun. The coordinator organizes logistics for the event, recruits, screens applications, helps to design the program, recruits Friendly Adult Presences, including training and screening of the FAPs.
2. Participation at SCQM and College Park Quarterly Meetings, including sharing responsibility for the youth programs there.
3. Facilitating a pre-Yearly Meeting immersion program for youth on their way to PYM similar to the Shalom and Koinonia projects held recently for our youth. This would be done with the help of a group of seasoned friends, and could include hands on exposure to vital issues of concern to Friends (e.g. in the inner city, care of the earth, what it means to be a Quaker), worship and worship sharing, talks by valued Friends, as well as fun and games
4. Working with the JYM Committee to plan and support the JYM program for PYM including coordination with the clerk of the yearly meeting and relevant committees, identifying FAPs for the week, and working on guidelines and expectations with JYM leadership. Coordinating activities with the children's program and Young Friends.

**PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

REPORT TO REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE, MARCH 1, 2008

- The board for Friends Bulletin has requested a one-time budget augmentation for expenses in connection the transition to a new editor. Funds were also requested and received from Intermountain and North Pacific Yearly Meetings. Finance Committee recommends budget augmentation in the amount of \$3500 [account 5271].
- Unity with Nature committee has requested that its budget [5235] be augmented by \$933 to pay travel and PYM expenses for Ruah Swennerfelt to address PYM. Finance committee recommends approval.
- The East West-West Relations committee requests that the expense budgeted for delegate travel to Friends House Moscow [5282] be used for travel to executive committee meeting rather than travel to board meeting. Finance Committee would like clarification of the purpose of funding for PYM delegates.
- The report of Finance Committee to PYM in August 2004 raised the issue PYM funding for delegates and representatives to other Quaker organizations. Travel for some delegates and representatives is fully funded; travel for others is not. Finance Committee at that time recommended that PYM consider changing its policies to fully fund our delegates and representative.

At that time Finance Committee presented three options:

Plan A would continue present policies.

Plan B would fully fund travel for all delegates and representatives. This would have increased total PYM budget in excess of \$10,000 and increased meeting assessment from \$36 to \$43 per member.

Plan C would have reduced the number of delegates to those fully funded. This would not have impacted total budget or meeting assessment.

For the current year, if delegates and representatives had been fully funded expenses would have increased by \$12,550 and assessments would have been increased by \$8 per member (\$40 instead of \$32).

Finance Committee requests instructions as we prepare the budget for the coming year.

Issue: some Friend do not request reimbursement of expenses. Friends could donate expenses not reimbursed to PYM. Thus our budget would reflect actual expenses.

- Finance Committee discussed the financial impact of the proposed YOUTH COORDINATOR. The cost of \$50,000 would nearly double the annual budget. The FY 08 budget would increase from \$63,175 to \$113,175; assessments would increase by about \$33 from \$32 to \$65.

Finance committee has not discussed allocating \$5000 for youth planning, but we have adequate reserves for this should we so instructed by Rep Com.

- Children's program requested \$2,700 for a CHILDREN'S PROGRAM COORDINATOR, to be paid as a contractor or consultant. Funding for this position is included in the budget for the annual meeting.
- Finance committee presents the budget for annual meeting, 2008.

PYM Session Overview

	2006-2007	2006-2007	2007-2008
pym session revenue	budget	actual	budget
6110 miscellaneous contributions	\$0	\$1,147.15	\$0
6111 fees from attendees	\$105,660	\$78,890.93	\$132,400
6112 fees from session expenses		\$7,240.00	
6113 fees from PYM general funds		\$5,111.50	\$8,000
6114 interest of PYM session accts.	\$40	\$14.31	\$50
6115 transfer from (to) reserves	\$0	-\$8,050.69	
total PYM session revenue	\$105,700	\$84,352.20	\$140,450
 PYM SESSION EXPENSES			
6220 registrar's expenses	\$500	\$83.33	\$12,500
6221 secretaria's expenses	\$1,000	\$948.08	\$1,000
6222 arrangement clerk expenses	\$800	\$1,027.01	\$1,500
6223 children's program	\$6,400	\$5,735.55	\$8,500
6224 cost of facilities	\$89,400	\$70,031.69	\$110,000
6225 junior yearly meeting	\$4,000	\$3,292.65	\$4,000
6226 young friends	\$200	\$80.00	\$200
6227 breakage and equipment	\$200	\$0.00	\$200
6228 PYM clerk's invited guests	\$500	\$0.00	\$500
6229 insurance	\$2,000	\$2,120.19	\$500
6230 support professions	\$700	\$1,000.00	\$1,500
6232 bank fees	\$0	\$33.70	\$50
total session expenses	\$105,700	\$84,352.20	\$140,450

PYM Religious Education for Children Committee Report to PYM Representative Committee, March 1, 2008

Affiliation With FGC

The PYM Religious Education for Children Committee brings to Representative Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting the following minute on affiliation with Friends General Conference:

Recognizing the close connection that Pacific Yearly Meeting sustains with Friends General Conference in matters of faith and practice, and acknowledging the many benefits we as meetings and individuals already receive from them, it is in good order for us as a yearly meeting to affiliate with Friends General Conference, increasing the flow of resources and inspiration in both directions

Background:

In our 2004 Report to Pacific Yearly Meeting, this committee recommended affiliation with Friends General Conference, explaining our thinking in this way:

The [PYM RE] committee recommends that PYM join FGC (Friends General Conference), with an eye to increasing religious education resources for the monthly meetings, and in other ways meeting our needs as religious educators. FGC develops and publishes curricula which many of our meetings use, and offers an invaluable mail order book catalog which reviews a wide variety of resources for adults, children, and youth. It maintains religious education support staff. It publishes a regular religious education newsletter, which is sent to the constituent meetings of all member organizations. Besides the annual conference, FGC sponsors religious educator conferences and Youthquake. Joining FGC would acknowledge the benefits we already receive from them, increase our participation in the broader Quaker community, and strengthen both FGC and PYM.

The intervening years have increased our committee's humility about what a small and far-flung committee of volunteers can accomplish in the way of support for raising our meetings' children in our faith. It has also increased our appreciation of what Friends General Conference, with a staff and other year-round infrastructure, has been doing for us. Our monthly meetings depend on FGC: FGC offers vital resources that we do not provide for ourselves.

The intervening years have also increased the connection of members of PYM meetings with the FGC community, especially through participation in the 2006 FGC Gathering in Seattle. While our committee's focus has been on the benefits to our meetings in the area of religious education for children, youth and adults, we recognize also that FGC gatherings and religious educators institutes have enriched our monthly and yearly meeting communities, and that many of us have found in these gatherings fellowship, inspiration, and communion with Spirit.

Support Your Meeting's Religious Educators

What has your meeting done lately to appreciate, inspire and refresh your dedicated religious educators: teachers, committee members and parents? This year offers two unique opportunities for these educators. The committee urges meetings to consider encouraging and supporting people to attend one or both of these events.

1. FGC's 2008 Religious Educators Institute, **Out of the Living Silence, a dynamic conference for religious educators ,parents and other adults** will take place at Bradford Woods, near Indianapolis, Indiana • August 14–17, 2008. FGC offers special support for people from Western meetings to attend. This institute offers a broad variety of workshops of interest to those who work with children, youth and adults, and by report is both stimulating and spiritually refreshing. It comes around only once every four years!

2. Karen Davidson Olson's Quaker Center workshop, **Storytelling as a Way of Spiritual Nurture, Story telling skills for teachers, first-day teachers and others providing spiritual nurture** takes place in Ben Lomond, October 24-26, 2008. See Karen's article "Stories Take Us Deeper" in the PYM RE newsletter #3, posted at <http://pacificyearlymeeting.org>

Subscribe to the PYM Children's Religious Ed Notes The PYM Religious Ed Email Newsletter

This periodic newsletter is emailed to the quarterly meeting email lists, and to all individuals who are on our email list. Back issues are posted at the PYM website, <http://pacificyearlymeeting.org>

Each issue is available both in pdf and Word format, and can be printed on two sides of one sheet of paper for distribution to those in your meeting who cannot easily access them on computer. Please help us to find the people in your meeting who would enjoy receiving this small publication. Subscribe to our list by sending email to eastwood@asis.com

The committee would like to see this newsletter become more of an interactive forum, and we invite people to correspond with us with ideas, concerns and responses.

Children's Religious Ed Notes

An E-letter from the Pacific Yearly Meeting Religious Education for Children Committee

#4: Autumn 2007: Lesson From a Book and Other FGC Resources

*Editor's note: As a child, my central spiritual teachers were the authors of children's books, people like Frances Hodgson Burnett, author of *The Secret Garden*, who confirmed and strengthened in me a sense of the Magic and mystery of all things. When my children came along I rediscovered and shared with them my old favorites, and discovered with them many treasures that had come along in the intervening years. The joys of reading aloud drew in my husband as well—many wise children's books have as much to offer the grown-up reader as they do the child! I was delighted to discover FGC's new "Lesson From a Book" format, which makes it easy for almost any of us to share a beloved book with meeting children—and with each other!*

Gail Eastwood, newsletter editor and PYM CRE co-clerk

Lesson From a Book

For years, many Pacific Yearly Meeting religious education committees have turned to Friends General Conference (FGC) for resources to make children's programs work in our typical situation of small numbers of children of various ages attending meeting irregularly. The latest concept and soon to grow resource from FGC is their "Lesson From a Book" lesson plan concept. This concept encourages us all to share our successful experiences sharing book stories with our meeting children. People from all meetings are invited to submit lesson plans based on children's books. After being vetted by the FGC Religious Ed Committee and FGC staff, lesson plans will be posted online.

The suggested form for the lesson plan developed by FGC includes a short synopsis of the story, the relationship of the book to Friends' testimonies, an opening, a suggestion of how to present the book, some discussion or "I wonder" questions, 2-3 possible activities, a song if possible, and a closing. To check out the format and a couple of sample ready-to-go "Lessons From a Book," go to the Autumn 2006 edition of the FGC religious education newsletter, *Resource*, online at <http://www.fgcquaker.org/library/teachingresources/> It looks like a great way for people in a meeting to share their favorites in the wonderful world of children's literature.

This edition of the FGC newsletter also includes an article with thoughts about choosing stories for First Day School, as well as an article with an intergenerational project for meetings: *"Helping our children to grow up to be committed, passionate Quakers requires finding concrete ways for intergenerational faith-sharing to occur. Creating a "Gifts of Faith" booklet is one way to encourage this sharing. This idea was originally suggested by Ellen McCambley, of Wellesley Meeting. She and her brothers and sisters were gathering prayers and words of spiritual support that had upheld them to give as a gift to all of the children in their family. They were creating a booklet of these treasured words. A First Day School can prepare a Gifts of Faith booklet as a meeting-wide project..."* See the online FGC newsletter for more.

What is Friends General Conference?

FGC is an association of fourteen yearly meetings and regional groups and nine directly affiliated monthly meetings (including two Pacific Yearly Meeting monthly meetings) that serves Quakers year-round with a vast array of programs and services. Of special interest to

religious educators, FGC, in addition to their well-known annual gathering also offers conferences for religious educators, gatherings for youth and an outstanding online bookstore. Their religious education committee has representation from many yearly meetings, and develops curricula and resources for Quakers of all ages. These curricula have been widely appreciated and used in our monthly meetings. Check out their website to get a fuller understanding of their programs and services www.fgcquaker.org

Quiz: Which two Pacific Yearly Meeting monthly meetings are affiliated with FGC? (answer at bottom of newsletter)

Some Storybook Favorites

Susan Hopkins of Grass Valley Meeting, a present member of the PYM Religious Ed for Children Committee, and a corresponding member of the FGC Religious Ed Committee has a lifelong interest in teaching values to young children: teaching peace, teaching equality, teaching community. She has a delightful collection of hundreds of children’s books. Here are three of her favorites:

- *Sam Johnson and the Blue Ribbon Quilt*, by Lisa Campbell Ernst. Sam was determined to be a quilter and a good one too! He and some other men made a quilt and took it to the county fair. What happened next brought the men and the women quilters all together in a most surprising way!
- *Night Boat to Freedom*, by Margot Theis Raven. This beautifully written story of a young slave boy helping others escape to freedom is rich and deep in its descriptions of the fear of escaping and of the love of family. Granny Judith says, "What scares the head is best done with the heart."
- *Enemy Pie*, by Derek Munson. In this funny, yet endearing story, one little boy learns an effective recipe for turning a best enemy into a best friend

Two Truths and a Lie: an Icebreaker Activity for All Ages

This game can be played with teams, or with each person playing alone against a group. Each person develops three statements about themselves, two of them true and one false. The others (or the other team) guesses which is the false one. How much do the children of your meeting know about the adults? How much do the adults know about the children? A great way to learn a little more about each other, and one that can offer some hilarious and surprising moments!

For more story resource ideas, browse the storybook shelves at your local library, or go to <http://www.quakerbooks.org> Look at the adult books as well as the children’s books; so many of the stories we need to share and sink deeper into are the same stories for people of all ages.

Quiz answer: Davis and Sacramento meetings are FGC affiliates.

Looking for resources? Have a concern you’d like to discuss? Have ideas or experiences you’d like to share? Want to subscribe? Email the newsletter editor, eastwood@sohum.com

The PYM Religious Education for Children Committee will respond to your concerns. Find past editions of this newsletter at <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org>

Representative to Friends General Conference Central Committee 10/25-28/07

The annual meeting of the Central Committee [CC] brings together almost 200 Friends for four days each fall at a conference center in rural Maryland. Most participants are meeting representatives, co-opted committee members, or staff. FGC is made up of fourteen YMs with about 33,000 members and nine additional MMs including Davis and Sacramento. At the roll call of meetings, six other members of Pacific YM meetings introduced themselves [the Sacramento Meeting rep, four co-opted, and one staff.]

The schedule includes worship, business sessions, committees, and community time. In addition to hearing reports from committees, programs, and staff, CC approves the budget and nominations. Participants learned about the successful first year of a major capital campaign and plans for the next stages, which I expect many Friends will be hearing more of soon.

Our invitation to FGC and its committees and programs to consider holding events in our region was received and recorded with appreciation. The Committee for Ministry on Racism is one of several that have shared their work with our meetings or plan to.

FGC is growing westward. Wyoming Friends Meeting [made up of five worship groups] was accepted into affiliation, and a request for affiliation from InterMountain YM was read. Confirming that affiliation is now in process and may be ready to record next fall. Note that if Pacific YM were to affiliate with FGC, we would be its fifth largest YM and expected to name about five representatives.

Each representative to CC is asked to serve on at least one committee for a three-year term if possible. I am in my second year on the Youth Ministry Committee [YMC] which is meeting in Florida the same weekend as RepCom. YMC is an active committee with wonderful members and staff to work with. Its work includes supporting FAP workshops and YAF conferences. The next YAF conference is in Richmond, Indiana on Memorial Day weekend. I hope JYM and Young Friends will consider getting involved with YMC and its projects.

Also from 8/14 to 8/17/2008 there will be a Religious Educators Institute near Indianapolis, Indiana. These are held about every four years. I hope we might encourage holding one on the West Coast.

The FGC Gathering, always the first week of July, will be in Johnstown PA in 2008 and in Virginia in 2009. The 2008 registration will open on 3/27. About 10% of the workshop leaders are PYM Friends.

See <http://www.fgcquaker.org> for more information on FGC and its committees, programs, and sponsored events.

Tom Farley, PYM rep to FGC CC 2007-9

UNITY WITH NATURE COMMITTEE

Annual Report, RepCom, March 2, 2008

Taking a stroll in Santa Monica a few days ago, I happened upon an old church lit up for Lenten services. The priest began with the words, "We meet here on this holy Earth because there is no other place to go." This holy Earth. . . no other place to go.

This past year, the Unity with Nature (UWN) Committee again engaged in a variety of Earthcare projects with renewed energy. Our committee believes that caring for our planet is a spiritual issue of increasing urgency and that we are responding to an ignited concern among our monthly meetings. Consequently, we have been meeting frequently, holding an all-day retreat in October and conference calls in December, January, and February (with another scheduled later this month), and we have initiated several new endeavors.

The major areas of discussion and action are the following:

1. *Approval and implementation of the climate change minute.* After a year during which climate change minutes were approved by at least 16 monthly meetings, the UWN Committee presented a comprehensive minute at PYM '07, which was approved with no modifications. (*Friends Bulletin* highlighted this minute in its November issue.) A stipulation of the minute asked all monthly meetings to report at PYM '08 their efforts to apply the minute in their localities. Accordingly, in January UWN emailed and/or phoned representatives of the meetings to remind them of this commitment, get their input, and request a one-page report of their activities by June 1st. We plan to present these results at PYM '08 and their implications. We also are planning a panel of members of several especially involved meetings to discuss their activities, entitled "How Meetings Are Healing the Earth."
2. *Initiating work on a Harmony with Earth testimony.* An unexpected and happy addition to the minute approved at PYM was a charge given to UWN to begin work on formulating a Harmony with Nature testimony. This would elevate the concerns about Earthcare beyond a single issue to a foundational commitment, ultimately included in a future edition of *Faith and Practice*. This momentous topic has been discussed in each of our committee meetings this year, as we look for the most useful groundwork to begin this complex process. We have consulted with the Clerk of the Discipline Committee, which would eventually collate and transmit the input to a future Faith and Practice committee.

The more we have pursued this topic, the more complicated and even mysterious it has become! A new testimony involves the most fundamental change to our beliefs. Few people in PYM have ever worked on such a project, extremely rare in the history of the Society of Friends. We commenced by gathering dozens of minutes and segments of other yearly meetings' Faith and Practice, then examined them for common themes or ones most relevant. Presently, each of our members is composing his/her own proto-testimony, which we will later consider in totality.

In this, we have been helped by the Ecoberries, an Earthcare group within Strawberry Creek Meeting, who have agreed to follow the same process as ours. At some point, we hope to have a draft testimony that might go to monthly and quarterly meetings, *not* for their approval, but to act as a springboard for similar discussions of their own. We realize that a meaningful testimony is more than eloquent words to which people assent, but *a leading that has taken root in the lives of our members.*

To seek wider input, we plan an Interest Group at PYM, entitled "Working toward a Testimony of Harmony with Nature and co-facilitated by the Clerks of both the UWN and Discipline Committees. The widest and deepest seasoning, maybe of any issue that has ever come before PYM, will be necessary. We clearly must "proceed as Way opens."

3. *The Peace for Earth Walk.* On November 1st, Ruah Swennerfelt and her husband Louis Cox began a six-month walk from Vancouver to San Diego to awaken Friends meetings to the urgencies and possibilities of Earthcare. As the coordinators of Quaker Earthcare Witness (the national organization for Unity with Nature), they are walking in the spirit of John Woolman in their visitations to meetings. Two-thirds of their trip winds through California, where they will ultimately visit 21 monthly meetings and worship groups in PYM by the end of April.

Thus the assistance of our UWN Committee is essential. We are actively involved in connecting them to meetings and helping to make their many talks more fruitful. The UWN Clerk has met with them personally on two occasions to get a better understanding of their needs. Emails and phone conversation have alerted all meetings on how best to prepare for Ruah and Louis' visit. Under the sponsorship of our committee, Ruah will be addressing the PYM gathering this summer.

4. *Facilitating a dialogue on nuclear power.* At its annual conference last October, Quaker Earthcare Witness approved a minute opposing the use of nuclear energy as a response to climate change. The UWN Committee forwarded this minute to all meetings in PYM. We, however, did not find unity on the committee in supporting it. We did agree that our most useful role might be to help and encourage meetings to openly discuss their own positions, perhaps with a set of queries as guides.

5. *Toward a greener yearly meeting.* Pacific Yearly Meeting has now committed itself to urging action from its monthly meetings on climate change. In accord with the testimony of integrity, how might our own yearly meeting operate without damage to the Earth? How can we develop a practice of respect for the environment in planning our meetings? A number of people both on our committee and elsewhere have voiced a growing concern about this. RepCom is urged to consider an appropriate policy.

As one example, Quaker Earthcare Witness (as well as hundreds of other organizations) purchases carbon offsets -- contributions to companies engaged in activities that neutralize greenhouse gases -- for each of its conferences. This is a small but symbolic step, which sets an example for others. PYM might do this. It might do many other things. It is time, past time, to take some meaningful action.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Morris, Clerk
Unity with Nature Committee

Hours	Mon 7/28	Tue 7/29	Wed 7/30	Thu 7/31	Fri 8/1	Sat 8/2
Early hours			Outdoor Worship (7am) everyday	Open time		
Bible Study 6:30 - 8:00			Room? everyday			
7:30 - 8:30			breakfast			
8:45 - 10:15		Worship	Worship	Worship	Worship	Plenary IX until 10:30
10:30 - 11:45		Worship sharing	Worship sharing	Worship sharing	Worship sharing	Worship 10:45-11:45
12:00 - 1:00			lunch			
1:15 - 3:15	Registration & Committee meetings	To 2:15 Plenary II	Plenary IV	Plenary VI 1:15 - 2:30	Plenary VIII	CLEAN UP! Safe trip home
3:30 - 4:45	Orientation & settling in	2:30 to 4:45 Plenary III M&O JYM, YF, Adults	Plenary V Games JYM, YF, Adults	Plenary VII Meeting for Memorials 2:45-4:45	Interest Groups	
5:00 - 6:00			dinner			
6:45 - 8:15	Plenary I	Open time For Community	Interest Groups	Tabling Fair and All-ages Dance 'til 10	Community night	
8:30	Open time	Open time	Open time	Open time	Open time	

Draft 2/01/08

Approved Minutes

- RepCom 2008-1:** Representative Committee recognizes the importance of supporting our youth and recommends that Pacific Yearly Meeting move forward on funding a Youth Coordinator position, but we also acknowledge the need for deep discussion of Ministry and Counsel's proposal. We ask monthly meetings, quarterly meetings, and Yearly Meeting to season this discussion and bring their thoughts to both Ministry and Counsel and Pacific Yearly Meeting at our next annual session.
- RepCom 2008-2:** Representative Committee asks Finance Committee to allocate \$5,000 for youth support for this Pacific Yearly Meeting annual gathering, to use as way opens in consultation with Junior Yearly Meeting, Young Friends, and Ministry and Counsel.
- RepCom 2008-3:** Representative Committee approved the interim service of Sandy Farley as recording clerk in the absence of Claire Gorfinkle.
- RepCom 2008-4:** Representative Committee accepted the Treasurer's report.
- RepCom 2008-5:** Representative Committee approved Liz Baker, Trudy Friedel, and Jim Anderson to serve on the Naming Committee. The Presiding Clerk will ask Sally Davis to serve as an alternate. Jim Anderson will convene the first session, and the committee will select its clerk.
- RepCom 2008-6:** Representative Committee approved the following budget augmentations:
- \$3,500 for Friends Bulletin/Western Friend Editor transition costs
 - \$933 for Unity with Nature Committee for Ruah Swennerfelt to attend address PYM
 - \$5,000 for Youth Coordinator position
 - \$2,700 for Children's program coordinator at PYM [actually in the sessions budget]
 - Use of money allocated for FHM board meeting travel, to be used for executive committee this year.
- RepCom 2008-7:** Representative Committee approved fully funding all representatives, delegates, and liaisons to other organizations. We also need to evaluate whether we need the number of representatives to which we are entitled, how our delegates report to the plenary, etc. The Future of Yearly Meeting subcommittee will review these representative functions and the number of delegates. Ministry and Counsel will report back to the annual gathering of 2008.

- RepCom 2008-8:** Representative Committee approved using a professional registration service, The Conference Managers, for our 2008 annual gathering.
- RepCom 2008-9:** Representative Committee approved the 2008 Pacific Yearly Meeting sessions budget of \$140,450.
- RepCom 2008-10:** Representative Committee approved the 2008 Pacific Yearly Meeting fee structure as set out by the Site Committee, recognizing that there may be changes.
- RepCom 2008-11:** The Representative Committee approved these nominees:
- **Registrar (2009):** Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2008)
 - **Discipline Committee (2009):** Jorge Martinez, Mexico City (2008)
 - **Unity with Nature Committee (2010):** Stephanie Freeman, La Jolla (2008)
- RepCom 2008-12:** The Rep Com approved the nomination of Dirk Neyhart (Berkeley) for a term on the Unity with Nature Committee through 2010.