

## **Ministry and Oversight Report Representative Committee 2012**

The Ministry and Oversight Committee has met twice since the 2011 Annual Gathering, once in September, 2011, and again in January, 2012. Each of our regular gatherings takes place over a Friday evening and full day on Saturday, and we alternate locations between Southern and Northern California. We will hold our third meeting in Southern California in June, and then will meet daily during the 2012 Annual Gathering. Our membership includes four members from Southern California, four from Northern California, one from Mexico City, and the PYM presiding clerk, ex-officio.

Each of our meetings begins with a period of centering worship before we take up our agenda. At our fall meeting we spent considerable time reviewing the evaluation information from the Annual Gathering, including the written evaluations, the notes from the clerks' evaluation meeting, and the worship-sharing evaluations. We worked on refining the job descriptions of our two new subcommittees (see PYM website job descriptions: Representative Support, and Experimentation and Implementation) and nominated Friends to those subcommittees. We noted that members of our committee would be working with both Quarterly Meetings to have discussions on the future of the Annual Gatherings.

The evaluations showed that many people who attend the Annual Gatherings value the opportunity for fellowship and deepening their understanding of Quakerism by being among a wider group of Friends. Opportunities for learning through interest groups, Bible Study, and Transformative Quakers rank high. Many expressed interest in a keynote speaker. We decided to forward these evaluations and our general findings to the Experimentation and Implementation Subcommittee and to provide PYM's presiding clerk with a list of potential keynote speakers. John Calvi has accepted the clerk's invitation and will speak with us as well as participating in interest groups.

We confirmed our assignments as liaisons to our own subcommittees and to PYM's standing committees. We identified those among us who would work on the Visiting Friend job description and spent time discerning how we might support Mexico City Monthly Meeting and the Friend in Residence program at Casa De Los Amigos. Both of these latter conversations were taken up again at our January Meeting.

Clerks of the Experimentation and Implementation subcommittee, the Representative Support subcommittee, Ministry and Oversight committees of College Park and Southern California Quarterly Meetings, PYM's M&O committee, the Youth Program Coordinator, and the presiding clerk met in mid-January to improve communication between the Quarters and to review the status of the two subcommittees. We responded to the queries below and listened to the needs of our various constituent groups.

- How do Quaker gatherings (ex. Annual Gathering, Yearly Meeting, Quarterly Meeting, committee work) deeply nourish my spirit and what am I hungry for now?
- In what ways do Quaker gatherings drain and deplete me (if they do), and how does that impact my awareness of the Divine working in me and others?

At the January meeting, we heard reports from the Experimentation and Implementation subcommittee, the Representative Support subcommittee, the Racial Justice subcommittee, and the Ministry and Leadings subcommittee. All the subcommittees are active and working towards goals stated in their job descriptions. The Racial Justice

subcommittee is sponsoring a workshop at Ben Lomond Quaker Center, April 20-22, entitled "Partners in Healing: Racial Dynamics Among Friends" (see flyer, attachment 1.) The Representative Support and Experimentation and Implementation subcommittees will make reports to the Representative Committee in March.

Reviewing the report from the Experimentation and Implementation subcommittee, along with our own knowledge of the evaluation comments, we worked with presiding clerk Marilee Eusebio to create a rough draft of the 2012 Annual Gathering Schedule. That work was refined by M&O members, reviewed by the Experimentation and Implementation subcommittee, and reviewed again by M&O (see attachment 2.)

When a final schedule is adopted, we will be working with the registrar to ensure that it goes out with the registration form and that people can sign up ahead for their worship-sharing choices. We will also re-institute practices to help orient newcomers, and will recruit people from our different age groups to lead inter-generational activities. A session is planned for the 2012 Annual Gathering to update Friends on the work of the Experimentation/Implementation subcommittee and to listen to one another's visions and concerns for the future of the Yearly Meeting.

We had heard a concern from Mexico City Monthly Meeting at our fall meeting. Now the Meeting is thriving, with upwards of 20 attenders each week. The number of members is still small, but attenders share the work and some are considering membership.

Ministry and Oversight Committee oversees the Fund for Concerns and has made one grant this fiscal year. (see Faith and Practice, p. 187) This fund is to support leadings of a spiritual nature or for social concerns. We refined the application process for Fund for Concerns, and discussed two potential requests. The Casa De Los Amigos no longer provides free housing for their Friend in Residence program, as their rooms are often needed for their refugee work. We approved up to 3 months per year from the Fund for Concerns, provided the Friend in Residence follows the application process. In addition, a \$100 per person grant can be allocated from the Fund for Concerns for War Tax Resisters who follow the application process (see attachment 3.) The Fund for Concerns is a restricted fund, not part of the Yearly Meeting's general budget, to which individual Friends and Meetings may make earmarked donations.

We were asked by the Youth Program Committee to review their time-line and evaluation process. They are no longer a subcommittee of Ministry and Oversight, but we agree that a thorough evaluation process should be undertaken. We also agree with the time-line by which they propose to evaluate and make a recommendation to either continue or lay down the three-year experiment.

We have begun work on establishing a Visiting Friend program modeled after the Brinton Visitor program, especially focusing on outreach to our more distant, smaller Meetings. A job description was approved for the Visiting Friend Support Subcommittee, and a job description for the Visiting Friend position is underway. We expect to finalize the Visiting Friend job description at our June meeting and to make an announcement at the Annual Gathering. The Visiting Friend fund is a restricted fund, not part of the Yearly Meeting's general budget, to which Friends and Meetings may make earmarked contributions.

We reviewed a proposal to begin a PYM Bookmobile project which would be a way to

bring books on Quaker topics to the Annual Gathering, since AFSC will no longer be running the book store. Ministry and Oversight determined that the proposal would be too expensive and complex for the current resources of the Yearly Meeting, as it would involve the purchase of a used trailer, part-time paid staff, and a committee to oversee the project. We are hoping that another proposal will surface, perhaps through Earthlight Magazine, as Friends clearly value the ability to peruse and purchase books at the Annual Gathering.

Many members of Ministry and Oversight Committee are uncomfortable with carrying out the responsibility of dealing with the “difficult behavior” that sometimes arises during gatherings of Friends. In our desire to speak from a place of tenderness and love, we sometimes find ourselves speaking inarticulately or unable to speak at all. We would like some training in eldering in its truest sense, being able to more fully speak our truth and more clearly hear the truth of others. We are hoping to consider such questions as: *How can I touch that of God within myself and really see it in others? How can I be present to another's pain in way that really helps them? How can I tell people what I really think in way that they can hear?* We have invited Dorothy Henderson, Head of Woolman Semester and trainer in Non-violent Communication, and Stephen Matchett, experienced Alternatives to Violence Project facilitator, to give us a mini-workshop at our June meeting and are hoping that a version of the workshop will be available as an interest group at the Annual Gathering.

Our June meeting will include the mini-workshop, the Visiting Friend job description, check-ins from our committee liaisons, and detailed planning of the Annual Gathering. As requested by the Representative Committee in 2011, between March and June we will be interviewing current and past representatives to Quaker organizations to gain an understanding of the work that these representatives do and to get some idea of the value of that work to these outside organizations and to the Yearly Meeting. We will consolidate that data and make a recommendation at the 2012 Annual Gathering.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Babin, clerk, Pacific Yearly Meeting Ministry and Oversight Committee

**BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER** invites you to:

**Partners in Healing:  
Racial Dynamics Among Friends**

*Sponsored by the Racial Justice  
Subcommittee of Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Resourced by Seven Generations Consulting*

**April 20-22, 2012**



*"Be patterns, be examples in all countries, places, islands, nations, wherever you come; that your life and conduct may preach among all sorts of people, and to them. Then you will come to walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in every one.*

*~George Fox*

With our roots in the rich muck of the history of race in our culture, this workshop will nurture the growth of a beautiful lotus flower of understanding. As we come together to explore and heal racial divisions within the Religious Society of Friends, we will lay the groundwork for furthering the diversity of our meetings, and deepening our corporate spiritual life.

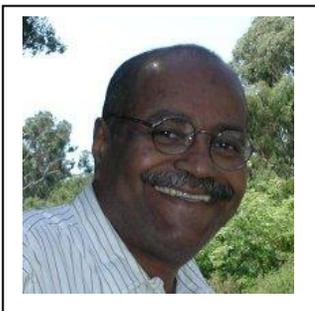
The weekend will be an opportunity for Friends to celebrate our own ethnic identities and traditions, and to work interactively across racial and ethnic differences. The intention is to make it accessible to adults and teens and to allow time for small group, large group, and individual work.

This weekend is ideal for Friends who share a concern for how to be a more inclusive, hospitable community for people of all backgrounds. We are especially hoping to have strong participation from youth within the Yearly Meeting.

**If you will be arriving in time for dinner on Friday night, please bring food to share** from your own family tradition, whether you are African American, Italian, Jewish... We also recommend bringing a journal for your own use.

**Please register early** using the form on the back or register online at <http://www.quakercenter.org/programs/register/>  
We must have a minimum number of **20 people registered by April 10th** to go forward with the workshop.

**ABOUT THE LEADERS**



The weekend will be resourced by Seven Generations Consulting which has been doing multi cultural trainings and facilitation since 1998, often with faith communities. Their principles are based on the First Nation's understanding of "being mindful of those who have come before and those yet to come." Patricia St. Onge, a Unitarian Universalist minister is of Six Nations and Quebecois descent and is a mother and grandmother. Wilson Riles served as Regional Director of the AFSC in San Francisco for 10 years. They are also bringing a younger staff person, who specializes in working with youth.



Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Program Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**I/we plan to pay \$ \_\_\_\_\_/person on the \$160-\$240/person sliding scale.** (More information below)

Medical or ethical dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here  to receive Quaker Center announcements solely by e-mail.

----- Detach Here and Return or Register Online at [www.quakercenter.org](http://www.quakercenter.org) -----

We no longer require a deposit with your registration. We trust that you will "let your yag be yay" and join us for this program if you register. If you absolutely must cancel, please do so in ample time to save Quaker Center any loss with regard to food costs or having to turn away another participant if the program fills.

### A NOTE ABOUT OUR SLIDING SCALE

- Comprehensive rate:** The top of our scale covers all our costs. (**\$240/person**). Some participants choose to support Quaker Center's work by paying this rate or more.
- Standard rate:** We hope most people will pay at least this amount. (**\$200/person**)
- Special reduced rate:** The bottom to our scale (**\$160/person**). No one is ever refused access to our programs because of lack of funds. Scholarship support is available; please ask if you are in need.

- ✓ **Schedule:** Registration begins at 4:00 p.m. The program begins with dinner at 6:00 PM and concludes about 2:30 PM on Sunday after brunch, final cleanup, and worship. The weekend's schedule will include time for relaxation, reflection and exploration of Quaker Center's hiking trails and serene Redwood forest.
- ✓ **Accommodations and food:** Sleeping accommodations will be in the Orchard Lodge (semi-private rooms). Bring a sleeping bag or sheets and blankets, pillowcase, towel, soap, flashlight, and slippers. No pets please except for service animals. Inexpensive housing may be arranged the night before or after the program; linens may be rented for a modest fee. All meals at Quaker Center are vegetarian. Please tell us in advance about medical or ethical dietary restrictions. Participants share in meal prep and clean up as well as with final clean up chores on Sunday.
- ✓ **Refund Policy:** Payments made prior to the program will be refunded if you cancel more than one week before the program. For cancelations made within a week of the start date, we will refund all but the amount for the food that is already purchased.
- ✓ **Transportation:** See our website, <http://www.quakercenter.org/directions/> for directions. If you are arriving on public transportation let us know and we will provide a shuttle from Ben Lomond or Scotts Valley.

#### DRIVING DISTANCES FROM:

- Los Angeles: 365 miles, 6.5 hours
- Sacramento: 150 miles, 2 hours, 45 minutes
- San Francisco: 90 miles, 2 hrs and 15 minutes
- San Jose Intl Airport: 35 miles, 50 minutes
- Santa Cruz, 12 miles, 25 minutes

#### PUBLIC TRANSIT:

- **Amtrak:** Take the train to the San Jose Diridon Station
- **From the San Jose Diridon Station:** Take the 17 Express bus to the Cavallaro Transit Station in Scotts Valley.
- **From the Scotts Valley or Santa Cruz:** Take the 35 or 35A bus to Ben Lomond.
- **In Ben Lomond:** Get off at Highway 9 and Main Street and walk or call 831-332-4398 for a ride.

## QUAKER CENTER

Box 686, Ben Lomond, CA 95005

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(831) 336-8333

[mail@quakercenter.org](mailto:mail@quakercenter.org)

**PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING 2012 (draft)**

Hours	Mon 8/13	Tue 8/14	Wed 8/15	Thu 8/16	Fri 8/17	Sat 8/18
7:00-8:30		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:00-9:00		Plenary II: for Business	Plenary IV: for Business	Plenary VI: for Business	Plenary VIII: for Business	Plenary IX: for Business
9:15-10:45		Bible Study or a.m. Worship Sharing	Bible Study or a.m. Worship Sharing	Bible Study or a.m. Worship Sharing	Bible Study or a.m. Worship Sharing	
11:00-11:45		Worship	Worship	Worship	Worship	Worship
11:45-12:45		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Clean-up and pack Lunch
12:45-1:30		Intergenerational Activity (Walker Creek?)	Intergenerational Activity (Children's?)	Intergenerational Activity (Young Friends/John Calvi)	Intergenerational Activity (JYM organizes?)	Evaluation Meeting for Clerks and Officers (1-2 p.m.)
1:30-3:00	Registration, Committee Mtgs	Transformative Quakers or p.m. Worship Sharing	Transformative Quakers or p.m. Worship Sharing	Transformative Quakers or p.m. Worship Sharing	Intergenerational Activity Continued and Interest Groups 4	
3:15-4:45	3:15 Newcomer Orientation 3:45 Meeting for Parents (JYM) 4:15 Meeting for Parents (Children's) <i>(All close together)</i>	Plenary III: Keynote Address John Calvi	Interest Groups 2	3:15-5:00 Plenary VII: Meeting for Memorials	Transformative Quakers or p.m. Worship Sharing	
5:00-5:30	Free Time	Free Time/Open Committees (3-4)	Free Time/Open Committees (3-4)	Free Time	Free Time/Open Committees (3-4)	
5:30-6:30	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
6:45-8:15	Plenary I: Roll Call and Intros	Interest Groups 1	Plenary V: Let Our Light Shine	Interest Groups 3	Family Night (will fit into time slot!)	
8:30-10:00	Welcoming and Social Time 12 Step, Affinity Groups, Open Time	12 Step, Affinity Groups, Open Time	12 Step, Affinity Groups, Open Time	12 Step, Affinity Groups, Open Time	Dance	

**Fund for Concerns**  
**Application Process**  
***DRAFT 3.22.12***

The Ministry and Oversight Committee administers the Fund for Concerns. Its purpose is to assist members and attenders of Monthly Meetings to follow individual leadings arising from peace, social order, or spiritual concerns. It is not intended to underwrite organization or committee projects. Individuals may apply for funds through their Monthly Meeting, which in turn applies to the Ministry and Oversight Committee on their behalf. *Faith and Practice, p. 187-188.*

Application instructions:

- All applications must be in writing.
- Applications must come through the Monthly Meeting and indicate approval from the appropriate Monthly Meeting committee.
- Applications should clearly state the amount of funding requested as well as the amount being contributed by the Monthly Meeting.
- Completed applications will be considered in order received and will need approval by the full Ministry and Oversight committee.
- Grants will be made depending on available funds.

One request per fiscal year for up to 3 months' housing may be requested by a Friend who is accepted into the Casa De Los Amigos "Friend in Residence" program.

Up to \$100 per fiscal year per person will be available to help with the interest and penalty expenses of full-fledged "1040" war tax resisters who are members or regular attenders of a Monthly Meeting. The Monthly Meeting must indicate approval and provide matching funds.