Preface

This document is the formal record of Pacific Yearly Meeting’s annual session of 2011. It is divided into three parts. The first consists of the minutes of the PYM’s seven plenary sessions, plus a list of the Action Minutes approved during those sessions. The second part includes those reports and other documents supporting them, which were presented at the plenaries. These sections are keyed to the plenary session in which they were first presented. Finally, there are several reports relevant to PYM, but not formally presented at any of the plenaries such as the Religious Education for Children Committee Report, Racial Justice Initiative in PYM report. Electronic Communications Survey results, and the list of attenders at PYM.

This document is being sent to Clerks (or their designees) of Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups and Preparatory Meetings as well as to PYM’s officers and committee clerks. Many will receive it in electronic form, via email; others, at their request will receive it on paper, via postal mail. In either event, the contents can be printed or copied, completely or in part, to be made available to Friends everywhere as needed and desired. In addition, most of the report will be posted on the PYM website at http://pacificyearlymeeting.org minus the list of attenders due to confidentially reasons.

This document is the product of many hours of work by many people, the authors of the reports, our Recording Clerks, Presiding Clerk, Marilee Euseibo and the Secretariat Committee. This accounts for the various changes in formatting that exists throughout this document. The Clerk’s goal is to capture the spirit of the meetings. Ultimately though, the Secretariat Clerk has responsibility for the final result, the document having passed through his hands last. So, if you find errors, please inform me.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Bean, PYM Secretariat Clerk

secretariat@pacificyearlymeeting.org
Pacific Yearly Meeting, 2011: Minutes and Reports

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Plenary I

Plenary I began with worship at 6:48.

Presiding Clerk, Marilee Eusebio (Davis), welcomed us to the 65th Annual Gathering of Pacific Yearly Meeting:

“My dear Friends, I am very glad to be with you all again to laugh, play, sing, worship and to learn from one another. Our theme, Where Can We Be Stretched Anew?, offers us many opportunities to examine who we are and who we want to be. I would like to review some of our past as a guide to what we want to consider at this time.

Even before I heard of Tony Prete’s death last month, I had planned to use some words he left with us when he spoke to us in 2006 about the Sabbath and keeping it holy, the 4th commandant. He told us that in Exodus, this commandment begins with, “Remember the Sabbath”, and in Deuteronomy it begins with, “Observe the Sabbath”. I have thought about those words many times since his speech. The way I hope that we can use them this week is to remember that the inner light is in each of us and that we observe that aspect of each other in all our conversations.

Then just last year, George Lakey spoke to us about what sets people free to engage with and experience the spirit. He spoke of a container – something that is bigger than the sum of its parts. He says, if we only see ourselves as individuals in our Quaker meeting or in any group we associate with – we are going to miss the big opportunity for the Spirit to move. As a group, we can be the container that creates safety for people to expect the unexpected and experience life in the spirit. We need to be accountable, that is, live in truth even when it hurts, be present and be willing to struggle together.

This year we will look at deep and often difficult issues: racial justice, conversations about nuclear power, torture and information about the nature and substance of the Palestinian-Israeli tensions. Holding these topics and ourselves in the Light, we will see what love can do and how we can stretch ourselves anew.”

Assistant to the Clerk, Jean Lester (Orange Grove) called the roll. There were 28 Monthly Meetings represented and 8 Worship Groups at this roll call.

See Attachment 1: Roll Call 2011

Visitors from other Yearly Meetings: Vanessa Julye, (Central Philadelphia MM, PhYM), Janice Domanik (Lake Forest MM, Illinois YM), Tess Sollenberger, (Bellingham, WA, NPYM), Andrew Secrest and Zoe Price (Berkeley Friends Church).
Arrangements Clerk, Pat Smith (Claremont), made announcements about parking, keys, committee meetings, worship sharing groups, and meals. She expressed thanks for the help from Junior Yearly Meeting with childcare during committee meetings and with moving luggage.

Children’s Committee and Children’s Program: Rhea Farley (Strawberry Creek) made announcements about the program and introduced the staff. She also organized a convoy to retrieve the materials for the Children’s Program.

Nominating Committee: Clerk, DJ Bloom (Apple Seed), brought us 3 names to start service immediately: Amy Cooke (Grass Valley), for recording co-clerk, and Judith Favor (Claremont) and Stephen Myers (Sacramento) for reading clerks. These names will be brought back at the end of this session for action. We still need members for JYM, M&O, and Children’s Religious Education Committees.

Youth Program Coordinator Supervisory Committee: Mary Klein (Palo Alto), reported on the committee’s work. Sarah Beutel (Mountain View MM, IMYM) has been released from the coordinator position and Alyssa Nelson (Davis) has been selected to replace her. Sarah and Alyssa expressed their gratitude for the support they have received.

Secretariat: Clerk, Don Bean (Conejo Valley), made announcements about The Daily Miracle, committee reports, and availability of past records.

Junior YM: Clerks, Hana Castanedo (La Jolla), Jayden Navarro (Santa Cruz) and Laura Adair (Central Coast) introduced their M&O Committee and announced the Prison Library Project. Melissa Lovett-Adair (Central Coast) acknowledged the invaluable contribution of our Friendly Adult Presence volunteers (FAPs).

M&O Committee: Brian Vura-Weis (Palo Alto) brought us the names of three friends to write this year’s epistle.

[Minute] PYM approved the Epistle Committee of Lee Sisson (Orange County), Alyssa Nelson (Davis) and Cliff Lester (Orange Grove). (Later it was pointed out that approval was not necessary – this committee is appointed by M&O.)

Registrar: Liz Baker, (Modesto & Berkeley), made announcements about registration.

Carl Magruder (Strawberry Creek) presented an activity to prove we are not God’s “frozen” people and to acknowledge our commonalities and diversity.
The names brought by the Nominating Committee will be held until the beginning of the next plenary session.

_The minutes of Plenary I were approved._

**Announcements:** Jean Lester (Orange Grove), Assistant to the Clerk, read announcements.

**Worship-Sharing:** David Morse (Orange Grove) explained the assignments.

The session was closed with worship at 8:09.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Harlow, Recording Clerk
Marilee Eusebio, Presiding Clerk
PLENARY II

Plenary II began with worship at 10:30.

Presiding Clerk, Marilee Eusebio (Davis), opened the Plenary.

Nominating Committee: Marilee read the names brought forward at Plenary I, 2011:


Epistle Reading: Judith Favor (Claremont) shared the Epistle from North Pacific Yearly Meeting (NPYM), 38th Annual Session, Missoula, Montana: Friend-in-residence Bridget Moix’s two year old son gave the metaphor of a “barquito grande” – a big little boat - that helps us sail over the Ocean of Darkness to the Ocean of Light. Friends are not alone in the barquito grande. Our community uplifts and multiplies our gifts.

Young Friends: YF Clerk Gabe Martinez (La Jolla), and Young Friends M&O Clerk Nora Cooke (Grass Valley), gave us information about their schedule and goals for the week. Young Friends are striving this year to strengthen the group and build community.

Worship Sharing: David Morse (Orange Grove): David shared some organizational details regarding worship sharing groups and thanked the leaders. Eric Sabelman (Palo Alto) invited our participation in examining the multidirectional relationships between ourselves, our Meetings and the world. He noted that worship sharing groups stretch us anew and that we have a concern this year for racial justice. The M&O subcommittee on Racial Justice has expressed the hope that the focus of attention will be on the spiritual failure that gives rise to racism. Our query, “Where Are We Stretched Anew?” can suggest inclusiveness, that is, exploring openness to other people and groups.

Ministry & Oversight: Marilee Eusebio opened the report by introducing the members of the committee who all participated in the presentation. She explained that parts from the State of the Meeting Reports will be shared through various “stretching” exercises – putting our theme “How are we stretched anew?” into action.

Clerk of M&O Ruth Fraser (SF) led us in stretching with breathing and body exercises alternated with readings from the State of the Meeting Reports. We stretched to warm up, to reach up, to reach out and to experience overextending.

Stretching: warming up

In response to an increasing interest in developing a program for children, Mexico City Monthly Meeting is offering and supporting “Cuentos para la Paz” (Stories for Peace) for young children and their families the first Sunday of the month. The program coordinators select stories from different faiths and traditions to reflect the Quaker testimonies and bring these to life with interactive storytelling and hands-on activities. The program has brought families to Meeting that would probably not otherwise have found us. Mexico City
PLENARY II (continued)

In the past year we have reached a period of transition. We are finally poised to begin construction on our long-planned building and renovation project. While we do not expect to be able to complete the entire project this year, in the next twelve months we should be able to finish the first phase of renovation of the Meeting House building itself. We have great hope that the physical remodeling of our property will also be a pattern for a renovation of the Meeting in other ways, that the new and refreshed spaces will be a spiritual ark for our Meeting community. Berkeley

There is a real joy in Meeting experienced in coming to know the power of the spirit. This is very much a part of our worship. Our differences are treasured and respected; this creates an atmosphere where all are free to pursue worship in their own way. This is very powerful. Meeting is seasoned by a core of friends that have been worshiping together for many years. Meeting is grounded, and there is comfort that comes with this grounding. This grounding allows us to move forward in loving ways, and facilitates working to seek unity. As a consequence, we continue growing in the spirit. We are grateful that individuals are able to ask for help more often than not when needed. If we only discussed the good things, then building our spiritual base would be more difficult. Some families with young children struggle to also participate in Meeting. We need to facilitate the participation of parents in the spiritual life of the Meeting and make Meeting activities more inclusive. Inland Valley

Stretching: reaching up

Taking on the ownership of our Meetinghouse and property has led us to explore our approach to simplicity and how our decisions may affect the ecology and the economy. Berkeley

The Environment Committee has sponsored programs on nuclear energy, and has worked to make us aware of our fossil fuel footprints, both individually and as a Meeting. The Committee has also worked hard to ensure that our building and renovation project is as green as possible. Berkeley

As we reflect on the spiritual health of our Meeting, we wonder how well we are coping with burnout, disillusionment, lack of commitment and misunderstandings of Quakerism. Now and in the future, we will consider ways to address differences, particularly in our committee work. We strive to value opposing opinions and to be open to disagreement so that we can bring to our work a humble and worshipful attitude, free of the need to have our individual opinions prevail. We are ever mindful of the gap between the Quaker ideal and our own reality as we open ourselves together to the Spirit. We hope to learn how to better pray with our feet. Orange Grove

A few incidents of open disagreement in Meeting for Worship this year disturbed many of us, including those who felt voicing it more important than maintaining our traditional placidity. This led to some good after-Meeting discussions loosely based on George Gorman's opinions on proper Quaker worship. San Diego

Stretching: reaching out

Our worship is deep and meaningful, and our outreach into the community is inspired by our inward leadings. . . . Members and attenders continue participating in the Chico peace vigil that has occurred on Saturdays for over 50 years. . . .
We collaborate with others who are engaged in peace activities, such as the community Pathways to Peace, Celebration of Abraham; and work with the Chico Peace and Justice Center. One member was called to travel to Palestine to witness for peace, to return forever changed. . . . We have learned that there are many opportunities to reach out, and that is how we grow in love too. Reaching out can be as simple as visiting while riding the bus, or following-up with written contact to our visitors. \textbf{Chico}

This past year has seen our Meeting supportive of causes related to military member and veteran suicides. One member led a silent vigil intended to draw attention to this serious issue. To further our support for veterans, particularly those who are homeless in our communities, we volunteered to help with the annual Stand Down event that provides medical, clothing and meal assistance to veterans. \textbf{Redding}

We have acknowledged growth of a different kind: the blossoming of a life-long dream for Veronica Obodo-Eckblad to bring medical care to her home village in Nigeria. She has worked with a clearness committee for over a year and this spring we recognized Veronica’s leading with a formal minute and set up a “Fund for Leadings” to accept donations. Veronica, her family, 3 others from DFM and 5 others went to Nigeria in February in the first step toward establishing a medical clinic there. We sent them off with a sharing hour about Nigeria and the mission and also heard a riveting report on their mission afterwards. \textbf{Davis}

Our Meeting has joined the Progressive Christians Uniting to support social awareness and social action and has become aligned with California Faith for Equality to support gender, gender variety, and sexual orientation equality. We participated in the first multi-faith march for Marriage Equality in California during in Claremont’s Fourth of July parade. This action reflected our meeting’s marriage minute which states that Claremont Meeting will refuse to sign any civil marriage license until civil marriage licenses are available to every couple, regardless of gender or sexual orientation. \textbf{Claremont}

We are learning to be comfortable in working with and for wounded military people. One Friend has instituted a writing project among hospitalized veterans who are struggling to recover. We are finding ways to work with Veterans for Peace, contributing to their “Compassion Campaign” which provided cold weather gear for the homeless and veterans. \textbf{La Jolla}

\textbf{Stretching: overextending}

Often we try to be a large Meeting, but become overextended and search to find balance. Our Meeting faces size and structure issues as well as issues of personal balance in our lives. How do we balance personal independence and needs with community relationship? How could our structure help us better serve God? How do our action and our spirituality weave together in Quaker expression? From Faith and Practice, “Is the life of our meeting so ordered that it helps us to simplify our lives?” These are the queries we hope to live with as we move forward into the coming year. \textbf{Central Coast}
PLENARY II (continued)

We have had to become creative with our budget because of the increase in costs charged by PYM. While funds from individuals have fallen short of what is needed, we may have to resort to planning additional fund raiser activities. One Friend mentioned a concern about the low number of members in our meeting (eight). He would like to see an initiative within the meeting to help long term attenders examine the option of requesting membership in the meeting. Redding

The Oversight Committee and individual members increased efforts in . . . identifying and responding to the needs of Friends by sending out cards to Friends who are ill, injured or have had surgery, have suffered the death of a loved one, or are facing other challenges. Meeting continues to respond to the special needs of a Friend diagnosed with brain cancer by providing transportation to and from doctor’s appointments and treatments and offering emotional support in a variety of ways. Sacramento

In a time of decreasing personal incomes we struggle to finance both the building project and to support the financial needs in the community at large. Berkeley

We still sometimes have trouble processing situations with difficult or challenging people. Ministry and Oversight Committee regularly discusses past situations as well as the possibility of developing guidelines for what to do in general. However, the committee has not found clarity on what to bring to the meeting as a whole. This feels like an area where we are somewhat stuck. San Francisco

Though we were able to seat a re-energized Nominating Committee, it was still difficult to find volunteers for all the necessary tasks and committee work. Our ongoing challenge remains—how to integrate our need for simplicity and respite, with our call to be active in the world and within our Meeting community. Visalia

First Day School remains suspended since no children are currently attending. It is difficult to attract new families with children when we have no program or core group of children. Conejo Valley WG

The economic downturn has affected contributions and we are concerned about meeting our Outreach Budget. La Jolla Meeting has had a “Sharing Fund” since its inception. This fund has been used much more than usual in the past year or two, necessitating repeated requests for donations. La Jolla

We feel we have a grounding of the Spirit in our midst although it may not be apparent in outward expression. Marloma Long Beach Meeting is mindful of its decreasing numbers and is concerned about our ability as aging seniors to meet rental, PYM, and SCQM financial obligations. Marloma Long Beach

Our membership, being a good size for worshiping together, still struggles to fill meeting offices. The demands of constructing a new building have been an exhausting drain on the available time and energy. San Diego

The Future of Pacific Yearly Meeting Sub-Committee:

Barbara Babin (Redwood Forest) addressed the work of the committee, acknowledging participants and commending their work. Full reports are available in the Quiet Room and on-line. See Attachment 2: Future of PYM, M&O subcommittee – Framing Statement
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, California

PLENARY II (continued)

Purpose: Do we have a clear and unified vision of PYM (the monthly and quarterly meetings and all committees, individuals, Rep com, etc) as distinct from the Annual Gathering?

It is easier to see that of God in every one when we are in community. Annual Gathering provides opportunities to come together, to learn of the inspired work of others in this community, to better live our testimonies. How do plenary sessions fit? Our business process takes too much of our time and is done by only those who have the time and means to attend the Annual Gathering. Rep Comm is open to all and perhaps more of the business should be turned over to that meeting.

Brian Vura-Weis (Palo Alto) spoke to representation issues. We see the need for more active participation from all meetings, greater use of technology to improve regular contact, and more consistent flow of communication to and from monthly meetings and PYM, its committees, Representative Comm and Annual sessions. There will be an open discussion this week on this work for the meeting representatives.

Ruth Fraser (San Francisco) – The Future of Pacific Yearly Meeting Sub-Committee will be laid down as having completed their assigned tasks. Further development of this work will continue through two new sub committees: one to support communication with and between meetings, and a second one to continue envisioning the future of our annual gathering. Please contact M&O about serving on those committees.

Marilee Eusebio (Davis) called for discernment regarding the size and geography of PYM, the ecological footprint of annual gatherings and committee meetings, and our ability to fill committee positions. Monthly Meetings are asked to hold discussions about the holding of Annual Gatherings and report their discernment.

A job description is being developed for the newly created program called Pacific YM Visiting Friend which will replace the Brinton Visitor.

Q&A: items were clarified and suggestions made -
- Perhaps we could name the new visit or program after Joel and Hannah Bean.
- A friend suggested publishing a report on the attendance at the Annual Gathering regarding numbers, costs, what meetings attenders come from and reasons Friends do not attend.
- A Friend would like more open discussions about how we use our money. She feels that we are afraid to talk about how financial priorities are discerned.
- Brinton Visitor Program was not laid down for financial concerns within our own YM. Records and comments from visitors are available from Sally Davis (Redwood Forest)

Robin Durant (Orange Grove) led a closing exercise to hold the Meeting, perhaps visualizing a dome over the community, weaving a carpet under us all or feeling arms encircling us.

M&O will hold an open session on Wed to hear more comments and questions.

Minutes of Plenary II were approved with minor corrections.

Announcements: Jean Lester (Orange Grove), Assistant to the Clerk, read announcements; Brian Vera-Weiss (Palo Alto) encouraged the gathering to attend the All Ages Games and asked worship sharing group leaders to lead their groups to the Games!

Closing Worship: Plenary II closed with worship at 12:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Harlow and Amy Cooke, Recording Co-clerks
Marilee Eusebio, Presiding Clerk
Plenary III began with worship at 10:30.

Presiding Clerk, Marilee Eusebio (Davis), opened the Plenary.

**Epistle Reading:** Judith Favor (Claremont) read from the New Zealand Aotearoa/Yearly Meeting in Auckland: The opening confirmed that the Quaker Settlement is “turangawaewae” – our place to stand – with the Maori as the indigenous people of their land. Friends called for engagement in the constitutional review currently taking place in New Zealand. They shared their grief at the devastation wrought by the recent earthquakes. They held the challenges of the prison system, the environmental cost of travel to the Yearly Meeting, and prayed for the passion and energy of early Friends to transform themselves and their world.

**Introduction of Visitors:**
- Kathy Hyzy (Multnomah, NPYM) editor of Western Friend;
- Eisha Mason, AFSC Interim Regional Director for the Southwest
- Tricia Sellick, AFSC Regional Director for the Middle East

**Committee to Name the Nominating Committee:** Sherri Sisson (Orange County) joyfully brought us these names to season for service on the Nominating Committee:

- Carl Anderson (Strawberry Creek) 2011-2012
- Stephen Matchett (San Francisco) 2011-2014
- Liz Baker (Berkeley) 2011-2014
- Maggie Hutchinson (Orange Grove) 2011-2014
- David Barrows (San Diego) 2011-2012 (for Clerk)

She expressed thanks to Jeff Kroeber (San Jose) for his great help and to everyone who responded or made suggestions.

**Nominating:** DJ Bloom (Appleseed) presented a minute for our consideration regarding the Friends Peace Team Board. Rachel Fretz (Santa Monica) is no longer a representative as she is serving under a leading and her expenses are paid from a separate fund for leadings under the care of M&O. Therefore a second representative position is not needed.

**PYM Minute 2011.2:** Pacific Yearly Meeting approves laying down the second position of representative to the Friends Peace Teams Board.

The Nominating Slate and the pink survey for serving PYM were handed out to the gathering. Friends were encouraged to fill out the pink survey promptly and return it to the Nominating Committee. The Nominations were read in their entirety for seasoning by the Gathering. Clarifications were given in response to queries from the floor.
PLENARY III (continued)

**Treasurer Report:** Treasurer, Ed Flowers (Apple Seed). Reps, officers and committee clerks should apply for travel expenses to this Annual Session.

He explained that the figures shown in this report will change by the end of the fiscal year on September 30. In 2011, the Session Account had to "borrow" money from the General Account in order to pay the required deposits with Claremont-McKenna. This and the attendance of only 245 at this Annual Session explain the sharp increase in Annual Session fees this year. The volatility in income over the past 6 years has led to a net decrease in the Annual Session Reserve to nearly zero.

See Attachment 3: Treasurer Report to PYM 2011

General Account revenue of $121,282 (from Monthly Meeting assessments) is very close to the budget of $125,000.

Year-to-date, we have spent $1,888 on teleconferencing. At 7 cents per minute, that’s 14 minutes per dollar. So for $1,888, we can talk for 26,432 minutes. Or 440 ½ hours. Or slightly more than 18 days. Or, if two Quakers were to have a meeting and wanted to spend the entire amount, they could talk, nonstop, for 9 days.

**Finance:** Donna Smith (Redwood Forest) presented the 2011-12 proposed budget. An open committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, 7/27, at 3:30pm for discussion of questions, concerns or recommendations regarding the budget. All changes to the budget should be made before it is brought back to Plenary for action on Thursday at 10:30am.

The per member share of cost, or assessment, will be lowered to $87 per member for CA and NV, and raised to $15 for Mexico and to $41 for Guatemala and Hawaii.

**AFSC:** Laura Magnani (Strawberry Creek), interim AFSC Pacific Mountain Regional director, presented Trisha Sellick, AFSC Middle East Regional Director. Laura also noted that AFSC is accepting money for the Horn of Africa crisis.

Trisha Sellick greeted the gathering. She shared a picture of blue and yellow fishing boats from Gaza – these boats are a common sight all around the Mediterranean, and she noted that Gaza is a vital and integrated part of this region.

Sixty per cent of the population of the Middle East is under 25 years old. Trisha noted how that changes the feeling in the region. Most of those young people are educated and getting organized. They are participating in the politics of their country and are pushing for change. They are wary of Western intervention and regime change brought about by external power. They want to take the future into their own hands. The AFSC works with young people – not only because they are a large part of the population, but also because they have much to teach. Trisha shared her experiences working with the impassioned youth of this region. She noted that the young people do not say, “We have tried this before, and we know it won’t work.” They have a belief in what is possible and they invite optimism.

AFSC provides training for youth coaches, who then work with youth in the villages. Over 50% of the participants are girls. Girls relish the opportunity to meet with each other and contribute to their communities.
Trisha reminded us of the presence of Palestinian Christians. Their message, of peace anywhere in the world, is an important statement. Jean Zaru, clerk of the Ramallah Meeting, has published a book, *Occupied with Nonviolence: a Palestinian Woman Speaks* (2008), which Trish highly recommends.

AFSC Palestine Youth Program is a program under occupation. Maps show the various efforts to identify territories from 1947 to the present. Walls are built that ignore agreed on boundaries. Aggressive settlement also ignores boundaries. In the West Bank the critical issue is natural resources which are controlled by those not living there. Movement between areas is time consuming and difficult or impossible. Blockades prevent the rebuilding of destroyed homes. One great hope for change is among the young Israelis and groups such as Just Jerusalem, Breaking the Silence (the voices of soldiers), and Palestinian Christians who have written the Kairos document stating that “this is God’s land”. She urged us to understand the role of US financial support for Israel – greater than the combined amount for all other areas in the world. Trisha’s email is jerusalem@afsc.org and allows us to continue the dialog with her.

Julie Harlow and Amy Cooke read the minutes for Plenary III. *The minutes were approved.*

**Announcements:** Jean Lester (Orange Grove), Assistant to the Clerk, read several logistical announcements.

**Closing Worship:** Plenary III closed with worship at 12:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Cooke and Julie Harlow, Recording Co-clerks
Marilee Eusebio, Presiding Clerk
PLENARY IV

Plenary IV began in worship at 10:30.

Presiding Clerk, Marilee Eusebio (Davis), opened the Plenary.

Epistle: Stephen Myers (Sacramento) shared the epistle from the 330th Annual Session of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, gathered on the theme, “We Make the Road by Walking: How Are We Called to be Prophetic in Our Witness?” Guest speaker Shane Claiborne presented on the “Economics of Rebirth,” calling Friends to renew their dedication to simplicity, stewardship and responsibility. Friends renewed their commitment to supporting those who resist war taxes, to becoming more engaged with eco-justice issues and to collaborating with others in the “hope beyond despair.”

Epistle Committee: Marilee announced that Sandy Kewman (Grass Valley) will replace Alyssa Nelson (Davis).

Friends Association for Service to the Elderly (FASE): Lanny Jay (Redwood Forest) read the report on Friends House Santa Rosa which includes a brief history of Friends House and description of its facilities. It is the lowest-priced multi-level retirement community in California.

It has a board and committees which reach unity rather than majority rule; a community comfortable with simplicity; and a pricing model committed to offering accommodations and services at the lowest feasible cost.

Now, for a myriad of reasons including the skilled nursing unit’s age and three years of general economic retrenchment, Friends House faces financial challenges.

Uncertainty surrounding Friends House’s composition – whether to keep or close the skilled nursing unit – and pricing, is causing the residents much concern.

Friends House needs your spiritual and financial support and, if you are thinking of where to live in retirement, your consideration.

See Attachment 4: FASE Report to PYM 2011

Without the use of a phone booth, Lanny changed his attire and returned for the next report.

Holding Corporation: Lanny Jay (Redwood Forest) The report contains explanation of the legal definitions of the Holding Corporation and its functions. Its basic responsibility is to hold and disburse the proceeds received from laying down San Fernando Valley Meeting and selling its meetinghouse.

This year $50,000 was dispersed to Chico Friends Meeting and $50,000 to Inland Valley Friends Meeting for their new meetinghouses.

As of this writing, there have been no new requests for funds to help monthly meetings, preparative meetings or worship groups acquire new meetinghouses.

See Attachment 5: Holding Corporation Report to PYM 2011

Nominating: DJ Bloom (Apple Seed) brought the gathering a name for Ministry and Oversight: Bronwen Hillman (Mexico City), 2014. The name of Lucia Van Diepen (Live Oak/Marin/Soledad WG) was removed from the Nominations slate for the position of Registrar 2013. The position of Registrar for 2013 is thus open, and Friends are asked to consider service in this position.

PYM Epistle: The first reading was presented by Cliff Lester (Orange Grove), Sandy Kewman (Grass Valley) and Lee Sisson (Orange Grove). Comments may be directed to the Epistle Committee.
PLENARY IV (continued)

Finance Committee: Donna Smith (Redwood Forest)

The following Budget Augmentation requests were approved to offset unexpected costs and to fully fund travel expenses.

**PYM Minute 2011.3:** For Junior Yearly Meeting, Committee Expense Acct # 5227. Originally budgeted at $500. Request augmentation of $300 bringing total to $800.

**PYM Minute 2011.4:** For Western Friend Board, Travel Expense Acct# 5271. Originally budgeted at $1000. Request augmentation of $800 bringing total to $1800. For FGC Central Committee, Travel Expense Acct # 5278. Originally budgeted $750. Request augmentation of $250 bringing total to $1000.

Treasurer Ed Flowers also reminded us of the need to fill out the proper form legibly and completely if we want travel expenses for this session.

Details of the 2011-12 Budget have been available in the Quiet Room and an open meeting was held to answer questions and concerns.

A transfer of $8000 is being made from the Youth Program Coordinator Fund to the General Fund so that it can be used to pay expenses of the YPC.

Several Friends requested that the YPC financial activities be shown distinctly so that they are easily differentiated when the time comes for the 3 year assessment of the YPC program.

**PYM Minute 2011.5:** The 2011-12 Budget was approved as presented.

**See Attachment 6: Budget FY2011-2012 & Finance Committee Report**

*Minutes of Plenary IV were approved to this point.*

There were reports from Peace and Social Order Committee and from Unity with Nature Committee including proposed Minutes. Both of these reports and the proposed Minutes brought concerns and questions about the process by which proposed minutes come to a Plenary. There were also many suggestions for wording changes which confused us about what we might be approving. The notes on these reports and approved **PYM Minute 2011.8** opposing torture will be carried over to Plenary VI.

**Announcements:** Jean Lester (Orange Grove), Assistant to the Clerk, read announcements.

**Closing Worship:** Plenary IV closed with worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Cooke and Julie Harlow, Recording Co-clerks
Marilee Eusebio, Presiding Clerk
Meeting for Memorials
PYM 2011

Faye Ala'ilima, Honolulu
Charles Bass, Sacramento
Eleanor Becker, Marin
Edith Cooper, Claremont
Eleanor Foster, Santa Cruz
Dorothy Goetz, Reno
Jim Harris, Sacramento
Amy Howell, Orange Grove
Ellie Huffman, Monterey Peninsula
John Jaquette, Honolulu
Gloria Joyce, La Jolla
Edwin Walton Kendig, Marloma/Long Beach
Jean Malcolm, San Diego
Carolyna Marks, Strawberry Creek
Fumiye Miho, Honolulu
Tara McNHenry, Palo Alto
Dale Olsen, Marin
Karen Peacock, Honolulu
Rich Tittle, Strawberry Creek
Sherry Walden, Central Coast
PLENARY VI

Plenary VI began in worship at 10:40.

Presiding Clerk, Marilee Eusebio (Davis), opened the Plenary.

Epistle: Stephen Myers (Sacramento) shared epistles from the 136th annual sessions of the Illinois Yearly Meeting, gathering under the theme of “Seeking and Sharing Our Spiritual Home.” We explored creating and sharing sacred space, and envisioning plans for new site usage in the context of the Testimonies of Stewardship and Community. Also in the context of sharing our spiritual home, we labored through various workshops, presentations and business sessions regarding our response to torture.

Committee to Name the Nominating Committee: Clerk Marilee read the names that had been brought to us at Plenary III:

PYM Minute 2011.6: The following were approved for the Nominating Committee:
Carl Anderson (Strawberry Creek) 2011-2012
Stephen Matchett (San Francisco) 2011-2014
Liz Baker (Berkeley) 2011-2014
Maggie Hutchinson (Orange Grove) 2011-2014
David Barrows (San Diego) 2011-2012 (as Clerk)

Final Nominating Committee: There are no changes from the nominations read in Plenary IV.

PYM Minute 2011.7: The Nominating Committee Report for PYM 2011 was approved.
See Attachment 7: Nominating Committee Roster 2011

It was noted that there remains an opening for Junior Registrar 2013. If Friends are led to this service, please come forward to the committee.

Statistical Clerk: Lee Knutsen (Palo Alto/Monterey Peninsula) reminded us that those who celebrate the most birthdays, live the longest. Our 37 constituent Meetings have a total membership of 1417, a reduction of 32 members. Over the past 10 years we have experienced an overall decrease of 4.26%.
See Attachment 8: Statistical Report to PYM 2011

In response to a question, treasurer Ed Flowers (Apple Seed) said that most meetings have sent in their assessment.

Registrar’s Report: Liz Baker (Berkeley/Modesto) brought the Registrar’s Report. Of the 246 people attending the 65th session of Pacific Yearly Meeting, there are 6 people attending under the age of 5, 20 people attending who are 6 years old to 12 years, 32 people are aged 13 to 18 years, 177 are over the age of 18, and 11 people declined to state their age.
Western Friend: Kathy Hyzy (Multnomah, NPYM), editor of The Western Friend. She encouraged everyone to pick up a copy, especially if you haven’t read one in a while as it is constantly evolving. All writers are volunteers. There are coupons available to reduce the price. In addition to the publication of the magazine, workshops have been sponsored on finances for Friends and on story telling. Another workshop is scheduled on Marge Abbott’s book, To Be Broken and Tender at Ben Lomond Quaker Center at the end of September.

Youth Program Coordinator: Sarah Beutel (Mountain View MM, Denver, Colorado, IMYM) gave her report as the outgoing Youth Program Coordinator. She began by quoting Christina Van Regenmorter, who speaks of the aching of teens for spiritual community. Sarah has observed that the Youth Program Coordinator is a resource, an interpreter, and a catalyst. She noted that her work has been most successful when Friends have gotten actively involved in the reflection and planning needed to try something new. She thanked the young Friends’ for sharing their lives and their vision with her.

See Attachment 9: Combined YPC/YPCSC Reports to PYM 2011

Many in attendance spontaneously and silently expressed their appreciation for Sarah.

Mary Klein (Palo Alto) read the report from the Youth Program Coordinator Supervisory Committee on the first 16 months of this program. The goal is to provide PYM with continuous support, coordination and inspiration for our collective growth in faith and fellowship as an intergenerational community. Sarah Beutel was hired April 1, 2010 and the supervisory committee continued “building the train while it was moving forward”. A formal evaluation in April 2011 confirmed that the job is not to host activities but to encourage and coordinate resources.

See Attachment 9: Combined YPC/YPCSC Reports to PYM 2011

Alyssa Nelson, who has 15 years experience working with youth and communities, has been hired to start August 1, 2011.

Alyssa Nelson (Davis) spoke to the gathering as the incoming Youth Program Coordinator. She queried, “How are love and unity maintained among us?” She spoke of being deeply moved by the challenge to us of living our testimonies more fully. She expressed thanks for Sarah’s work, for the committee and for the gathering.

See Attachment 9: Combined YPC/YPCSC Reports to PYM 2011

Site Committee: For the committee, presiding clerk Marilee Eusebio reported that they have learned that Walker Creek is not available until the week of August 13, 2011. We will be looking at the implications of this date change.

Carry Over Items from Plenary IV: We approved the notes from yesterday on the reports from Peace and Social Order and from Unity with Nature. In the course of approving these minutes we revisited our approval of the Minute on torture. We recognized that while there had not been full agreement about the exact content of the minute or comfort with the process by which it had been brought, we were in unity on our complete opposition to torture.
Peace and Social Order: Anthony Manousos (Santa Monica) greeted the gathering with Shalom, Shanti, Salaam, Peace, and asked us to stretch into our desire for peace. The committee has been creating community through tele-conferencing, and Friends are invited to join them.

Support from PYM and Santa Monica Monthly Meeting has helped Anthony sustain his travels within the Interfaith Movement. Based on his work, he has written *Quakers and the Interfaith Movement*. He encouraged Friends to participate in interfaith conversations in our communities.

Alvaro Alvarado (Sacramento): There are students, undocumented but unafraid, across the country lobbying for the Dream Act ([http://dreamact.info/](http://dreamact.info/)). He invited Friends to the interest group on undocumented students to hear from them and learn more about their dreams.

Lucia van Diepen-Zegward (Live Oak/Marin/Soledad WG) called for Friends to resurrect the spirit of abolition with a concern for the homeless. This issue represents chronic and systemic violation of human rights. Lucia reminded us that Lucretia Mott said that we are all complicit in social disparities. Friends are asked to explore ways and means to implement immediate action as well addressing the structural violence that gives rise to homelessness.

On behalf of the Peace and Social Order Committee, Jeff Kroeber (San Jose) and Anthony Manousos (Santa Monica) presented a proposed Minute on Torture, published in the Daily Miracle and on-line.

We approved the minute by Peace and Social Order, with minor changes, as reflecting our underlying unity against torture. Questions and concerns arose about how the minute is to be used and the process of bringing minutes for discernment to the body of Pacific Yearly Meeting. There were a number of Friends who did not unite with the minute based upon these concerns. Roena Oesting (La Jolla) is recorded as standing aside.

**PYM Minute 2011.8:** As Friends, we stand firmly opposed to torture committed by anyone in any setting. We support the work of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture ([http://www.nrcat.org/](http://www.nrcat.org/)) as well as of Quakers’ Initiative to End Torture ([http://www.quit-torture-now.org/](http://www.quit-torture-now.org/)). We urge elected officials to bring to justice those who have authorized torture in violation of international law. We urge our governments to stop preventing the victims of torture from seeking redress and just compensation in our courts. We are also deeply concerned that cruel and inhumane punishment such as involuntary long-term solitary confinement are taking place in prisons in California and throughout the USA and the world. Finally, we support the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT), which can help prevent torture and abuse by requiring a ratifying country to establish National Preventative Mechanisms (NPMs) to monitor the treatment of prisoners. In addition to the NPMs, OPCAT allows for international oversight of places of confinement to ensure that torture and other abuses are not occurring.

As Quakers, we believe that torture is a moral and religious issue. We believe that there is "that of God" in every human being and therefore everyone deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. Torture does incalculable and long-lasting damage to the torturer, the torture victim and the witnesses of torture. Torture erodes a nation's moral fiber, diminishes its moral standing in the world, incites retaliation, and puts at risk the lives of its citizens abroad and at home.

We urge an end to this practice.”
PLENARY VI (continued)

Unity with Nature Committee: Clerk, Marilee, introduced the UWN Committee noting that the committee wished to bring forward a minute for approval. It was her decision that there was not enough time for adequate discussion and it would therefore be accepted as a report and a recommendation.

Committee clerk, Joe Morris (Santa Monica), reported that the committee has monthly conference calls and continues to make Earthcare Mini-Grants available for meetings’ environmental projects.

Joe presented some background on the issue of nuclear power and reported on a proposed minute. Some monthly meetings have held discussions on this issue and sent comments and questions to the committee. UWN suggests that all meetings hold threshing sessions, not aiming to find unity or make a decision, but to listen openly to each other and to stay informed on all perspectives on this issue. They recommend the book Fueling our Future.

The Clerk did not test for unity on approving the proposed minute. As stated earlier, there was not adequate time for thorough discussion. It is accepted as a report and a recommendation from the committee. It is attached for consideration by monthly meetings. The committee’s frustration was acknowledged.

See Attachment 10: Unity With Nature Report to PYM 2011

Minutes of Plenary VI were approved.

Announcements: Jean Lester (Orange Grove), Assistant to the Clerk, read announcements.

Closing Worship: Plenary VI was closed with worship at 12:16.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Cooke and Julie Harlow, Recording Co-clerks
Marilee Eusebio, Presiding Clerk
PLENARY VII


Presiding Clerk, Marilee Eusebio (Davis), opened the Plenary.

Epistle: Judith Favor (Claremont) read the epistle from Ireland YM whose gathering had the theme “Let your Life Speak”. They urged us to consider how we introduce ourselves to others. Because of a familiarity with the term “Quaker”, the listener may presume understanding and inquire no further. The use of the word “Friend”, however, requires us to give an explanation of who we are.

Treasurer: Ed Flowers (Apple Seed) explained that an announcement in the Daily Miracle was in error: It has not been decided to set up a Young Friends PYM Attendance Assistance Fund. This is not yet a line item. More work will be done on this suggestion before it is brought to Plenary for action.

There is also a typo in the Miracle that incorrectly says the assessment is $90 – the correct amount is $87 per member.

Site Committee: Jim Updegraff (Sacramento) reported on behalf of the committee. For the 2012 Annual Meeting of Pacific Yearly Meeting the committee is completing negotiations with Walker Creek Ranch in West Marin County for the second week of August, beginning August 13. There were concerns expressed about the gathering taking place so late in the summer. Some Friends will have conflicts with school schedules. Friends expressed regret concerning the conflict. Negotiations are already in process for 2013 so that we can avoid scheduling the gathering so late in the summer.

The Clerk read the name of Joyce Samati (Strawberry Creek) nominated as Junior Registrar. This will be brought to Representative Committee in March 2012 for action.

Preschool Epistle: The children presented a handwritten scroll describing their activities for the week, complete with artwork.

Dear Friends Everywhere,

In Preschool Program, we made food play dough. Emily let us do things on the computer. We read “Old Turtle” and “the Broken Truth.” We liked finger painting. We played with our friends. We found a nest. The mommy bird didn’t need it anymore. We drew many pictures. We dressed up. We sang music with the elementary school kids. We did water play and played with seeds outside. Getting wet made us laugh. It was an all-good week. P.S. We found another nest with a dead bird in it.

Middle School Epistle: Members from this group read their rhyming epistle.

See Attachment 11: Middle School Epistle 2011

Junior Yearly Meeting: Laura Adair (Central Coast) introduced the other 2 current clerks, Jayden Navarro (Santa Cruz), and Hana Castanedo (La Jolla), and the new clerks, Rose Mackenzie (Orange Grove), Brendan Fagen (Reno), Tommy Rios (La Jolla), who read the epistle from JYM.

See Attachment 12: Junior Yearly Meeting Epistle 2011
Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC): Jim Anderson (Chico) presented on behalf of FWCC, the Friends organization representing the great diversity of Quakers worldwide. Representatives from our yearly meeting participate in the Section of the Americas annual gatherings and the committees of the section, and bring that experience back into our yearly meeting. In addition, Robin Mohr (San Francisco) has begun service as Executive Secretary of the Section of the Americas, based in Philadelphia. Four supported delegates Hulda Muaka (Palo Alto), Lanie Clark (Santa Barbara), Shayne Lightner (Santa Monica) and Sarah Rose House-Lightner (Orange Grove) and a number of other Friends in open spaces will travel from Pacific Yearly Meeting to Kenya next April. Shayne Lightner and Sarah Rose House-Lightner are with us at this gathering as well as Anthony Manousos (Santa Monica), Ruth Ross (Orange Grove) and Donna Smith (Redwood Forest) who are attending in open spaces. In addition, Patricia Constantino (Mexico City) will serve as the Latin America delegate and Jill Anderson Wright (Mexico City) will be attending in an open space. We hold them in the Light and look forward to hearing from them at the 2012 gathering of Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Shayne Lightner (Santa Monica) expressed his honor at traveling as a delegate to the FWCC gathering. He will be convening the four delegates, and if Friends have anything in particular they would like them to carry to the Sixth World Conference of Friends, they should contact him (lightneris@earthlink.net) or one of the other delegates.

Young Friends: Nora Cooke (Grass Valley) presented a 21st century style epistle in the form of a Power Point presentation, a collage of photos and a summary of their activities from this session.

See Attachment 13: Young Friends Epistle 2011

PYM Epistle: The PYM Epistle was read by the Epistle Committee.

See Attachment 14: PYM Epistle 2011

The PYM Epistle was accepted with gratitude for the work of the committee.

Clerk’s Closing Minute: Clerk Marilee Eusebio (Davis) addressed the gathering, expressing her observations of our gathering. She noted our stretching in multiple ways. We joined with her in gratitude to Sarah Beutel, outgoing Youth Program Coordinator; Vanessa Julye, visiting Friend from Philadelphia; and Janice Dominick (Illinois Yearly Meeting). We look forward to welcoming them back to PYM sometime in the future. Marilee reminded us that together we are working for the Kingdom of God, and we hold our gathering in the Light.

Minutes of Plenary VII were read and approved.

Announcements: Jean Lester (Orange Grove), Assistant to the Clerk, read announcements;

Closing Worship: The presiding clerk announced that this 65th Annual Session of Pacific Yearly Meeting would be closed following worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Cooke and Julie Harlow, Recording Co-clerks
Marilee Eusebio, Presiding Clerk
# Action Minutes Approved by PYM, 2011

**PLENARY II Seventh Month, 26, 2011**


**PLENARY III Seventh Month, 27, 2011**

| PYM 2011-2 | Pacific Yearly Meeting approves laying down the second position of representative to the Friends Peace Teams Board. |

**PLENARY IV Seventh Month, 28, 2011**

| PYM 2011-3 | For Junior Yearly Meeting, Committee Expense Acct # 5227. Originally budgeted at $500. Request augmentation of $300 bringing total to $800. |
| PYM 2011-4 | For Western Friend Board, Travel Expense Acct# 5271. Originally budgeted at $1000. Request augmentation of $800 bringing total to $1800. For FGC Central Committee, Travel Expense Acct # 5278. Originally budgeted $750. Request augmentation of $250 bringing total to $1000. |
| PYM 2011-5 | The 2011-12 Budget was approved as presented. |

**PLENARY VI Seventh Month, 29, 2011**

| PYM 2011-6 | The following were approved for the Nominating Committee:
Carl Anderson (Strawberry Creek) 2011-2012
Stephen Matchett (San Francisco) 2011-2014
Liz Baker (Berkeley) 2011-2014
Maggie Hutchinson (Orange Grove) 2011-2014
David Barrows (San Diego) 2011-2012 (as Clerk) |
| PYM 2011-7 | The Nominating Committee Report for PYM 2011 was approved. |
As Friends, we stand firmly opposed to torture committed by anyone in any setting. We support the work of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (http://www.nrcat.org/) as well as of Quakers’ Initiative to End Torture (http://www.quit-torture-now.org/). We urge elected officials to bring to justice those who have authorized torture in violation of international law. We urge our governments to stop preventing the victims of torture from seeking redress and just compensation in our courts. We are also deeply concerned that cruel and inhumane punishment such as involuntary long-term solitary confinement are taking place in prisons in California and throughout the USA and the world. Finally, we support the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT), which can help prevent torture and abuse by requiring a ratifying country to establish National Preventative Mechanisms (NPMs) to monitor the treatment of prisoners. In addition to the NPMs, OPCAT allows for international oversight of places of confinement to ensure that torture and other abuses are not occurring.

As Quakers, we believe that torture is a moral and religious issue. We believe that there is "that of God" in every human being and therefore everyone deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. Torture does incalculable and long-lasting damage to the torturer, the torture victim and the witnesses of torture. Torture erodes a nation’s moral fiber, diminishes its moral standing in the world, incites retaliation, and puts at risk the lives of its citizens abroad and at home.

We urge an end to this practice.”
## PYM Roll Call
### PYM Annual Gathering 2011, Plenary I

<table>
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<td>Appleseed</td>
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Page 23
Future of PYM, M&O subcommittee – Framing Statement

Jim Anderson, clerk of the Futures Subcommittee of M&O, attended our May meeting and brought us a report outlining the history of the 3 years of the committee's work and recommending some possible ways forward. We also heard PYM Clerk Marilee Eusebio's report of Representative Committee in March. We'd like to commend the Futures subcommittee for their work and share some highlights of M&O's discussion with you. (The full Futures Report and RepCom minutes are available in reading room).

M&O discussed one of the first issues taken up by the Future's subcommittee, “We don't seem to have a clear shared understanding of the purpose of Yearly Meeting and our Annual Gathering.”

We began by making a distinction between the terms PYM (or Yearly Meeting) and Annual Gathering (AG). PYM refers to the entire Yearly Meeting, including the two Quarterly Meetings, and all of the Monthly Meetings and individuals that make up the Yearly Meeting as a whole. It also includes the RepCom. The Annual Gathering refers to the yearly gathering in which we come together for decision making, spiritual renewal, and fellowship.

We voiced our perception of Annual Gathering as a chance to see what the whole of yearly meeting is, beyond our Monthly Meetings, to experience the beloved community, to understand and nurture the spirit of that whole. We are reminded that we are a whole, a Society of Friends, rather than a loosely connected collection of Meetings pursuing disparate practices in a disjointed manner. Our Faith and Practice, our attention to good order, and our seeking the will of the Spirit in corporate worship bind us together.

At our Annual Gathering we can be stretched anew - we can find the clarity and light to be powerful in speaking truth to each other and in speaking truth to the world. As one member put it," we believe there is that of God in everyone. If we take this seriously and pay attention it can be powerful. It is easier to pay attention, to see that of God in everyone, when we are in community. If the whole community pays attention, it can be really powerful in the world."

Our Annual Gatherings provide a much needed place for children, teens, young Friends, and Friends from smaller meetings to come together in community. The Annual Gathering can be a space where we acknowledge, listen to, are inspired by, and support those whose radical, committed lives are visible among us. We (M&O) hear a yearning to be Spirit led and to nurture one another's lives in the Spirit. We look to PYM to help us to change our lives to better live our testimonies. When this happens, the ripples affect not just those who attend the Annual Gathering, but also all the individuals and Meetings in our region. If the main purpose of the Annual Gathering could shift to one of spiritual development and nurture, then the gathering would have sessions, workshops, themes, and speakers that relate to that purpose.
Attachment 2 (continued)

Future of PYM, M&O subcommittee – Framing Statement

What about our plenary sessions in which we worship together on the occasion of business? It was the sense of Futures Committee, and our experience as well, that our business process faces difficulties. In the best of plenaries we are in worship, trying to discern how the Spirit is guiding us as a whole.

However, some of us perceive a creeping sense of mistrust at our Annual Gatherings and sense that attention to good order is not always as it could be. We began to wonder whether those who attend the Annual Gathering, that is those who have the time and money to do so, are really representative of all the Quakers in Pacific Yearly Meeting. Is this the group who should be making the decisions?

The Ministry and Oversight Committee is hopeful that our Annual Gatherings will move towards dedicating more time to community and spiritual development, and less time to business. In order to do that, we will need to understand what business needs to involve everyone and come to plenary, and what can be given to the Representative Committee or be delegated to standing committees.

We propose to continue the work that Futures Committee has begun to strengthen the role of the representatives so that there is a real connection between Monthly Meetings and the Yearly Meeting via the Representative Committee. Just a reminder: Representative Committee is open to anyone who wishes to attend, and currently meets once during the year, in March.

We know that you will have questions and comments, and I want to assure you that we will have some time for those before we close. However, we'd like to flesh out some specifics for you, and at this time I'd like to pass the mic to Brian Vura Weiss.
## Treasurer Report, 2011

### Pym General Account - Revenue and Expenses

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<th>Financial Category</th>
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<th>FY 2009-10 (Actual)</th>
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As of July 21, 2011

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Attachment 3

Plenary III, Seventh Month, 27, 2011
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As of July 21, 2011.

Page 2 of 5
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number and Title</th>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Liabilities and Reserves</th>
<th>Total Assets</th>
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<tr>
<td>Balance on 9/30/10</td>
<td>Balance on 7/21/11</td>
<td>Balance on FY 2010-11</td>
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<td>1701 — General Account Checking (Wells Fargo)</td>
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<td>8,717</td>
<td>21,151</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1704 — Invested Capital (Pax World)</td>
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<td>1705 to 1710 — Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>31,126</td>
<td>15,358</td>
<td>46,484</td>
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<td>1724 — FCG Meeting House Fund</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<td>1725 — Investments of Faith &amp; Practice</td>
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<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>177,544</td>
<td>93,934</td>
<td>271,478</td>
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# PYM GENERAL ACCOUNT - EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR BALANCE SHEET

1. Investment with Friends Fiduciary has not taken place due to volatile market conditions. Finance Committee authorized up to $80,000 to be invested with Friends Fiduciary. See minute PYM 2007-4 authorizing investments in Friends Fiduciary.

2. Accounts receivable is money owed by the Session acct ($33,355) plus $300 of Student Conscience Loan.

3. Faith and Practice Inventory: The AFSC bookstore made two payments in 2010-11.

4. Not used.

5. Reserve for pre-publication expenses of next PYM Faith and Practice per PYM 2004-09.

6. Reserve fund for young people to participate in FGC; it began in 2000 at $20,480.

7) Reserve Fund accounts are tied to current year expense accounts that are shown in parenthesis as "(52xx)". These Reserve Fund accounts have "caps" so that they do not accumulate more money than is required:
   - 2713-Clerks Travel & Discretionary cap is $2,000 (reference PYM 2004-10).
   - 2714-Committee Supplemental Expense cap is $2,000 (reference PYM 2004-10).
   - 2722-Equipment Purchase cap is $1,500 (reference PYM 2004-10).
   - 2723-Audit Account cap is $4,000 (reference PYM 2004-10).
   - 2741-Wider Fellowship Travel Reserve was eliminated (reference PYM 92-5).
   - 2742-Young Friends Travel Reserve cap is $2,500 (reference PYM 92-4).
   - 2743-FWCC Section of the Americas Travel Reserve cap is $1,500 (reference PYM 2008-4).
   - 2744-FGC Central Committee Travel Reserve cap is $500 (reference PYM 2005-06).
   - 2745-FUM Travel Reserve cap is $2,500 (reference PYM 2008-4). FUM meets every three years.
   - 2746-General Reunion of Friends, Mexico Travel Reserve cap is $1,000 (reference PYM 2008-4).
   - 2747-FWCC Triennial Reserve cap is eliminated (reference PYM 2010, Plenary III)
   - 2748-Western Friend Travel has a cap of $1,000.
   - 2749-Latin American Concerns cap is $1,500 (reference PYM 2004-10).

8. These are the only funds available for general PYM use. Beginning FY 1994-1995, the Session Account, including expenses and income connected with the annual sessions, is reported separately.

9. Pursuant to Repcom 2011, PYM Traveling Friend Fund was created (managed by M&O). $3,473 was transferred from #2732.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>Balance as of 7/1/11</th>
<th>Balance as of 6/30/11</th>
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<td>6001 - Session Checking Account</td>
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<td>6002 - Accounts Receivable</td>
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<td>6003 - Other Receivables</td>
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<tr>
<td>6040 - Total Assets</td>
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<td>LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</td>
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<tr>
<td>6201 - Accounts Payable</td>
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<tr>
<td>6202 - Pymi session reserves</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>6203 - Pymi general Reserves</td>
<td>20,096</td>
<td>20,096</td>
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<tr>
<td>6204 - Pymi - pymi general 4 act</td>
<td>3,326</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</td>
<td>33,698</td>
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</table>

Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

July 21, 2011
Friends House 2011 Report to PYM

Friends House was envisioned by College Park Quarterly Meeting Friends during the late 1970s and early 1980s, and came into being during 1984. As a three-level Continuing Care Retirement Community, Friends House features 64 independent living apartments and 3 houses; assisted living for six persons; and skilled nursing care. As the only unprogrammed Quaker retirement facility on the west coast Friends House has always been unique. This uniqueness meant and means not only a Board and committees which reach unity rather than majority rule; a community comfortable with simplicity; and a pricing model committed to offering accommodations and services at the lowest feasible cost.

Friends House provides a ready-made intentional community for meeting Friends and like-minded non-Friends. Friends House has been in Santa Rosa for 27 years and we are proud of the community we’ve created. Our small size supports the intimacy we experience; but does not create economy of scale or allow operating cost to be spread among a large number of residents.

For two decades, Friends House’s pricing model worked largely because of market rate pricing of skilled nursing beds and services. Now, for a myriad of reasons including the skilled nursing unit’s age and three years of general economic retrenchment, like other retirement communities Friends House faces financial challenges.

Perhaps the biggest challenge Friends House faces is simply making right choices for the future. A Board decision to evolve the skilled nursing unit into a personal care center is in keeping with Friends House’s original commitment to a social model rather than a medical model, but has been met with the realization that this option would mean significant monthly fee increases for residents and further seasoning of how to proceed.

Uncertainty surrounding Friends House’s composition – whether to keep or close the skilled nursing unit – and pricing, is causing our residents much concern. Their concern is both justified because their future is tied to Friends House’s future, and inflated as Friends House has underlying strength. Among these are Pacific Yearly Meeting Friends, who are Friends House natural constituency; Friends House’s dedicated staff; a high equity to debt ratio of about 7 to 1; two yet to be developed parcels that will allow more independent apartments to be constructed when way opens; and low fees which, even with increases that may be necessary, will remain among the most affordable available in California. In other words, Friends House looks forward to change and growth, and is carefully discerning the way forward.

While one of Friends House’s operating assumptions is that its residents will be half Friends and half non-Friends, currently non-Friends predominate. Friends House needs your spiritual and financial support and, if you are thinking of where to live in retirement, your consideration.

Faithfully,

F.A.S.E. d/b/a Friends House
Pacific Yearly Meeting Holding Corporation’s Report to Pacific Yearly Meeting’s 2011 Annual Gathering

Pacific Yearly Meeting Holding Corporation is a section 501(c)(2) non-profit corporation. While (c)(3) non-profits are as common as pigeons in parks, (c)(2) non-profits are rarely encountered. In Internal Revenue Service parlance, a religious holding corporation is a “fully integrated church auxiliary” where “fully integrated” means integral, “auxiliary” means adjunct and “church” means a congregation united by faith or belief. In keeping therewith, PYM Holding Corporation is separate from but essential to the right functioning of Pacific Yearly Meeting.

PYM Holding Corporation is a corporate fiduciary whose job is to hold title to real property and other assets for Pacific Yearly Meeting and its associated Monthly Meetings. Thus corporation members must take their fiduciary responsibilities seriously. At this time, in addition to holding cash and stock for two Monthly Meetings, PYM Holding Corporation is responsible for holding and disbursing the proceeds received from laying down San Fernando Valley Meeting and selling its Meetinghouse.

From that late 1996 sale, Friends received cash plus a 20-year note for $105,000 with a robust 9% interest rate. For the first 10 years, these proceeds could only be spent to help Pacific Yearly Meeting obtain a permanent site. To this end, over a decade ago $25,000 was distributed to PFOS – Pacific Friends Outreach Society. With Pacific Yearly Meeting’s failure come to unity upon the PFOS/Quaker Oaks Visalia site or obtain a different permanent site, on Halloween of 2006 the sale’s proceeds became available to help PYM’s Monthly Meetings acquire Meetinghouses.

During 2009, PYM Holding Corporation gave $50,000 to San Diego Monthly Meeting to support its participation in the construction of the San Diego Friends Center, a just under 7,000 square foot building within the City of San Diego, which unites San Diego Monthly Meeting, San Diego Church of the Brethren, the San Diego Peace Resource Center, and the San Diego Area Program of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) as partners in the building.

As authorized during PYMHC’s 2010 annual gathering, PYM Holding Corporation has given Chico Friends Meeting and Inland Valley Friends Meeting $50,000 for their new Meetinghouses.

As of July 14, 2011, the remaining proceeds consist of $90,915 in a bank account and the further $52,410 which remains due on the 9% note. The note is seven months behind, which is five months more than has been usual for the “Church of God”, which purchased the former San Fernando Valley Meetinghouse. These arrears, which have mushroomed since our last gathering, will be grappled with by PYM Holding Corporation at this year’s annual gathering.

As of this writing, there have been no new requests for funds to help Monthly Meetings, Preparative Meetings or Worship Groups acquire new Meetinghouses.

Faithfully,

s/ Lanny Jay

Lanny Jay
Clerk of PYMHC
7/14/11
1. Finance Committee will be having an open committee meeting on Wed. 7/27 at 3:30pm. This will be a time for discussion of questions and concerns regarding the budget and any recommendations before the budget is brought back to Plenary for approval on Thursday at 10:30am.

2. 2010-2011 Budget Augmentation Requests

   a. For Junior Yearly Meeting, Committee Expense Acct # 5227. Originally budgeted at $500. Request augmentation of $300 bringing total to $800. Reason: Committee expenses exceeded budget.

   b. For Western Friend Board, Travel Expense Acct# 5271. Originally budgeted at $1000. Request augmentation of $800 bringing total to $1800. Reason: Transportation exceeded budget.

   c. For FGC Central Committee, Travel Expense Acct # 5278. Originally budgeted $750. Request augmentation of $250 bringing total to $1000. Reason: Transportation was more than anticipated.

3. Finance Committee will participate in a meeting with Nominating Committee on Saturday at lunch to orient current and new clerks and conveners in budget and expense matters.

4. The 2011-2012 Budget is very similar to this year’s budget. The projected expenses are almost the same as those budgeted for the current year. In fact, there is a slight reduction. The budget includes an increased draw from Reserves which results in a lower assessment. The reduction in assessment from $90 to $87 is basically from the transfer of Youth Program Reserves into the General Budget.

Donna Smith, Clerk
Finance Committee
## Pacific Yearly Meeting 2011-12 Budget

### INCOME

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<td>4101</td>
<td>Contributions from Member Meetings</td>
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<td>4104</td>
<td>Return on Invested Capital</td>
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<td>4105</td>
<td>Transfer from (to) Unrestricted Reserve</td>
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<td>4106</td>
<td>Transfer from (to) YPC Reserve</td>
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### EXPENSE

#### GENERAL EXPENSES

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<td>Expenses of the Officers</td>
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<td>5208</td>
<td>Travel-Repcom - Mar. &amp; Ann. Sess.</td>
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<td>Audit Account R2723</td>
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<td>PYM Attendance Assistance Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
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<td>5214</td>
<td>Holding Corporation Expenses</td>
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<td>Western Friend</td>
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<td>Misc. Operating Expenses</td>
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#### COMMITTEE EXPENSES

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<td>Children’s Program</td>
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<td>Unity with Nature</td>
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<td>Committee Supplemental Expense R2714</td>
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<td>Latin American Concerns</td>
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### SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS

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<td>5252</td>
<td>Friends Committee on Legislation of CA</td>
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<td>5254</td>
<td>FWCC</td>
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<td>5255</td>
<td>Quaker United Nations Office NY</td>
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<td>5256</td>
<td>William Penn House, Washington</td>
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<td>5260</td>
<td>AFSC (LA &amp; SF)</td>
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<td>5261</td>
<td>Friends House Moscow</td>
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<td>5263</td>
<td>Right Sharing of World Resources</td>
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<td>5264</td>
<td>Friends General Conference</td>
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<td>5266</td>
<td>Quaker Earthcare Witness</td>
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**SUBTOTAL SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGS.** 9,000

### CONFERENCE TRAVEL/PYM DELEGATES

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<td>Western Friend Board <strong>R2748</strong> (3)</td>
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<td>5275</td>
<td>AFSC (5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5277</td>
<td>FCNL (6) &amp; William Penn House (1)</td>
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<td>5278</td>
<td>FG Central Committee <strong>R2744</strong> (1)</td>
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<td>FWCC, Section of the Americas <strong>R2743</strong> (5)</td>
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<td>5286</td>
<td>Quaker Earthcare Witness (2)</td>
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<td>5287</td>
<td>FWCC World Gathering <strong>R2747</strong> (4)</td>
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<td>5288</td>
<td>Young Friends Travel <strong>R2742</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>5289</td>
<td>Friends Peace Team Board (1)</td>
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**SUBTOTAL CONFERENCE TRAVEL/PYM DEL.** 22,350

### PROGRAM

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<td>6160</td>
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<tr>
<td>6190</td>
<td>Other</td>
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</table>

**SUBTOTAL PROGRAMS** 66,001

**TOTAL EXPENSES** 146,001

**NOTES:**

Line items with **(R###)** have a reserve associated with them.

Per member assessment:
- California & Nevada: $87
- Guatemala and Hawaii: $41
- Mexico City: $15
PYM Officers

Presiding Clerk (one-year term)
2012 Marilee Eusebio, Davis (2009)

Assistant to the Clerk (one-year term)
2012 Jim Eusebio, Davis (2011)

Arrangements Clerks (two-year terms)
2013 Barry Ansell, Marin (2011)

Historian / Archivist (three-year term)
2012 David Morse, Orange Grove (2009)

Reading Clerk (one-year term)
2012 Russell Swanagon, Central Coast (2011)

Recording Clerks (two-year terms)
2012 Amy Cooke, Grass Valley (2011)
2013 Julie Harlow, Davis (2010)

Registrars (two-year terms)
2012 Sarah Tyrrell, Berkeley (2010)
2013 Joyce Samati, Strawberry Creek

Statistical Clerk (three-year term)
2013 Lee Knutsen, Palo Alto (2007)

Treasurer (three-year term, 10/1/10 – 9/30/13)
2013 Ed Flowers, Apple Seed (2010)

Assistant to Treasurer (one year term)
2011 not needed this year

PYM Committees

Ministry and Oversight Committee
(9 members, 3-year terms)
2012 Bronwen Hillman, Mexico City (2011)
2012 Lanny Jay, Redwood Forest (2009)
2012 Robin DuRant, Orange Grove (2007)
2013 Sarah Rose House, Orange Grove (2008)
2013 Barbara Babin, Redwood Forest (2010) Clerk
2013 Gary Wolff, Orange Grove (2010)
2014 Carol Mosher, Berkeley (2009)
2014 Joe Magruder, Berkeley (2011)

Children’s Program Committee
(6 members, 3-year terms)
2012 Davetta Williams, Claremont (2008)
2013 Heather Elrick-Forbes, Santa Cruz (2008)
2013 Rhea Farley, Strawberry Creek (2010) Clerk
2014 Denise Williams, Santa Barbara (2011)
2014 Terrill Keeler, Live Oak (2011)
Ex Officio: current and past coordinators

 Discipline Committee
(6 members, 3-year terms)
2012 Jorge Martinez, Mexico City (2009)
2012 Eric Moon, Berkeley (2007)
2013 Burton Housman, La Jolla (2007)
2013 Carolyn Stephenson, Honolulu (2010) Clerk
2014 Jan Tappan, Orange Grove (2009)
2014 Stratton Jaquette, Palo Alto (2011)
Ex Officio: Historian/Archivist

Finance Committee
(6 members, 3-year terms)
2012 Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2009)
2013 Donna Smith, Redwood Forest (2007) Clerk
2013 Barbara Moulton, Redwood Forest (2010)
2014 Martha Hunkins, Humboldt (2010)
2014 Claire Gorfinkel, Orange Grove (2011)
Ex Officio: Treasurer(s), Statistical Clerk

Holding Corporation Committee
(6 members, 3-year terms)
2012 Cliff Lester, Orange Grove (2006)
2013 Gary Wolff, Orange Grove (2010)
2014 Roy Allen, Berkeley (2011)
2014 Donna Smith, Redwood Forest (2011)
Ex Officio: Treasurer, Presiding Clerk
(This committee appoints its own officers.)

Junior Yearly Meeting Committee
(9 members, 3-year terms)
2012 Estelle Stevens, Orange Grove
2012 Melissa Lovett-Adair, Cntl Coast (2007)
2013 Sue Rios, La Jolla (2007)
2013 Sarah Bottom, La Jolla (2010)
2013 Sue Torrey, Central Coast (2010)
Latin American Concerns Committee
(5–9 members), 3-year terms
2012 Barbara Babin, Redwood Forest (2010)
2013 Donna Smith, Redwood Forest (2007)
2013 Diane Dunn, Inland Valley (2010)
2014 Anandi Van Diepen (2008)
2014 Jill Anderson Wright, Mexico City (2011)
2014 Phoenix Madrone, Santa Cruz (2011)
(plus three members appointed by Guatemala MM, Mexico City MM, & El Salvador Projec)

Peace and Social Order Committee
(9 members, 3-year terms)
2012 Ken Dunn, Inland Valley (2009)
2013 Hubert Morel-Seytoux, Palo Alto (2008)
2013 Jeff Kroeber, San Jose (2009) Clerk
2013 Emily Leo, San Jose (2010)
2014 Lucia van Diepen, Live Oak/Marin/Soledad WG (2008)
2014 Alvaro Alvarado, Sacramento (2011)
2014 Bill Spencer, Humboldt (2011)
Ex Officio: clerks CPQM & SCQM P&SO, 1 PYM FCNL rep., & PYM FCL rep.

Religious Education for Children Committee
(9 members, 3-year terms)
2012 Madeline Schleimer, Orange Grove (2009)
2012 Gail Coonan, Humboldt (2009)
2012 Tom Farley, Palo Alto (2010)
2013 Lucia van Diepen, Live Oak (2008)
2013 Bill Visher, Santa Cruz (2010)
2013 Cate Wilson, Orange Grove (2010)
2014 Sandy Farley (2008) Clerk
2014 Sue Scott Inland Valley (2010)
2014 Ramona Hussey, Honolulu (2011)

Secretariat Committee
(3 members, 3-year terms)
2013 Eric Moon, Berkeley (2007)
2014 Keith Runyan, Chico (2011)
Ex Officio: Assistant to Presiding Clerk

Site Committee
(6 members 3-year terms)
2012 John Pixley, Claremont (2009)
2013 Pat Wolff, Orange Grove (2010)
2013 Joe Franko, Orange Grove (2010)
2014 Paul Harris, Redwood Forest (2011)
2014 Walt Jones, Delta/Vassalboro MM, NEYM (2011)
Ex Officio: Arrangements Clerks (current & immediate past)

Unity with Nature Committee
(9 members, 3-year terms)
2012 Joe Morris, Santa Monica (2006)
2012 Steve Harris, Palo Alto (2009)
2012 Susan Swanstrom, Missoula/RF (2009)
2013 Oliver Ryder, La Jolla (2009)
2013 Nathan Helm-Burger (2010)
2014 Maia Wolff, Central Coast (2008), Co-clerk
2014 Muriel Strand, Sacramento (2011)
2014 Sandra Lewis, Strawberry Creek (2011)

Youth Program Coordinator
(staff; appointed by YPCSC below; 3 year trial period; term at-will)
Alyssa Nelson, Davis (2011)

Youth Program Coordinator Supervisory
(term 1 year, renewable; 3 year trial period)
2012 Lanny Jay, Redwood Forest (2009)
2012 Kate Watkins, Santa Monica (2009) Clerk
2012 Mary Klein, Palo Alto (2009)
2012 Jim Summers, La Jolla (2011)
Ex officio: Youth Program Coordinator Supervisor

Youth Program Coordinator Supervisor
(appointed by ad hoc committee 2009, then YPCSC above; term 1 year, renewable)
Elizabeth Boardman, San Francisco (2009)
Nominating Committee
(9 members, 3-year terms)
2012  David Barrows, San Diego (2009) Clerk
2012  Carl Anderson, Strawberry Creek (2011)
2012  Henriette Groot, Central Coast (2010)
2013  Tom Farley, Palo Alto (2010)
2013  Maia Wolff, Central Coast (2010)
2013  Winnie Sunshine, La Jolla (2010)
2014  Stephen Matchett, San Francisco (2011)
2014  Maggie Hutchinson, Orange Grove (2011)

PYM Representatives, Delegates, and Observers to Other Organizations

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)
(5 representatives, 3-year terms)
2012  Renie Wong Lindley, Honolulu (2009)
2012  Diego Navarro, Santa Cruz (2009)
2013  Cliff Lester, Orange Grove (2010)
2014  Kristy Updegraff, Sacramento (2008), Conv.
2014  Michael Eastwood, Humboldt/SF (2011)

Evangelical Friends Church Southwest
(1 observer; 3-year term)
2013  Andrew Secrest, Lake Cty/Bk Fr Ch (2013)

Friends Bulletin Corporation Board of Directors
(3 board members, 3-year terms)
2012  Jim Mangis, Visalia (2011)
2014  Mary Ann Percy, La Jolla (2011)

Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCLCA)
2011  1 representative, appointed by PYM

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)
(6 representatives, 3-year terms)
2012  Hubert Morel-Seytoux, PA (2008)
2012  Nate Secrest, Lake County (2009)
2013  Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2010), Conv.
2013  Amy Southwick, Apple Seed (2010)
2014  Eric Moon, Berkeley (2008)
2014  Peter Neumann, Santa Barbara (2011)

Quaker Earthcare Witness  formerly FCUN
2011
2011  2 representatives, 2-year terms, appointed by Unity with Nature Committee

FGC Central Committee Representative
(2 representatives, 3-year term - see note)
2013  Cate Wilson, Orange Grove (2010)*
2014  Keenan Lorenzato, Davis
*1 representative selected from Religious Education for Children to join FGC Religious Education Committee

Friends Peace Team Project Board of Directors
(2 board directors, 3-year terms)
   Rachel Fretz, Santa Monica (2002)*
   * Released Friend not appointed by PYM
2012  Gay Howard, Central Coast (2009)

Friends United Meeting (FUM)
(1 observer, 3-year term)
2013  Elaine Emily, Strawberry Creek (2008)

FWCC Section of the Americas
(5 representatives, 3-year terms)
2012  Ruth Ross, Orange Grove (2009)
2013  Marie Vastola, Live Oak (2011)
2013  Anthony Manousos, Sta. Monica (2010), Conv.
2014  Roena Oesting, La Jolla (2011)

Reunion General de los Amigos en Mexico
(1 observer, 2-year term, every 18 months)
2013  Jill Anderson Wright, Mexico City (2011)

William Penn House Board
(1 representative, 1-year term)
2012  Amy Southwick, Apple Seed (2010)

FWCC – Salt and Light Conference Kenya
2012
2012  Shayne Lightner, Santa Monica, Conv.

2012  Hulda Muaka, Palo Alto (2011)
2012  Lane Clark, Santa Barbara (2011)
2012  Sarah Rose House-Lightner, Orange Gr.

*1 representative selected from Religious Education for Children to join FGC Religious Education Committee
Holding Corporation
(one year term)
2012 Lanny Jay, Redwood Forrest, Clerk
2012 Cliff Lester, Orange Grove, Secretary
2012 Gary Wolff, Orange Grove, Treasurer
2012 Stratton Jaquette, Palo Alto, Asst. Clerk

Young Friends (YF)
(one year term)
2012 Nate Secreast, Lake County, Co-clerk
2012 Nora Cooke, Grass Valley, Co-clerk

M&O Subcommittees
(For information only)

Worship-Sharing Subcommittee:
(to be appointed at the May M&O meeting)

Electronic Subcommittee:
Don Bean (Clerk)
Tom Yamaguchi
Jan Tappan
Eric Moon

Mexico City Subcommittee:
Brian Vura-Weis (Clerk)
Bronwen Hillman
DJ Bloom

Ministry and Leadings Subcommittee:
Sue Torrey (Clerk)
Elaine Emily
Ken Schwartzentraub
Laura Magnani
Judith Favor

Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM)
(one year term)
2012 Brendan Fagen, Reno, Co-clerk
2012 Thomas Rios, La Jolla, Co-clerk
2012 Rose Mackenzie, Orange Grove, Co-clerk

JYM Ministry & Oversight
2012 Grady Fowler, Orange Grove, M&O Clerk
2012 Emma Castanedo, La Jolla
2012 Augie Brinker, Santa Cruz
2012 Clare Griese, La Jolla
2012 Tess Solenberger, Bellingham

M&O Subcommittees
(For information only)

Racial Justice Subcommittee:
Diego Navarro, (Co-clerk)
Charla Robertson (Co-clerk)
Laura Magnani (Co-clerk)
Carl Magruder
Jim Summers
Steve Smith
Heather Howard
Alvaro Alvarado
Cayman Howard
Deborah Marks
John Cantu.

PYM Visioning Subcommittee:
(nominations are in process)

Representative Support Subcommittee:
(nominations are in process)

Web Coordinator
web@pacificyearlymeeting.org
Don Bean, Conejo Valley
Pacific Yearly Meeting Statistical Report - 2011

Statistical Report on Membership as of May 31, 2011

This report summarizes the membership in the Religious Society of Friends within the constituent monthly meetings of Pacific Yearly Meeting at the close of the statistical year that ended May 31, 2011.

There are 37 constituent Monthly Meetings. Twenty-four meetings are in College Park Quarterly Meeting (65% of the total), nine meetings are in Southern California Quarterly Meeting (27% of the total), and four meetings not affiliated with a Quarterly Meeting (Big Island, Honolulu, Guatemala, and Mexico City), which represent 7% of the membership.

There are 14 worship groups:

- Conejo Valley and Whitleaf, under the care of Orange Grove Meeting
- Las Vegas Worship Group, under the care of Inland Valley Meeting
- Ojai Worship Group, under the care of Santa Barbara Meeting
- Friends House, Ukiah, and Lake County Worship Groups under the care of Redwood Forest Meeting
- Sierra Foothills Worship Group, under the care of Delta Monthly Meeting
- West Marin Worship Group, under the care of San Francisco Meeting
- Friends of Soledad Worship Group, under the care of Marin Friends Meeting
- Southern Humboldt Worship Group, under the care of Humboldt Meeting
- Maui, Kauai, and Molokai Worship Groups under the care of Honolulu Meeting

Two Meetings have 100 or more members: Palo Alto, with 101, and Strawberry Creek with 106. Six Meetings have 10 or fewer members: Fresno, Napa-Sonoma, Redding, Big Island, Guatemala, and Mexico City.

Two Meetings experienced growth of 10% or more: Chico with 11.1%, and Fresno, with 12.5% growth.

Overall membership has decreased by 31 members, reducing total membership to 1417, down from 1,462 last year.

A 10-year Year-over-Year view of PYM membership changes, and the number and types of changes per Meeting, will be included in each Meeting’s folder, and available on the Pacific Yearly Meeting Website.
### Pacific Yearly Meeting

**Statistical Report - Summary of Meeting Responses**

**Statistical Year:** June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2011

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<th>Losses</th>
<th></th>
<th>Total Adjustments</th>
<th>Number of Meetings</th>
<th>Change in Number</th>
<th>Report Change</th>
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<td>(5)</td>
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<td>(20)</td>
<td>(28)</td>
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Note1: Adjustments include gains and losses that occurred in prior years reported incorrectly at the time.
## Pacific Yearly Meeting Membership - Year over Year View
### 2001-2011

<table>
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<td>1,472</td>
<td>1,480</td>
<td>1,516</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td><strong>Decreases</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Released or Withdrew</td>
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<td>(15)</td>
<td>(20)</td>
<td>(14)</td>
<td>(22)</td>
<td>(27)</td>
<td>(25)</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>End of Statistical Year</strong></td>
<td>1,480</td>
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<td><strong>Net Gain (Loss)</strong></td>
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<td>(7)</td>
<td>(9)</td>
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<td>(37)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>(13)</td>
<td>(32)</td>
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<td><strong>Percent Gain (Loss)</strong></td>
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<td>0.33%</td>
<td>0.86%</td>
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<td>-2.48%</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
<td>-0.89%</td>
<td>-2.21%</td>
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| **Ten-year Change** | -4.26% |
| **Annual Rate of Change** | -0.43% |
Good morning Friends. I’d like to begin my report to you with a quotation from Christina Van Regenmorter, taken from her 2008 pamphlet, *Coming into Friendship as a Gift.*

> It can be tempting to look at the absence of young faces in our meeting houses and blame it on the “digital age” or on young people needing “something more lively.” However, … I believe that they, like me, ache to have a spiritual community where they feel truly seen, truly held and deeply challenged.

During my 16-month relationship with PYM, I have arrived at a similar understanding, which is this: That whether you knew it or not, PYM created this position of Youth Program Coordinator not because PYM needed to provide “something more lively” for its youth, but because Friends of many ages felt a longing to be truly seen, held, and challenged by PYM, and believed that stronger intergenerational understanding would help.

Through my interactions with individuals, Monthly Meetings and the YPC Supervisory Committee, it has become apparent to me that rather than being an event planner or a program manager, the Youth Program Coordinator needs to be a resource, an interpreter, and a catalyst.

I base this belief on my 16 months of work with PYM, work that included extended visits with 21 Monthly Meetings, attendance at 11 gatherings hosted by different groupings within PYM, 3 new events that I initiated, and approximately 175 intentional one-on-one conversations with Friends about their intergenerational experiences in PYM and their hopes for youth involvement in the future. Throughout this work, I’ve witnessed a wide range of interest levels and commitment levels to this initiative. Not surprisingly, I have seen that my work has been most successful when Friends have gotten actively involved in the reflection and planning needed to try something new.

Let me say a little bit about my experiences as catalyst, interpreter, and resource:

The YPC as a Catalyst: The very existence of this program gives Friends a reason and opportunity to hold focused conversations about ways to nurture our youth. When meetings choose to engage in focused conversation about the current state of youth involvement in monthly, quarterly, and yearly meetings, and work together to envision new possibilities, then new doors open. For example, during a dinner in Palo Alto with Friends from a couple different meetings, a Friend suggested the idea of combining Sunday teen programs occasionally. Separately, each of these meetings has just a few teens so that it’s a challenge to sustain a teen program. Together, they hold a critical mass of teens. Since that dinner, these meetings have jointly sponsored several lively sessions of teen worship and fellowship. Key to this development was a simple dinner gathering to introduce me and to consider my role as YPC. Friends took it from there.
The YPC as an *Interpreter*: Our work of forming intergenerational relationships is akin to becoming bilingual and bicultural. When we're communicating cross-culturally we make mistakes, we struggle with how to express ourselves, and sometimes we use the wrong word and embarrass ourselves unknowingly. It takes energy and effort and courage. The ability to speak both ‘adult’ and ‘teen’ is a key part of the work of the YPC. For example, just yesterday I had a conversation with one of our FAPs about translating the teen-speak expression “hanging out” into the adult-speak expression “community building.” Both labels refer to the time we must spend in fellowship to strengthen our Society of Friends -- getting to know new people, caring that none are excluded, and breaking bread together. The YPC can help adults and teens understand when they are actually talking about the same thing when they might otherwise think that they are at odds.

The YPC as a *Resource*: One of the highlights of my time as your YPC has been facilitating two Friendly Adult Presence (FAP) workshops during the past few months to help prepare Friends to serve as FAPs. Consistent presence of adults is essential for successful teen programs. But the reality is, few people like jumping into a situation where they feel unprepared, and most Friends have been reluctant to serve as FAPs. The FAP workshops gave folks of all levels of experience with teens an opportunity to learn about PYM teen programs, ask questions and practice skills of intergenerational communication. The discussions were rich and participants told me that they walked away with a new confidence and energy for interacting with our teens.

In closing, I want to thank the young people of PYM for sharing your lives and your community with me. Your insight and commitment and enthusiasm have been invaluable as I worked to give shape to this job. Your vision for your community is a vision for all of us. I’m so grateful that I’ve gotten to play a role in this effort to make that vision a reality. You will stay in my heart as I move to Colorado, and I’ll be watching from there to see where this experiment takes you.

**Part II – Mary Klein (Palo Alto Meeting), Program Supervisor on behalf of the Supervisory Committee**

It is a pleasure to report to you on the progress PYM has made to date in our three-year experiment of employing a Youth Program Coordinator. We have successfully completed the first sixteen months of this program, which has the goal of providing PYM with continuous support, coordination, and inspiration for our collective efforts to grow in faith and fellowship as an intergenerational community -- at this annual gathering and throughout the year -- and especially to meet the spiritual needs of our teens and young adults.

On April 1, 2010, we hired Sarah Beutel to launch this program with us. Simultaneously, our newly formed Youth Program Coordinator Supervisory Committee established our own procedures for laboring together, created the administrative infrastructures needed by an employer, and clarified specific goals and objectives for the program. In short, we have been building the train as it has been moving forward. Hats off to PYM Treasurers Gary Wolff and Ed Flowers for helping make this possible!
Our committee currently consists of 5 seasoned adults: clerk Kate Watkins from Santa Monica, Mary Klein from Palo Alto, Lanny Jay from Redwood Forest, Jim Summers from La Jolla, and Elizabeth Boardman from Davis; and 3 young adults: Cara Arcuni from Palo Alto, Marc Lichterman from Berkeley, and Rebekah Percy from La Jolla. Alyssa Nelson of Davis was also a member of the committee until recently.

By trial and error, we have learned how to divide the work of this committee according to our various strengths and light. We have met in person twice this year and by conference call virtually every other week for sixteen months. We conducted a formal evaluation of our work in April 2011. One decision arising from that evaluation was for the program to emphasize its work with teens, especially those transitioning in and out of the high school years, and to deemphasize engagement with Young Adult Friends for the time being. We also achieved greater clarity that the job of the YPC is not to host activities, but to encourage and coordinate all the resources of our monthly, quarterly, and yearly meetings, and our Quaker organizations, to support the spiritual growth of our youth and the full integration of the PYM community as a manifestation of our Testimonies on Equality and Community.

After receiving Sarah's notice of resignation at the end of April 2011, our committee focused on finding a new YPC who could work well with our youth and could also respond to the wide-ranging needs of the many monthly meeting that support this program. We chose to interview three applicants from five who seemed promising, and we were in full unity in choosing Alyssa Nelson as our new YPC, starting August 1, 2011. Alyssa has over 15 years' experience working with youth and communities, including with Friends. She has been a member of this Supervisory Committee and of the planning committee that led to the creation of this program; she also served as PYM's temporary Youth Coordinator in summer 2008. We welcome Alyssa to her new role, and invite each of you to reach out to her during the year ahead.

You have heard Sarah’s program report, which will be distributed to all the meetings. Her five quarters of service to PYM have brought us challenges and opportunities that we have learned from. Our committee wishes to express appreciation to Sarah on behalf of PYM for sharing her time, talent, and insight with us, and we wish her well as she ends her work with PYM on the last day of this annual gathering. Because of Sarah’s efforts, we are able to enter the next phase of this program with confidence.

Part III – Alyssa Nelson (Davis Meeting), Incoming YPC

How are love and unity maintained among us? … How have we been sensitive to the personal needs and difficulties of members and attenders, young and old? … The spirit we follow is present in each individual human being. To be true to that Spirit, we must recognize and nourish the spiritual worth of all people, particularly those who have been devalued or excluded. Following the Spirit’s leadings together, we hope to overcome the causes of racism, sexism, homophobia, and the neglect or disrespect of children, the poor, and the socially marginalized, in the world and in ourselves. (From our Faith and Practice, Testimony on Community)
While the Youth Program Coordinator position is primarily focused on better meeting the needs of younger Friends and on creating a more vibrant intergenerational community, one of the most exciting parts of the job for me is working in concert with Friends who are taking the challenge— and challenging one another—to live more fully our Testimonies on Community and Equality in every way, for example the M&O Subcommittee on Racial Justice. The Youth Program work is part of a larger whole, a community effort.

I am encouraged by the fact that, so far, no one has come to me and said, “I have a great idea: you should do this-or-that for us.” Instead, I’ve heard, Will you help us….

• Find unity among Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) teens and adults about how to create an even-more open, loving, trusting, safe, and inclusive community?
• Create stronger systems and institutional memory so that JYM can run more smoothly year-to-year?
• Organize more Friendly Adult Presence (FAP) and adult ally workshops on an ongoing basis so that more adults can feel prepared, welcome, and supported to build loving, appropriate adult-youth relationships? And so the ‘usual suspects’ have more people to share the work with?
• Find and bring back the young adults who have drifted off or left, to nurture stronger ties among Young Adult Friends and older Friends?
• Nurture Friends through the transitions that come with growing up and moving into, through, and out of our various age-based affinity groups?
• Build upon what we have already in our local, quarterly, and yearly meetings, and our Quaker organizations, to coordinate them better and find ways to have more service and fellowship that attract and keep us engaged?
• Create the container – the intentional space – to attend to one another?

With great thanks to Sarah Beutel, the Supervisory Committee, and many individual Friends and Committees, I close this report asking us all to consider now and for the future, “How are love and unity maintained among us?”

- end report -
Unity With Nature Committee
Report to Pacific Yearly Meeting, 2011

Joe Morris, Clerk
Unity with Nature Committee

Friends---

As you probably know, the PYM Gathering will soon be upon us, in little more than a week. The Unity with Nature Committee is again planning a variety of activities, described below, in which I hope you can participate.

1. The most important activity will be presentation of a proposed nuclear-power minute during the Thursday-morning plenary, July 28th. Earlier this year, we distributed to monthly meetings a QEW statement expressing grave concerns about the continued operation of nuclear-power plants after the Japan catastrophe. The responses of monthly meetings were diverse. Many individual Friends have strong reservations about nuclear reactors, while others see them as necessary to furnish additional and non-coal based energy. Quite clearly, Quakers are not of one mind on this issue, yet it is also clear that the topic is an unavoidable one these days in dealing with the issues of energy demands and climate change.

From these responses, the proposed minute below was drafted, in which monthly meetings would be encouraged to hold threshing sessions in the coming year---to listen to each other and better understand the underlying issues. The UWN Committee takes no position in this minute about the merits or problems associated with nuclear power. Copies of the proposed minute will be available to Gathering attenders before the plenary.

Proposed PYM Minute: A Friends' Dialogue on Nuclear Power

The catastrophe at the Fukushima fission reactors in Japan has re-engaged Friends and others in responding to the use of nuclear power. Though Quakers have diverse views on this matter, it is unavoidably relevant in discussions about the challenges of increased energy demands, the need for sustainability, and the crisis of climate change.

Friends need to hear and understand each others' views on the use, expansion, or reduction of nuclear power. The first priority is not to reach agreement, but to grasp the underlying issues that might shape an informed opinion, relying on Friends' beliefs for guidance in the process of discernment. Some questions to consider include:

Inspired by our testimonies of simplicity and community, what might be realistic options in producing and consuming energy?

How might we balance the needs of the current generation with those of the future, and how do we maintain a healthy and livable Earth, as we use the energy we need?
What information do we lack, and how can we educate ourselves about nuclear power and alternative sources of energy?

In the coming year, we ask monthly meetings to hold threshing sessions, exploring and honoring varied opinions and looking for common concerns on these matters.

2. Previewing this minute will be an evening discussion group, Tuesday evening at 8:30 p.m., entitled "Revisiting the Dilemmas of Nuclear Power." It will be co-led by Anthony Manousos, Clerk of PYM Peace and Social Order Committee, and me. The location will be announced in the Daily Miracle.

3. Also on Tuesday, at 6:45 p.m., will be a UWN interest group, entitled "Do Friends Have an Earthcare Testimony?" Sandra Lewis (Strawberry Creek Meeting) will co-lead a discussion on exploring Friends' current spiritual paths regarding this issue. Recently, several monthly meetings in PYM have approved their own testimony for Earthcare, and several yearly meetings are considering doing so. Come and hear---and tell us---the latest.

4. Wednesday night, at 8:30 p.m., we will again hold our Annual Earthcare Film Night. To be shown is the funny, disturbing, and critically acclaimed documentary How To Boil A Frog, on responding to the planetary (and societal) crisis. Come see it and stay for a discussion afterwards. Location is the Fawcett Hall Lounge.

5. On Friday at 3:30 p.m., a second UWN Interest Group will explore the topic of "Quaker Values and the Good Food Fight." Co-led by Kate Carpenter and Maia Wolff (both of Orange Grove Meeting), it will examine how Friends might respond to the conflict between sustainable farming and "cheap" food produced by agribusiness.

Finally, I should mention that I will be stepping down at the end of the 2011 PYM Gathering as Unity with Nature Clerk. These last five years have been rewarding for me and satisfying, due to the many positive responses of Quakers to our ailing planet. But it is time for others to do this job and bring a fresh perspective. I do plan to remain on the committee for one more year.

Walking cheerfully on the Earth,

Joe Morris, Clerk
Unity with Nature Committee
To Friends Everywhere,

Our Middle School group played a lot of games
Some helped us to learn each other’s names.

There were challenges in games that made us think
In Elbow tag we ran to find a link.

We calmed ourselves with Seneca Spirit Circle
Or filled in octagons with colors, like purple.

We listened to a story about kids learning to write:
Word After Word After Word, and we danced one night.

Bob Runyan and Jim Anderson did a radio show.
They interviewed historical Quakers so we could know

About them, and Stephen Meyers told us how much fun
Kids have at Quaker Center Camp, which some of us have done.

We attended the worship for memorials. It was long and sad,
Two of us spoke about Friends we’d had.

Thanks to our leaders, Sandy and Tom, Keenan and Nate,
They helped make our Middle School program really great.

Pacific Yearly Meeting Middle School Group, 2011
Alma, Aydin, Cait, Gabi, Jarod, Joyce, Nathan, Shannon, Will
When we arrived at the campus on Monday, we assisted the greater PYM by carrying luggage to their rooms, as well as taking care of children. We then joined in the Auen Hall (or JYM Lounge) and had our first meeting on the occasion of business. During the business meeting, we discussed and decided our community expectations based on previous years, and came to consensus on them.

On Tuesday, we led intergenerational games along with the Young Friends; many people of different age groups participated, and we had a great experience spending time with the rest of PYM and breaking down age barriers.

Later in the day we attended and helped facilitate the Power Walk with the rest of PYM. We were figuratively and literally stretched anew by the activity, and afterwards we had smaller group conversations about questions raised by it.

On Wednesday, we led chatboxes (informal worship sharing). Afterwards, we took part in the Prison Library service project where we wrapped books to send to inmates and read letters from them regarding what books they needed. With the help of young friends we raised $420.47 and donated over 100 books.

On Thursday, Vanessa Julye led us in exploring issues with our community and helped us to discern possible solutions. JYM then attended meeting for memorials, which was a very moving experience for us all. We remembered and celebrated the lives of those lost this past year. After walking back to the JYM lounge, we attended the all age outer space themed dance.

During business meeting on Friday morning we realized that our community expectations did not reflect our communities’ essence. In addition, many felt that there was a lack of community due to our community expectations. We worshiped and came to unity on the issue and decided to revise the community expectations. We arrived at the conclusion that we would keep the fundamental expectations regarding no sex, drugs or alcohol, while getting rid of the rest of the expectations in favor of upholding community values that we all share as Quakers.

In peace, Jayden Navarro, Laura Adair and Hana Castanedo (co-clerks) and the Junior Yearly Meeting of Pacific Yearly Meeting 2011

During the nomination process, we decided on the following Friends for M&O, Clerk of M&O, and Co-Clerks of JYM:

- Brendan Fagen, Co-Clerk – Reno
- Thomas Rios, Co-Clerk – La Jolla
- Rose Mackenzie, Co-Clerk – Orange Grove
- Grady Fowler, M&O Clerk - Orange Grove
- Emma Castanedo, M&O – La Jolla
- Augie Brinker, M&O – Santa Cruz
- Clare Griese, M&O – La Jolla
- Tess Solenberger, M&O – Bellingham
PYM 2011
Adult Young Friends Epistle
The YF Tribe/Family

Responsibility was practiced...
And.....Lots of fun was had also

We ventured out... to a special place
This is how we felt....After Fellowship

Meet Our New Clerks!
A small but mighty force of Adult Young Friends gathered at Pacific Yearly Meeting this year. We created our schedule at the first business meeting and moved forward in the week balancing our connections with both JYM and the greater Yearly Meeting.

As a group we hope to grow our AYF community in later years and are in the process of writing a letter to be sent out to Monthly Meetings urging Young Friends to gather with us next year. Many of us felt moved by the spirit to strengthen our relationship with greater PYM and hope to explore this further in this coming year.

We enjoyed making music to fund raise for this years JYM service project and many of us were also active with the children's programs. We are grateful for all the greater PYM Friends for their input and support through our stretching outward as well as inward.

In the Light,
Adult Young Friends,
Gabe Martinez, La Jolla, 2011 Clerk

Nora Cooke, Grass Valley, 2011 M&O Clerk

**Welcoming in**...
Nate Secrest, Lake Port, and Nora Cooke, Grass Valley, as 2012 Co-Clerks
To Friends Everywhere,

We gathered for the 65th Annual Gathering of Pacific Yearly Meeting from the 25th to the 30th of 7th Month, 2011 held on the campus of Claremont McKenna College in Claremont, CA. amid the joyful greetings and grins of Friends, many of whom we have not seen for a year.

Marilee Eusebio, clerk, invited all to “go beyond what is to what might be”. She asked, “Where are we stretched anew and where might truth take us?” and reminded us to remember that the Inner Light is in each of us and that we observe that aspect of each other in all our conversations.

As a group we can be the container that George Lakey spoke of last year which creates safety for people to expect the unexpected and experience life in the Spirit. We need to be accountable, that is, to live in truth even if it hurts, be present and be willing to struggle together as we look deep into difficult issues of racial justice, conversations about nuclear power, torture, and information about the nature and substance of the Palestinian-Israeli tensions.

Holding these topics and ourselves in the Light, we struggled to see what Love could do and how we can stretch ourselves anew.

Ministry and Oversight committee led us in stretching exercises, both physically and spiritually. Quoting from Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting reports, we were informed about the three stages of stretching being experienced throughout the Yearly Meeting: Warming Up, Reaching Out and Over-extension.

We are working to redevelop a program to provide a traveling Friend to visit Monthly Meetings to share ministry aimed at supporting the life of our Monthly Meetings. Meanwhile, Ministry & Oversight (M&O) committee struggles to help us answer the questions of the purpose of being a Yearly Meeting and the value of holding annual gatherings which become more expensive each year and involve much travel in an era of concern for our carbon footprint. M&O wishes to strengthen the relationship between Monthly Meetings and PYM, including the Annual Gathering, through training and increased communication with Meeting representatives.

Trisha Sellick, AFSC Regional Director for the Middle East, spoke to us of Palestinian-Israeli tensions and AFSC work in the region. Sixty per cent of the population of the Middle East is under 25 years old, many of these young people are educated and getting organized. They want to take the future into their own hands without Western interference. They do not say, “this has been done before and it didn't work”, but rather have a belief in what is possible and invite optimism.

Friends deepened their connections to each other and the Spirit through early morning outdoor worship, bible study, presentations on transformative Friends (Ham Sok Hon, Elizabeth Fry, Bayard Rustin and Henry J. Cadbury), worship sharing, and a variety of interest and affinity groups.
Racial justice was a central concern with activities such as an intergenerational Power Walk, and interest groups on white privilege and race and the criminal justice system.

We strive to build a loving community that incorporates us all; young and old alike. Our youngest children joined us for 15 minutes in Meeting for Worship each morning; Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) exhorted us to join in intergenerational games and learning exercises such as the Power Walk. Meanwhile the JYM program carried out its own program of learning, growing and service. For the second year in a row, they performed service work for the Prison Library Project and raised money for mailing expenses.

Sarah Beutel, our Youth Program Coordinator, for the last sixteen months described the development of this new program. The role of the coordinator was described as a catalyst, an interpreter between adults and teens, and as a resource person. Alyssa Nelson, the incoming Youth Program Coordinator encouraged us to explore how love and unity are maintained among us.

A minute firmly opposed to torture around the globe, was brought forth by the Peace and Social Order Committee. It was approved despite concerns about the process.

The Unity with Nature Committee presented their recommendations for Monthly Meetings to explore the issue of nuclear power through discussions and possible threshing sessions.

We would be remiss not to mention that communicating with each other and the Spirit in our Meetings for Business still hits a snag occasionally. We struggle to maintain the blessed community as we try to obtain unity among 150 to 200 Friends. At the end of the struggle, we manage to move forward as friends as well as Friends with laughter as well as tears.

Our attendance at the Gathering this year is lower than last year and membership in the Yearly Meeting also down to its lowest level in eleven years. Is the Yearly Meeting properly organized? Do we spend too much time on business? Should we change our structure and decision-making in some way? These are questions we have put to Ministry & Oversight and its subcommittee dedicated to envisioning the future of the Gathering.

A rousing community program wound up the final evening of our week together as we celebrated each other and enjoyed the diversity of our talents and humor.

In the Light,

Marilee Eusebio, Presiding Clerk
God calls us to the right sharing of world resources, from the burdens of materialism and poverty into the abundance of God's love, to work for equity through partnership with our sisters and brothers throughout the world.

Through the faithful support of our many donors, RSWR highlights the following accomplishments in 2010:

• $251,222 in grants was provided to 56 projects: 10 in Sierra Leone, 12 in Kenya, and 34 in India. 12 (21%) of the funded groups are Quaker.

• Put in place a field staff person in each of the three areas in which we work. Field staff perform four key functions: Interpret RSWR to organizations interested in pursuing funding; Provide program development training to new and small NGOs, some of which may pursue RSWR funding; Perform the in-person site visits required of all proposals being considered for funding; Provide post-funding training and support to approved projects.

Dr. R. Kannan began his service in south India in June 2008. Samson Ababu began his service among Friends in Kenya in October 2009. Harold Johnson’s service in Sierra Leone was approved in October 2010, and began January 2011.

• Achieved 50% of the capital campaign goal, a significant achievement in light of the 2008-2009 recession. Though the campaign is not completed, having been extended one year to conclude in December 2011, we already are benefiting from it:

  → With the assistance of an organizational development consultant, the RSWR board of trustees has undergone an extensive development process, empowering itself to lead RSWR into a new generation of ministry.
  → The field staff work in Africa (Kenya and Sierra Leone) was begun.
  → A communications consultant is working with RSWR to develop an electronic communications strategy and implementation plan, resulting in an updated website, and regular Facebook and blog postings.

In 2010 RSWR’s income was 106% of budget, and 4% above expenses.

• Income of $519,475. 75% came from individual households, 9% from monthly meetings and churches, 3% from yearly meetings, 4% from special events (Simple Meals etc), 1% from interest, 7% restricted to program expense, and 25% from the capital campaign (as noted above).

• Expenses of $497,150. 81.9% of these expenses were for program, 6.7% for administration and 11.4% for fundraising.
Religious Education for Children Committee,
Clerk’s report to
Pacific Yearly Meeting 2011

We held a small but effective First-day School conference on 4/9/11 at Orange Grove meetinghouse with Friends from Inland Valley, Orange Grove, and Palo Alto meetings. We all have good programs, so it turned into a "best practices" sharing. Our traveling bookstore brought resources for families and meetings to the conference and to meeting the next day where it was greatly appreciated. Most of the books are here this week on consignment with the AFSC Bookstore.

At the conference, Orange Grove First-day School Committee repeated one of their effective lessons with us. To get to know their meeting, their First-day School has scheduled visits from each committee of their meeting. Fellowship Committee invited us to make aprons out of place mats and ribbons and then draw pictures on them showing what that committee does.

We feel that the retreat was useful and should be repeated in locations where we can get Friends from two or more meetings together. Contact the committee to set this up in your area.

Also, we have collected examples of child safety policies from several meetings. If your meeting has one, we’d like to add it to our files. We are glad to share this resource with interested Friends.

Sandy Farley, clerk
farley@spont.com
Electronic Subcommittee Survey (Final report)

July 20, 2011

N=124

Of the 124 surveys submitted

65 came from the website survey

40 came from the surveymonkey.com site

19 were mailed in and manually entered (one meeting clearly did this in an adult ed as all the results were mailed together!)

107 were complete surveys (86.3%)

Regarding gender (2 people suggested gender didn’t fall into just 2 categories):

47 were male

75 were female

2 no answer

Ages:

What is your age?
Meetings or Worship Groups:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
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This is an amazingly wide response throughout the Yearly Meeting!
### Internet Service Usage:

Have you ever personally or for your Meeting participated in chat rooms, online forums, listserves, building or maintaining a website or other community sites such as MySpace or Friendster? Check all that apply! If you or your Meeting have not used a particular service below, then leave that row blank.

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<tr>
<th>Answer Options</th>
<th>For me Personally</th>
<th>For my Meeting</th>
<th>As a PYM Representative</th>
<th>As a Monthly Meeting Committee</th>
<th>As a Monthly Meeting Clerk</th>
<th>As a Quarterly Meeting Committee</th>
<th>As a Quarterly Meeting Clerk</th>
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<th>For PYM Clerk or Officer</th>
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- **Answered question:** 110
- **Skipped question:** 14

Have you ever personally or for your Meeting participated in chat rooms, online forums, listserves, building or maintaining a website or other community sites such as MySpace or Friendster? Check all that apply! If you or your Meeting have not used a particular service below, then leave that row blank.

- **Email**
- **Quaker Listserver**
- **Facebook**
- **Maintaining a website**
- **QuakerFinder.org**
- **Google Ads Docs**
- **Google Ads Calendar**
- **Non-quaker Listserver**
- **Doodle**
- **Online Forum**
- **LinkedIn**
- **Chat Room**
- **Twitter**
- **MySpace**
- **Friendster**

#### Graph:

- **For me Personally**
- **For my Meeting**
- **As a PYM Representative**
- **As a Monthly Meeting Committee**
- **As a Monthly Meeting Clerk**
- **As a Quarterly Meeting Committee**
- **As a Quarterly Meeting Clerk**
- **For Monthly Meeting Committee**
- **For Quarterly Meeting Committee**
- **For PYM Clerk or Officer**
- **For PYM Committee**

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PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, California
Attachment 17
Reports not presented in Plenary session.
Comments [textual responses]:

Sharing information about the meeting and making it available to others to make a living teaching these services to others.

I do not think a lot of Friends use these things outside of email.

Provides a good record of communication sent.

Requested to do so by others.

It magnifies their status.

Meeting Newsletter sent by email.

Committee correspondence.

This new technology allows for a genuine equality of participation that is aimed at, but not so easily achieved, in a typical (face to face) Quaker Meeting.

To exchange documents for criticism and correction. To receive newsletters from the Meeting. To communicate about schedules of committee meetings and other activities.

For easier record-keeping, and searching functions.

Note, however, that I explicitly refuse to be on my own meeting's listserv nor do I use these for conduct of meeting business.

I use a blogging service for my daily journaling because I enjoy the community of sharing and support it creates.

My work life has used email and other mediated communication since college. "Wave of the future" doesn't make sense to me: this is the now.

gives people confirmation of oral announcements in written form that they can refer to, and or calendar when needed.

Immediate accessibility when a question arises. Nominating committee uses access to meeting directories both as a list of suggestions for future PYM service and the phone number needed to call a member of interest to connect with Friends internationally and nationally.

As a Quaker witness to the world: to let those who are not Friends to know who we are and what we do.
It's both sane, sensible, and simple to receive and send information via these methods. Saves time and provides an easy record of communication and information.
To solicit requests to hold Friends in the light who are in immediate need. It obviates waiting until the next Meeting for Worship.
It's much quicker than regular mail and avoids 'telephone tag' and answering machines.
I am not a fan -- not a user -- of social networking. If that becomes the only (or primary) way of communicating with Friends I guess I would have to learn.
It's a way to advertise my business
It's a way to have fun
I do not use Facebook or other social web sites for privacy and security concerns. Too much personal information is shared with too many strangers, commercial and possibly government entities.
Many Santa Monica Friends do not see each other except on First Day; the list serve keeps even irregular attenders informed about meeting activities, and Friends’ events. Also simpler to arrange committee meetings and distribute minutes than making several phone calls. I.e., electronic services are for information sharing.
Has your Meeting posted a website?

- Yes: 76.1% (83)
- No: 11.0% (12)
- Not Sure: 12.8% (14)

Has your Meeting had visitors who say they've found your Meeting because they found the address on the internet?

- Yes: 45.5% (5)
- No: 34.5% (35)
- Not Sure: 60.5% (67)
What is your feeling about the appropriateness of Friends using the following services

- Email
- Maintaining a website
- Facebook
- Quaker Listserv
- QuakerFinder.org
- Google Apps Calendar
- Google Apps Docs
- Non-quaker Listserv
- Online Forum
- Chat Room
- Twitter
- My Space
- LinkedIn
- Doodle
- Friendster

Have you ever found a Meeting address or a Friend by searching for them on the internet?

- Yes
- No

I think it could be used by Friends in good Quaker order
I think it’s questionable whether it could be used in good Quaker order
I don’t have any feelings one way or another about Friends use of this
I have some concerns about using this service
I have great concerns about whether or not Friends could use this service
<table>
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<th>Answer Options</th>
<th>I think it could be used by Friends in good Quaker order</th>
<th>I think it's questionable whether it could be used in good Quaker order</th>
<th>I don't have any feelings one way or another about Friends use of this service</th>
<th>I have some concerns about using this service</th>
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*answered question: 101*

*skipped question: 23*

**Textual Responses:**

- Privacy
- User friendly
- Not keeping with my Quaker practice
- Too quickly done
- Other (please specify)
Can be used well or misused
I don’t believe that one can achieve a sense of the meeting through electronic communications.
   i believe that one can achieve a non-spiritual consensus, but not a spiritual unity.
collecting personal information for undisclosed commercial purposes
ownership and control of personal information
Having to go through a for profit organization with questionable business practices (Facebook).
Not being inclusive (many people are not on or choose not to use these services).
I have concerns about an attender who uses the meeting list for their own political agenda, or just irresponsibly despite requests.
I’m not familiar with all of them.
We need to remember that some folks do not use electronic media.
people who use email regularly feel like they have communicated with me by sending me an email message.
I read email infrequently so you can’t assume I’ve been contacted. Can we really have a discussion electronically?
how can we refuse to adjust in a quakerly fashion to the common practices of our time? We can not continue to exist and be effective if we keep our heads in the sand! After all, driving a car, using a telephone, etc., are not in keeping with the quaker practices of the 1700’s!
Many are useful for information sharing, but bad idea for decision-making. Bad in general, as entries are sequential, but esp. bad for Quaker decision-making, which requires direct interaction and paying attention to each other and the spirit.
Can be efficient for info exchange but risk of using in lieu of group discernment. Social networking can be helpful for Friends at a distance but also can be all-consuming and discourage face-to-face interactions.
Unlike most of the technologies listed above, twitter and chatrooms do tend to encourage a quick and rather thoughtless mode of communication that can easily lead to words being exchanged in an unQuakerly manner.
1. Internet anonymity—consistent with our testimony on integrity? Sometimes? Never?
2. Newness. We’ve already accommodated writing, and now THIS? It may be too early to pronounce judgment.
3. Equality. Who does and does not have Internet access worldwide?
In terms of getting onto to people, email works. Websites are useful, but privacy issues and the algorithms issues associated with Google etc (see “The Filter Bubble” by Pariser) make me wary of social networking
I worry about using advertising supported services and not paying for the actual service. I also worry about some of the terms and conditions, which often restrict an account to an individual’s use, and whether these ought to be shared. Again: it’s more expensive and requires more expertise for a meeting to not use “free” services, but i do think there’s greater integrity in paying for what is used.
It depends what you are using these for. Most can be used effectively for something. You have left out SKype, which I think is a very important omission which may allow on line meetings with video.
Some services mandate a facilitator/moderator, and this takes time.
I think anytime we don’t meet face to face it gets complicated. It may be a matter of How we use applications, less the fact that we use them.
spammers
I have seen Friends reveal information that I consider confidential/private via email, so I think this would be more easily done (and more invasive to the persons involved) through social networking media.
Unequal Access. Some have better access to technology than others. Some may not have the experience to learn these tools as easily as others. People can lose their capacity to learn new technology as they get older.
It would depend on the specifics of the case, especially the matter being discussed.
I do think we should be aware and concerned about how easy it is to compromise someone’s privacy, send an email to the wrong person, try to discuss things better discussed in person, etc. But it’s still a good tool for some things.

Unfamiliarity
Any of them can be done in good order. But some of them are harder than others, and take more mindfulness than others.
Too time-consuming, except for email.
Too few people are regular users.
Tendency for people to be unfriendly in conversational tone when out of real-time contact.
May leave some people out of the loop Not sure worshipful discernment is possible.

Harder to distinguish “official” statements from personal statements
I believe there is a computer-generated divide between older and younger friends, wealthy and struggling friends, and educated and less educated friends.
The ones that I marked as having concerns about are social networking sites. I do not see how these could benefit an organization, regardless of what it is. These technological innovations are simply tools! They can be used in ways that violate are testimonies or they can be used to reinforce our testimonies. We, individually and collectively choose by what we do to either live out our testimonies or not. Tools are just that. Tools! It's what we do with them that determines whether we are walking in light or darkness.

Unnecessary
None
I am most concerned about the volume of information.
I think that each service has its place, and each service could potentially be misused. We can learn to use telephone meetings, email and chat room in ways that fit our practices—but we need to be willing to try and to see what we learn.

Excludes some members, such as myself, who do not choose to use Facebook, etc.
I have two concerns. One is that electronic dialog can tend to replace face-to-face dialog, which can jeopardize our traditional methods of careful consideration and coming to unity. The other concern is that the use of electronic media can tend to exclude people who do not use it. However, proper care in the use of these media can mitigate these concerns.

I feel that the discussion format of some of these media or the social nature of some of these media are not a good fit for Quaker process. I don’t object to their use per se, I simply cannot see how it would work out. It may be that Friends with greater vision and clarity could find a creative way to adapt them to Quaker process and practice. Other than email, which always has the risk of sending out a message before it has been seasoned, or to an unintended audience, I have no experience using these types of media. I could say that ALL of the concerns listed above have occurred to me, but I remember when the mere fact of computerizing our data bases felt threatening. I would rely on others to discern when/whether one or more of these social networks was appropriate for Friends' business.

Not everyone has access to these on-line services.
A militant organization in PA received state funding to spy on PA Quakers and their peaceful protests last year. That organizations like this are not condemned and prosecuted is outrageous and I do not understand why Quakers have not expressed outrage at being victimized in this way. Opposition to never-ending war is wide spread in this country and Quakers have historically opposed war and violence. I feel strongly that this Quaker fundamental should receive more prominence. Stop hiding our "light" under a bushel!

In our Meeting, we allow ourselves the luxury of email communication for details, setting meeting times, informing about upcoming issues and things like that. We have said that we have a general, shared feeling about what would be appropriate (change of meeting time) and what wouldn't be appropriate (concerns about a member's behavior) for email communication. We had one person in our Meeting who didn’t use email and was always uncomfortable with the level of email communication. That was ONE of the reasons he left, but it was definitely a concern.
### Table

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<th>Statement</th>
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<th>Neutral</th>
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<td>17.5%(18)</td>
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<td>29.1% (30)</td>
<td>1.9% (2)</td>
<td>1.9% (2)</td>
<td>1.0% (1)</td>
<td>2.08</td>
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<td>The internet should be used by Friends</td>
<td>35.3% (36)</td>
<td>36.3% (37)</td>
<td>25.5% (26)</td>
<td>1.0% (1)</td>
<td>0.0% (0)</td>
<td>2.0% (2)</td>
<td>1.92</td>
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<td>It's possible to use the internet in a way that's consistent with Friends' testimonies and practices</td>
<td>48.5% (50)</td>
<td>37.9% (39)</td>
<td>10.7% (11)</td>
<td>1.9% (2)</td>
<td>1.0% (1)</td>
<td>0.0% (0)</td>
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<td>There is a clear difference in my Meeting between JYM, YF, and adult Friends in the use of the Internet</td>
<td>11.9% (11)</td>
<td>20.4% (19)</td>
<td>33.3% (31)</td>
<td>8.5% (8)</td>
<td>1.1% (1)</td>
<td>24.7% (23)</td>
<td>2.55</td>
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---

**Survey Question:** Would it be a good idea for your Meeting to hold an adult education or a threshing session on this topic to discuss the results of this survey when the results are available?

- **Yes:** 47.5% (48)
- **No:** 39.9% (40)
- **Maybe:** 42.6% (43)

**Survey Question:** Anything else you’d like to pass onto the committee?
Some articles are beginning to come out about possible negative behavioral consequences, even aside from spiritual concerns, of so much social interaction being electronic.
1. I completely endorse Quaker use of electronic communications that are non-commercial (Google, et al.)
2. In general my experience is that Quakers are very naive about the dangers present on the internet and websites that appear "free" while they are collecting and harvesting and selling personal information.
3. Scheduling and information sharing can be compatible with electronic media. Discernment and sense of the meeting and presence of the Spirit are impossible.

Feelings run high on the question of whether Friends should do business by e-mail or seek unity by email (as opposed to scheduling meetings or reviewing minutes or sharing information). Our meeting has both an email list (85 people) for announcements and a Yahoo group (65 people) for group communication—some do not want to be in the Yahoo group and some don’t want to be on the e-mail list. We also send out about 200 newsletters by email and 200 by surface mail as well as having a website which is not needed for subscribing or unsubscribing to our newsletter. Our calendar of events is on our website.

I work 50-60 hours a day, seven days a week, on the internet. Have done so for over 10 years (I manage an internet library), I am quite aware of leading uses and functions on the internet, and use them in my work, but I am also quite cautious about across-the-board mandated uses of some of these services.

My concerns are two-fold:
1. In our meeting both members and attenders are on the email list. An attender is currently using that list for her own purposes. I have requested to receive only meeting info and not the "cute cat" video, etc. My request was not respected so I blocked the email address of the meeting.
2. Workshop leaders who appropriate the email lists of participants and continue sending me email long after the workshop.

Thank you for this effort to begin the dialogue. I appreciate the thoughtfulness of even considering all of this.

Maybe I’ll get the dinosaur decal. Why would I want to be on Facebook or LinkedIn?

I can’t copy and paste the email address below to make returning the survey easier. We have to return the survey by snail mail. We Quakers have much to learn if we are to get into the 21st century.

It is very tempting for committees to try to make decision via email rather than by sitting in contemplation with each other. This is bad quaker process. I’m also concerned about SCAMS; i.e., the email message saying one of our members is in trouble and needs money for some dire reason. I’ve received three of these in the last 3 years.

They sound quakerly in language and are convincing. Also, how will meeting archives be maintained when bits and pieces of electronic communications are spread across many computers or when computers crash? Also, using the reply all response one of our members who requested assistance was really hurt when she inadvertently saw the email discussion over whether or not she should receive aid. This would not have happened if we had reserved the discussion and decision to meeting in person. This is a problem when we short circuit good order. Friends seem not to be able to avoid the temptation to "weigh in" on a topic off the top of their heads when they are using electronic communication.

I have no great desire to be contacted, but I do not wish to give these views anonymously. I do hope Friends realize the need to adjust to the 21st century while still maintaining our strong religious, moral, and ethical beliefs.

Always helpful for a subcommittee like this to identify what committee it is a subcommittee.

This survey, like most internet surveys, does not provide for the depth and variation needed for a real discussion on this issue.

I’d like to be in touch with people in other PYM monthly meetings who are using the internet in various ways—perhaps via an email/newsletter and/or forum.

Privacy is a legitimate concern. I tell anyone who uses the internet that don’t ever put something in an e-mail, website, or a social networking site unless you’re prepared for the entire world to see it. E-mails can be forwarded to a large group with a click of a button. Websites can be adhere to Quaker values as long as they’re honest and simple.

Useful for disseminating information and keeping in touch, but easy to slip into using it to "vote" and in place of
group discernment, especially for committee work. "Ranters" who are impatient with Quaker process, new to Quakers, or just want to be center stage, too often take over electronic discussion groups. The enthusiasm some feel towards internet communications is inimical to what attracted me to Quakerism in the first place, namely group mysticism welcoming the presence of God.

I enjoy exploring all kinds of Quaker websites, forums and blogs, i.e. Quaker Rant, etc. and have learned much, since I'm a fairly new attender (2 years)...I think these are of more value than sites such as Facebook, etc.

Signed, [unknown]

I normally attend the Hong Kong Monthly Meeting, though my membership is in Santa Barbara. Some of my answers above are drawn from my experiences with Hong Kong Friends more than with SB Friends. I would like to share the results of this survey with HK Friends. If that is appropriate, please send an update to me at [email]. It is still deemed to be Quakerly, after the survey is completed.

I am a minimal email user, so have little experience with these issues, but I understand that information is quickly disseminated by computer and many use it. It is important, Friends are already using it.

In response to a question above I challenged Internet anonymity, but I agree that "anonymous surveys are also fine", so the survey itself stands as a good counterexample.

Signed, Anonymous

Most social media (Facebook, Twitter...) is vulnerable to misuse, invasion of privacy, and impulsiveness. Young people are more likely to push boundaries and post impulsive messages. Older adults who were not raised with the internet often have little knowledge about the ability of strangers...or even acquaintances...to use posted information indiscriminately and destructively.

I work best from paper copy; I can carry them around and read/study when I have time.

I wonder if you could reconsider asking binary gender question. Posing a binary excludes those in our community who are gender queer or intersex and who are not comfortable identifying in one way or another.

And does this information really assist in your planning and decision making behavior? If you are worried about excluded communities why don't you ask about income or educational background or racial identity?

I think asking what region someone lives in would be far more helpful than gender in discerning whether there separate communities of use in the Yearly Meeting.

In question 12, if the statement had read '...can be a good place...', it would have possibly been an Agree statement for me. I have been house bound for quite a while, and appreciate being able to keep in touch through email - both personal and through the monthly minutes. I am grateful to the internet for that.

Our meeting does nearly all announcements by e-mail, in addition to at meeting. If one does not attend meeting, and does not have e-mail, it is a burden on the meeting to get the announcement to that person. I have actually given a computer to such a person. Meeting has made an effort to provide paper copies and calls, but these people are sometimes out of the loop. E-mail is the primary medium for getting out messages between meetings.

Use of electronic services should always be only an adjunct to face-to-face interpersonal communication. It can facilitate clarity b/c drafts require written word.

would like to see more concern about non-violence/ kindness to animals. Don't kill and eat them. Facebook has been used to spur peaceful demonstrations and democratic actions all over the world: the internet is a tool, like a typewriter or a handshake. When used appropriately, and in concert with other tools, it can support any thoughtful endeavor. It should not replace human contact, however. It should support the efforts of peaceful, genuine human community.

Our Meeting has many old people, including me. I am computer literate, but many aren't so computer can never be the exclusive form of communication

While we are loath to proselytize the internet provides an opportunity for seekers to discover our existence and locations. We have tried defining policies for sharing documents on the internet and using our website for sharing sensitive information such as phone numbers with members and attenders. We have gotten bogged down on such things as backups and security of information.

We are still figuring out the value of the internet. Mostly, I currently use it to exchange information easily. Occasionally I use it to explore new ideas. It does not replace direct, experiential Friends' meetings, but it gives us a tool to explore new ways to communicate, and it allows us to more easily stay in contact with distant Friends. It is also much easier to communicate simple information (scheduling meetings, distributing minutes, etc) within Quaker committees. Just be very careful not to provide alternatives as much as possible for people who choose not to have Internet access (or can't use computers for vision, financial, or other reasons).

I am finding resistance in my meeting to filling out this survey online. I waited until after College Park Quarterly Meeting to fill out the final version so I could give it all of my attention. I did forward Don Bean's message announcing the survey
so our local web groups. I should follow up this week with more clarification that I hope will relieve some anxiety, especially access to a paper version. We have some 80 yr olds and at least 190 yr old using email & Facebook! Mostly we use emails for committee business... Altho we have a FaceBook page for our Meeting, not many people actually post on it. I'd like to see MORE usage of internet media to spread information about Quakerism.

I don't believe that there are many concerns in our Meeting on the subject of internet use; we rely on it heavily for simple information sharing (electronic newsletters or announcements) or information gathering (for example: how many are coming to a Meeting event?) never for Meeting or committee deliberations. We use all the other methods of sharing and gathering information as well to supplement internet use. There is a divide between those who have the money (equipment) and the knowledge to be able to use the suggested Internet resources and those who do not. Trying to educate or subsidize the costs to individuals to use these resources will not work in my opinion. The Internet will inevitably become a more important part of the Meeting. While the divide between the "haves and have-nots" is still so wide, we should not make these resources a requirement for participation in the life of the Meeting. Go slow. The gap will continue to narrow over time.

Might consider whether it would be useful for monthly meeting web sites to be standardized in some ways, so that we are reasonably consistent about how information is organized. Might also consider ways to help meetings implement some of these internet tools.

I am glad that our Meeting held a threshing session on internet use 10 or 15 years ago, and has revisited the topic since. Strawberry Creek went from 'allowing'--after the fact--a member to put up a website that merely gave our location, Meeting time, and links to quaker.org and PYM to dropping the word 'electronic' and advancing from a subcommittee of then M&O to a standing Communications Committee. This has been over many years and at least one threshing session maybe more. The simple truth is that few Friends under 40 and even fewer under 30 have trouble understanding what the concern is. There is no substitute for behaving with integrity, seeking peace, demanding equality, living in community, demonstrating our unity, and doing it simply. With or without modern day tools if we have earned the moniker of Quaker, this is what we must do. I believe electronic communication facilitates that work and simplifies our lives by easing the effort necessary to communicate. It troubles me that the distinction between medium and deed remains blurry for some. I have other concerns but employing modern communication tools to further the business of my Meeting isn't one of them. (Please note I am not speaking on behalf of my Meeting. I am only speaking as one Friend.)

Items that I didn't mark are things I don't personally know about. Electronic communication cannot be a one-size-fits-all (or even a one-size-fits-most) undertaking.

Rather if one is given a menu of options one can choose how to keep in touch.

What I have the most difficulty with is overload. The amount of information is at times overwhelming and at times redundant.

Thank you for paying attention to this. At Orange Grove, we hope to do the same this summer.

In peace.

Our (Santa Monica) Meeting has carefully thought-out guidelines for postings. Postings which do not meet our criteria are not posted. We are fortunate to have a seasoned and discerning Friend, monitor our list-serv. Our Meeting list-serv is invaluable for moving forward Meeting concerns related to community care eg, visitation needs, hold-in-the-light, gathering reminders.

1) Because the unit of analysis is individuals and not Meetings, this survey does not tell us how many Meetingss have web pages, list serves, etc.

2) The survey is timely because our Meeting has been discussing the use of email, etc. in the discernment process. I think the answer is not easy. The level of discernment is crucial. I just replied to an email to members of a Quaker Board I am on about changing signatures on bank accounts. I have no problems with this. If the question had been complex, I would have a problem.

3) Thus, there are not single answers to at least some of the above statements. E.g., it is possible to use the Internet in ways that are consistent with Friends beliefs. It is also possible to use the Internet in ways that are not consistent with Friends beliefs.

The Internet and its many service offerings are powerful tools for communication. Friends practice and testimony has traditionally incorporated communications tools as essentials. The challenge for Friends today is not whether or not we will use these new tools, but how best to use them.

There is a tendency for those who have concerns about internet use to go instead to phone conference calls. To my
mind, that medium, while also useful, has problems as well which have not been considered. I think it very difficult to hold a quakerly conversation with silences and pauses on a conference call, and the half-duplex of the medium means only person can be heard at a time, even if that person is merely breathing heavily. A person can try to jump in and add something, and even that they want to be heard won't get noticed.

Without oversight, our meeting's use of the two listserves, (one for notices, the other for discussion), tend to be dominated by one or two individuals with very strong opinions. They can also be "wordy", dominating the discussion of any issue. Established guidelines for each of the listserves have been frequently ignored. Subsequently, the listserves reflect the points of view of a couple of strong-minded individuals, discouraging participation from opposing points of view. I am undecided about the value of these online discussions.

Re survey question #12: The position of JYM and YF has not been communicated to me (and possibly to the general meeting body), so I have no idea whether a difference exists.

I am very glad that the YM is reaching out to individuals in this way. As seniors on a fixed income and who live a considerable distance from either meeting in our area, we are not able to attend Meeting and the functions regularly. These electronic communications enable us to feel part of the Quaker community when we cannot participate in person.

Using remote means to share information actually brings Friends together and can strengthen community - phones, mailed newsletters, listserves and the like. Coming to an awareness of God's will in the world, and discerning right actions, has proven to be effective when Friends come together in worshipful personal interaction; electronic media cannot substitute for that.

We did have such a session, and our clerk even created a smaller but similar survey to this one to find out about how people felt about using email for Committee and Meeting communication.

You needn't contact me, but this was submitted by [redacted]...who wonders if anonymous submissions are in keeping with Quaker testimony for plain speech...

Brief Summary:

The response to this survey was incredible. Just a glance at the list of Meetings and Worship Groups that responded indicates the wide participation. Clearly the response was biased toward older members, though there was good participation by older attenders. Young Friends barely responded. Not sure why that is.

Looking at the textual responses, you can see that those who turned this in gave the survey much thought. It appears from the responses that web pages for Meetings and the use of email are fairly ubiquitous. There was a great deal of concern about social networking sites and the ability to use them in keeping with Friends testimonies and values. It's also clear that many Friends were concerned with Friends who don't have access to the use of computers and who would be disadvantaged if all communication were via that route.

One of the surprising results was that while older Friends often felt a lack of confidence in using the media, most actually used internet services a great deal and with some degree of competency.

We clearly are moving into greater use of the internet to do our business, though everyone agrees that a sense of the meeting is almost impossible to get over the internet and consequently the internet should only be used for the most mundane of decisions. Almost all Friends felt that Spirit still needs us to be in the same room when we try to reach unity with the divine.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Franko
### Pacific Yearly Meeting

**Registrar's Report Summary**

(Note: # Registered includes full time and part time attenders)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>North or South</th>
<th># Registered</th>
<th># Changed from Previous Year</th>
<th>Total Members</th>
<th># From CPQM</th>
<th># From SCQM</th>
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<th>% From SCQM</th>
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#### North Totals
- Times held in North: 17
- Minimum Attendance: 321
- Maximum Attendance: 509
- Average Attendance: 450

#### South Totals
- Times held in South: 11
- Minimum Attendance: 246
- Maximum Attendance: 404
- Average Attendance: 371

Revised 9/19/11
AN EXCITING NEW RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE IN PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING

“We Quakers have always been on the right side of issues of race, haven’t we? After all, from our very beginning we opposed slavery and supported integration. Didn’t Quakers create the underground railroad? Haven’t our families, schools and meetinghouses always been welcoming to persons of color?” . . . In fact, none of these statements is true. The record of The Religious Society of Friends on racial justice is indeed exemplary in many respects—but far from unblemished. Contemporary Friends have much work to do to promote genuine equality—not only in the larger society, but also within Quakerism itself.

In October 2010, the PYM Ministry and Oversight Committee created a new Subcommittee on Racial Justice. Its purpose “is to facilitate candid, loving dialogue and transformative activities regarding racial justice and racial healing within Pacific Yearly Meeting . . . [and] to model open, honest and caring dialogue on issues of race…”

The primary stimulus for this exciting new initiative can be found in the gentle, honest ministry of Vanessa Julye, Coordinator of the Committee for Ministry on Racism of Friends General Conference (FGC). For five successive years we have welcomed Vanessa to PYM’s Annual Gathering. In 2009, her landmark book (co-authored with Donna McDaniel) was published: FIT FOR FREEDOM, NOT FOR FRIENDSHIP: Quakers, African Americans, and the Myth of Racial Justice (Quaker Press of FGC). With the publication of this book, a growing wave of concern for fuller racial harmony and justice has crested among American Quakers, bringing with it a fresh resolve to do the needed work of justice and love.

Current members of the Subcommittee are Kamillah Fairchild, Ruth Fraser (clerk of M&O), Laura Magnani, Carl Magruder, Diego Navarro, Charla Roberson (co-clerk), Steve Smith (co-clerk), and Jim Summers. The upcoming PYM Annual Gathering (to be held at Claremont McKenna College, 25-30 July) will reflect the work of this subcommittee and its supporters:

• For an unprecedented sixth year, Vanessa Julye will be with us—this time not in a public role of featured speaker and advocate, but rather as a behind-the-scenes mentor and elder in support of PYM’s home-grown efforts to gather ourselves for this work.
• In preparation for the Annual Gathering, on Sunday 24 July Vanessa will meet with Friends of Color at Orange Grove Meetinghouse in Pasadena.
• In Worship-Sharing Groups some queries will address issues of racial justice and healing.
• The popular adult education series, Transformative Quakers, will include one or more sessions on prominent Friends of Color.
• Two Affinity Groups will meet regularly under the care of the Subcommittee: one for Friends of Color, and one for Friends of European Descent Concerned About Racism.
• Two Interest Groups will be sponsored by the Subcommittee: An intergenerational “Class-Race Exercise, Step Forward, Step Back” (a.k.a. “Power Walk) that highlights disparities originating in class and race, and a session on White Privilege. (Also, FCL and AFSC will jointly sponsor another Interest Group on racial injustices within the American criminal justice system.)

For questions about this exciting array of initiatives, contact Charla Robertson (818) 602-8226, likes2eat@gmail.com and Steve Smith (909) 624-4057, ssmith@cmc.edu

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