

**Pacific Yearly Meeting
68th Annual Session Minutes and Reports**

PLENARY I

Plenary I began with worship at 6:47 PM.

Clerk's Welcome: Steve Smith welcomed everyone to the 68th Annual Session of PYM noting how wonderful it is to gather together.

Roll Call – see full list attached. (Attachment 1.)

A friend added the Soledad Worship Group which meets in the California State Prison in Soledad.

Visitors

Ruth Flower, FCNL Legislative Secretary and Tom Horne, from Adelphi Friends Meeting, MD. Dana Kester-McCabe, assistant clerk of Friends Journal Board of Trustees, member of Wicomico River Friends Meeting in Maryland, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, is traveling in service to the Friends Journal.

Lynn and Stephen Newsom, new directors of Quaker House in Fayetteville, NC, a Quaker military counseling service.

Johnathan Vogel-Bourne is glad to be back “home” from Cambridge Monthly Meeting.

Mira Wonderwheel, Development Director, Friends House, is happy to be here and learning about Quakers.

Barry Crossno, General Secretary of Friends General Conference.

Walker Creek Ranch Welcome:

George Stockman, Walker Creek Ranch, graciously welcomed one and all to the Ranch. He briefly described the purposes and educational activities carried out during the year. He mentioned a few items of concern.

Clerk's Remarks:

Steve Smith is awed by and very appreciative of the honor of clerking this body, noting its life-changing quality. He asked that we hold him in the Light. He reminded us that we are in worship in our business meetings. We will begin on time so being settled in by the beginning time would be very helpful.

Arrangements:

Marilee Eusebio (Davis) provided information about the site arrangements. Jan Turner (Humboldt) described how those with special dietary needs have had their needs met and how they can address their concerns.

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Children's program:

Keenan Lorenzato, (Davis) Children's Program Coordinator, described the schedule and how parents can contact him.

Naming Committee:

Marilee Eusebio (Davis) read the Naming Committee report. (Attachment 2.)

M&O Briefing:

Clerk of M&O, Bronwen Hillman (Mexico City), introduced the M&O Committee members, noting that M&O will listen to our concerns and questions. The Epistle Committee members were introduced: Julian Garrett, Valerie Nuttman and Nicholas Wright.

Listening Sessions:

Shayne Lightner (Santa Monica), M&O Committee, explained an innovation this year: Listening Sessions that provide advance information and hear concerns about upcoming topics in plenary Meetings for Business. During the Listening Sessions, individuals presenting at the plenaries will give brief explanations of the matters they will bring to a later plenary. The remaining time is for asking questions and expressing concerns, giving advance feedback for plenary presenters.

Junior Yearly Meeting:

Hannah Mackinney (Strawberry Creek), Miriam Myers (San Francisco), and Alex Gillespie (San Diego), JYM co-clerks, introduced themselves, as did David Shaw (Santa Monica), an M&O member. They have a very busy schedule this PYM and invite others to join them.

Young Adult Friends:

Co-clerks, Kylin Navarro (Berkeley) and Elena Anderson-Williams (Palo Alto), Cody Lowry (Orange Grove), Clerk of M&O, and M&O members, Julian Garrett (San Jose), Tess Solenberger (Bellingham, WA), and Rebekah Percy (La Jolla) introduced themselves. The YAFs will be leading a plenary on Wednesday.

Secretariat:

Tom Yamaguchi (Strawberry Creek) gave the location of the Secretariat, which will focus on the "Daily Miracle". One can submit articles by email or hard copy.

Registrar:

Joyce Samati (Strawberry Creek) and Sarah Tyrell (Berkeley) are pleased to be your registrars. They are happy to be working again with the contract registration team from Berkeley Friends Meeting.

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Epistle Reading:

Reading Clerk, D.J. Bloom (Appleseed) read the Epistle, “Friends for LGBTQC” from February 2014. The epistle affirmed a renewed commitment to become a radically inclusive beloved community, and called for Friends Meetings and churches to enrich and strengthen themselves by fostering greater diversity. That epistle (Attachment 3) and many others can be read on the PYM website.

Minutes were approved.

Closing Worship at 8:16.

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Attachment 1. Annual Session, PYM Roll Call, July 14, 2014

Monthly Meetings X indicates present at roll call, Plenary I			
	Meeting Name		Here Worship Group Name
X	Appleseed Meeting		X Conejo Valley Worship Group
X	Berkeley Meeting		X Friends House Worship Group
X	Big Island Meeting		Kauai Worship Group
X	Central Coast Meeting		X Lake County Worship Group
X	Chico Meeting		Las Vegas Worship Group
X	Claremont Monthly Meeting		Livermore
X	Davis Meeting		Maui Worship Group
	Delta Meeting		Modesto Worship Group
	Fresno Meeting		Molokai Worship Group
X	Grass Valley Meeting		Oakland Worship Group
X	Guatemala Monthly Meeting		X Ojai Friends Worship Group
X	Honolulu Meeting		X Soledad
X	Humboldt Meeting		Southern Humboldt Worship Group
	Inland Valley Friends Meeting		X Ukiah Worship Group
X	La Jolla Monthly Meeting		Whitleaf Worship Group
X	Live Oak Monthly Meeting		Livermore
	Marin Meeting		
	Marloma Long Beach Monthly Meeting		
	Mendocino Meeting		
X	Mexico City Monthly Meeting		
	Monterey Peninsula Meeting		
	Napa Sonoma Meeting		
X	Orange County Friends Meeting		
X	Orange Grove Monthly Meeting		
X	Palo Alto Meeting		
	Redding Meeting		
X	Redwood Forest Meeting		
	Reno Meeting		
X	Sacramento Meeting		
X	San Diego Monthly Meeting		
X	San Francisco Meeting		
X	San Jose Meeting		
X	Santa Barbara Monthly Meeting		
X	Santa Cruz Meeting		
X	Santa Monica Monthly Meeting		
X	Strawberry Creek Meeting		
X	Visalia Meeting		

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Attachment 2. Naming Committee Report

Naming Committee Report to Pacific Yearly Meeting, Walker Creek Ranch
July 15, 2014

Naming committee found our work gratifying. We enjoyed visiting with many Friends while seeking to identify those who could serve on Pacific Yearly Meeting's Nominating Committee.

We have an unusual presentation in that we propose to augment Nominating Committee by one person for just one year. Our assignment was to bring forth three names for three year terms ending in 2017 and one position for a one year vacancy ending in 2015 as well as the name, or names for the clerk of the committee.

The people who are willing to serve for the terms ending in 2017 are Stephen Matchett SF, Graciela Martinez, VI, and Nora Cooke, GV. The name Marion Holzworth, SB is brought forward for the one year position. We recommend Elaine Emily and Stephen Matchett as co-clerks.

Because we were made aware of the willingness of a young person to serve, we recommend that Hannah Mackinney who is a senior in high school, serve for this next year. Often the lives of our young Friends and Young Adult Friends are hectic with changing domiciles and demands on their time.

One of the reasons we offer this idea is that it seems in keeping with this session's theme: YOUTH AND PROPHECY: AWAKENING TO A NEW CREATION.

We appreciate having been asked to serve in this capacity.

Liz Baker
Jim Summers
Marilee Eusebio, convenor

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Attachment 3. “Friends for LGBTQC” February 2014.

Epistle from Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Concerns

17 of Second month, 2014

To Friends Everywhere,

We have gathered again in our annual midwinter gathering, this time at Oregon’s Menucha Conference Center above the beautiful Columbia River Gorge.

Our theme expanded on our commitment to become a radically inclusive beloved community. We heard from plenary speaker Mariana Ruybalid, a person of color who lives with cerebral palsy. Other Friends too shared about the challenge of being differently abled and we began dialogue about how we can welcome all those whom society excludes as ‘queer’ for any reason. We challenge the entire Religious Society of Friends to develop their embrace for people whose needs are different; to support ministries that utilize the gifts of all whom God inspires, whatever their health, mental, and physical abilities.

We heard the struggles of two young adult Friends claiming their identities both as Gay and Christian and were inspired by their courage in speaking truth to power and remaining faithful. We are reminded to not turn our backs on these Friends or the communities in which they seek belonging.

We hear of meetings and churches that do not embrace the gifts of Friends’ sexuality, gender identity and sexual orientation. Our experience is that the diversity among the members of our body enriches and strengthens our community. In this gathering, we celebrate attendance of Friends of all branches of North American Quakerism, many Friends under the age of 50, Friends of varying family structures, and Friends of diverse ethnic backgrounds. As we express ourselves authentically and we accept the challenge of loving one another unconditionally, we manifest the testimony of integrity and are liberated to live and love in the Light.

We hold in the Light all those who suffer from oppression and those who consciously or not contribute to their suffering. We wish to be allies to sexual minority African Friends whose nations have laws against homosexuality.

We accept the invitation and challenge from some Friends of Color to share our gifts, support one another, and make our own space more radically inclusive. We joyfully look forward to our work together in future Gatherings.

We honored the life of weighty Friend, Joe Franko, a member of our community whose passing leaves sorrow but whose life inspires continued joy.

We experienced the Holy Spirit of Truth moving among us in many ways as we worshipped and heard the clear call to let our first motion always be to love, especially in response to fear and hatred.

In the Light, in and for the Gathered Beloved Community of FLGBTQC,

Ted Heck & Kathy Beth, Co-Clerks