

**Meeting of the Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee  
held Saturday, 5 March 2016 at Santa Monica Friends Meeting House**

**Summary**

Annual Session

1. The theme for Annual Session 2016 is “Lifting of the Veil: Awakening to the Presence”. Early Friends believed in the presence of the Living Spirit, that it was not something seen but perceived through a veil. The speakers this year are: Carl Magruder and Darcy Stanley (both of Strawberry Creek Meeting). Both were raised in the Yearly Meeting. See [Clerk's Call to Annual Session](#).
2. The schedule is intergenerational, exploring various spiritual topics together. The final schedule will be available shortly before Annual Session.
3. Registration for Annual Session 2016 is expected to open at the end of this month. Meetings and Representatives will receive email notification.
4. The registration fees for Annual Session 2016 have not changed from last year and can be found [here](#). Online payment options will not be available. There is no first-time attender discount or early bird discount this year.
5. Finance Committee continues to explore possibilities to offset travel costs for Friends traveling longer distances to attend Annual Session. No proposal is brought at this time.
6. Children’s Program Committee announced that Nate Seacrest (Redwood Forest) will be program coordinator at Annual Session this year, with support from Chamba Cooke.
7. Children’s Program is exploring planning an evening program for children one evening during Annual Session.
8. See the [Annual Session poster](#) for dates and financial assistance information.

Committees & Related Business

All committee reports can be found on the PYM website [here](#)

9. The Naming Committee, which serves for one year and brings names for Nominating Committee, for 2016 is: Sarah Rose House Lightner (Orange Grove), convener, Trudy Freidel (Inland Valley), Kathy Runyan (Santa Cruz), (Eric Moon (Berkeley), alternate).
10. The interim slate of nominations brought by Nominating Committee was approved.
11. Committees were encouraged to explore meeting by phone conference / online meeting tools instead of in-person meetings, to reduce costs and acknowledge environmental concerns.
12. The augmentation requests brought by Finance Committee were approved. These amounts are drawn from reserves and/or unspent committee budgets.
13. The Travel Minute for Alyssa Nelson (Youth Programs Coordinator) to travel to Australia Yearly Meeting was accepted.
14. The Youth Programs Committee proposes three queries for Meetings and Friends to consider: a) What does PYM do uniquely or particularly well that Alyssa could share with Australian Friends? b) What do you hope Alyssa might bring back to PYM from this visit? c) What do you wonder

about the Religious Society of Friends in Austral, or about their youth programs, or anything else? Responses should be sent to Jim Summers (La Jolla).

15. The Ad Hoc Committee on Transitions between Children's Program and Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) presented its [draft report](#) for informational purposes only.
16. PYM accepts the invitation of Friends General Conference to explore holding the 2018 FGC Gathering in California.
17. An invitation from Mexico City Meeting to host the 2017 meeting of Representative Committee was received and read. The Presiding Clerk will consult with several committees and discern the impacts of accepting the invitation.

### Information for Meetings

18. All Friends are encouraged to participate in the [Finance Committee Survey](#) which asks about attendance at Annual Session, distribution of PYM funds, support for Quaker organizations, among other topics.
19. Finance, Ministry & Oversight and Nominating Committees brought for seasoning a proposal regarding PYM Delegates, Representatives and Observers, suggesting a possible reconfiguration in this regard. The proposal will be brought to Annual Session for approval. See the full proposal in the [Finance Committee Report](#). Additional information will be provided prior to Annual Session.
20. The Statistics Co-Clerks remind Meetings that membership information must be submitted by May 12 to Lee Knutsen (Live Oak) or Don Bean (Conejo Valley Worship Group).
21. The PYM Visiting Friend, Roena Oesting (La Jolla) is available to visit Meetings between now and Annual Session. She also encourages Friends to visit other Meetings themselves to enrich our spiritual lives and those of the groups we visit.
22. Meetings are encouraged to suggest names of Friends to serve on the Visiting Friend Support Subcommittee of Ministry & Oversight. Contact Bronwen Hillman (Mexico City) or Leslie Zondervan-Droz (Humboldt).
23. Ministry & Oversight Committee encourages Meetings to consider hosting a meeting of the committee, which generally meets in early October, late January, and early May each year.
24. Youth Programs Committee reminds Friends of the [Youth Activities & Calendar](#) on the PYM website and Facebook.
25. Children's Program Committee encourages Friends to apply to serve as teachers in the Children's Program at Annual Session.
26. Ministry & Oversight Committee asks, What are the concerns we need to hear before bringing a formal proposal for PYM to affiliate with Friends General Conference? An informational packet will be provided to Meetings.
27. Unity with Nature encourages native plantings, local food production, and solar panels.
28. Peace & Social Order Committee asks how Meetings are serving and helping their communities.

To contact any of the people mentioned in this summary, please use the [contact form](#) on the PYM website.