

The Daily Miracle

Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Wednesday July 18, 2018 — Last Day

Wednesday Schedule

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| 6:20-7:00am | Outdoor Worship (in front of Pine Lodge) |
| 7:00-8:00 | Breakfast |
| 7:30-8:00 | Quaker Center's online worship group (Plenary tent) |
| 8:00-9:00 | Interest Groups IV |
| 9:30-10:00 | Clear Rooms |
| 10:00-11:15 | Closing Plenary / Epistle Reading |
| 11:30-12:30 | Closing Worship |
| 12:45-1:30 | Lunch |
| 1:30-3:30 | Evaluation Meeting for YM Clerks & Officers |

Wednesday Interest Groups

Native Concerns Forum. *Panel including Jim Summers. M&O. Plenary Tent.*

This interest group will be convened by a panel of PYM Friends actively involved with Quaker/Native relations, who will report on their activities, solicit reports from others engaged in this work, answer questions and hear concerns from interested Friends. Friends will also be invited to include native Hawai'iian or other indigenous groups in this discussion. Participants will be invited to consider these relationships, examine them in the Light, and make suggestions for how to support ongoing activities.

In for the Long Haul. *Carolyn Levering, FCNL Advocacy Team member. P&SO. Carson Room*

This group has been cancelled.

Poetry, Prayer Circle and Worship with Nature. *Catya de Neergard and Lora Powell. Unity with Nature. Peace Pole.*

Appreciating and practicing deep listening to the voices of God's creation. Expressing and exploring our relationship with Nature through sharing poetry. Earth Prayers, and reflective silence in the beauty of Walker Creek. All expressions of Divine language are welcome. Bring poems and percussion instruments if you like.

Testimonies Revisited. *Chuck Orr and Friends. Faith and Practice Revision. Garden Room.*

An opportunity to move beyond SPICES in considering the Testimonies. Testimonies reflect generations of Quaker lives guided by Spirit. This will be an opportunity to examine deeply what is speaking to us now. There will a presentation and experiential opportunities.

Closing Plenary / Epistle Reading

10:00-11:15

- Preschool Epistle
- Elementary School Epistle
- Middle School Epistle
- Junior Yearly Meeting Epistle
- Young Adult Friends Epistle (if requested)
- Pacific Yearly Meeting Epistle
- Nominating Committee (if needed)

- Naming Committee (if needed)
- Junior Yearly Meeting New Officers/Committees
- Young Adult Friends New Officers/Committees (if needed)
- Clerk's Closing Remarks
- Reading of Minutes
- Closing Worship
- Announcements

Other Wednesday Events

Annual Session Evaluation Meeting for PYM Officers and Committee Clerks

If you are an Officer or Committee Clerk, please attend the Evaluation Session on Wednesday 1:30-3:30 PM in Maple. This session is your opportunity to provide critical feedback regarding how this Annual Session went from your perspective in service to the Yearly Meeting. If you cannot attend, please ask another member of your committee to bring your feedback.

See Sharon Gates if you have questions.

Before You Leave (or Shortly Thereafter)

Annual Session Evaluations

Help make future Annual Sessions even better than this year's by filling out an evaluation at <https://bit.ly/2utgZkq>. If you are unable to fill out the online form, see the Assistant to the Clerk for a paper form. If you have trouble with the on-line form, send an email to PYMAssistanttotheClerk@gmail.com. The deadline for submitting your evaluation is August 5, but fill it out as soon as you can after you leave so the information is fresh in your memory. — *Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk*

Worship Sharing Evaluations

Worship/Sharing evaluations go in the **yellow** box at either the plenary tent or the patio information booth.

Pink Service Questionnaires

Pink Service questionnaires go in the **pink** box - same locations.

Attention, monthly meeting reps, PYM committee clerks, and officers

Don't forget to sign up to be reimbursed for your travel expense to and from Annual Session! The form you need to use is on a clipboard at the back of the Plenary Tent.

Vacating Rooms

Rooms must be vacated by 10:00 am. They will start to clean at 10:15 am. You are welcome to leave your things on the patio or outside your lodging until you are ready to leave.

Walker Creek Linens

If you used Walker Creek linens, please leave them in your room.

Earthlight Bookstore Needs Help Packing.

Help packing and loading books will be welcome Wednesday morning. Thank you for your patronage.

Chocolate for Sale!

Elinor Steffy is selling fair trade Equal Exchange chocolate bars for \$4 each to raise money for her dance school tuition. She will be selling at breakfast and lunch as well as in Buckeye in between.

General Announcements

Golf Cart Today

We will be running the golf cart around today until close of plenary, then again during lunch. We are happy to help you take your things to

your car so you don't have to take your car to your things. See Bronwen or Sarah.

In Case of MEDICAL EMERGENCY

Go first to the information tent on the patio outside the dining hall; if no one is there to assist you, go to the Walker Creek office.

Emergency contact person - Bronwen Hillman

News from Quaker Oaks Farm

May 2018: we hosted an Intern on the farm. L.J. Robertson spent three weeks on the farm as part of a High School senior project. They helped implement the Healthy Soils grant, seeded organic flowers and vegetables and participated in presenting an Agroecology Crash Course on Carbon Sequestration to a group of 20 people. The Agroecology Crash Courses are on-the-farm workshops hosted quarterly by Quaker Oaks Farm and CAFA: Community Alliance for Agroecology. These workshops educate various community members, environmental groups and policy advocates about environmental issues and solutions in the San Joaquin Valley.

Keep in touch! Follow us at www.quakeroaksfarm.org. On Facebook at Quaker Oaks Farm. On Instagram at quakeroaksfarmvisalia. — *Melissa Lovett-Adair*

Homeless Housing Approved In Pasadena!

Thanks to all of you who prayed that we would successfully persuade the Pasadena City Council's Economic Development (Ed Tech) subcommittee to approve homeless housing for 69 seniors. 46 people showed up in support, 20 spoke out, and we won! Ed Tech unanimously agreed to support "mixed use"—homeless housing plus some commercial development—which was exactly what we were advocating.

This was a **huge** victory for our homeless neighbors. Thanks be to God! Our prayers were answered... This is just the beginning. There are other sites in other parts of the city that we will want to see used to house our homeless neighbors, but this victory will encourage us to keep up the beautiful struggle. To be continued...

Yours in peace and justice, — *Anthony Manousos*

Personals

Thank You Pat and Gary Wolff!

Thank you Pat and Gary Wolff. You have helped us hear each other. You have brought our words to everyone so we can all share and be heard by all. What a gift you have given us. — *The PYM body*

Appreciation!

For this year's FRAPs:

Sarah Armstrong-Jones

Rob Cimorelli

Jesse Frey

Steve Leeds

David Mackenzie

Dan Strickland

Bonnie Webster

— *Muriel Strand, JYM Adult Clerk*

Greetings from Alyssa Nelson, PYM Youth Programs Coordinator

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you from me from home. I was sad that health issues prevented me from attending in person this year, and I'm relieved to be able to share that I'm doing much better thanks to rest and antibiotics.

I've been 'on call' for Annual Session and remotely participating by text/messaging, voice app, video conferencing, the website, email, and the electronic version of the Daily Miracle (woohoo, thanks George and Secretariat volunteers for the daily miracle that is this Daily Miracle!). I appreciate that I'm still getting to have a mini-AS experience and able to be involved in certain key activities.

It feels good to get to see the fruits of our whole year's worth of preparatory work to pull off Annual Session once again. Thank you to the

many volunteers who contribute to making it happen!

Through digital technologies, I've been able to play my program support role from afar as questions have come up during the week. I've also been able to listen to the keynote talks, attend interest groups, and be present for Meeting for Memorials and for the Tuesday morning Plenary presentation from Friends who attended the Reunion General de los Amigos en Mexico to which YPCC contributed travel funds and logistical support.

Special techy thanks to Lawrence Alderson and George Mills from the Communications Committee as well as **Bertha Peña, Barbara Babin, and Melissa Lovett-Adair from YPCC.**

And thanks also to the Youth Programs Coordinating Committee members for their personal and programmatic support throughout the year and during this unusual Annual Session for me.

I wish you all safe travels home,
 — *Alyssa Nelson, PYM Youth Programs Coordinator*
pym.youthcoordinator@gmail.com
<http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/>

After Annual Session

SCQM Directory

If you would like an electronic version of the Southern California Quarterly Meeting Directory, please email Sarah Rose House-Lightner at clerk@scqm.org.

Western Friend Benefit Dinner

Balkan themed supper fundraiser to benefit Western Friend. Sunday July 22, 6:00 pm, hosted by Tom and Sandy Farley in Redwood City. For more details see the Monday Daily Miracle or e-mail farley@spont.com.

Job Opening: Quaker Center Co-Directors

Quaker Center Co-Directors, Kathy and Bob Runyan, will be moving on from their role in spring 2019. Co-Directors provide spiritual leadership to West Coast Friends; develop workshops; manage staff, finances and facilities; fundraise; work closely with spirit-led Board. Compensation includes: salary, housing, utilities, benefits, glorious California coastal redwoods.

Review the job description at:
<http://www.quakercenter.org/about-us/employment-opportunities/>.

The BLQCA Search Committee is accepting applications until August 1, 2018.

Selective Service System — Please Send Comment Letters From Your Monthly Meeting!

Quaker House and the Center on Conscience and War have put out the call for concerned citizens to make public comment to the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service regarding ending the Selective Service System (SSS) registration for the draft. All people identified at birth as male are required to register with the SSS. Talking points include:

1. Eliminate the SSS. It is time to end it now.
2. It is unnecessary. In the unlikely event of a “sudden need” for more military personnel, with today’s technology, a pool of names could be generated quickly.
3. If the commission finds that registration should continue, they must require that the SSS provide a pathway to register as conscientious objectors.

For more information, please visit www.centeronconscience.org, www.quakerhouse.org, or speak with Kate Connell, Santa Barbara Meeting, to get the links, etc.

Deadline for comments: September 30, 2018.
 Public meetings in Los Angeles: September 19-20 (National Commission website: inspire2serve.gov). Email: national.commission.on.service.info@mail.mil. Postal Mail: National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service; Attn: RFI Comment-Docket 05-2018-01; 2530 Crystal Drive, Suite 1000, Room 1029; Arlington, VA 22202

Silent Retreat on Transforming Suffering

How can suffering become life-giving rather than death-dealing?

Violence arises when we do not know what else to do with our suffering. – Parker Palmer

The Silent Retreat Committee of Southern California Quarterly Meeting creates an annual opportunity for Friends to immerse in life-giving spiritual practices in community. Join us at Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside.

Transforming Suffering: From Turmoil to Tranquility. August 31 to September 2, 2018

Quaker Earthcare Witness

Do you carry a concern for earthcare? Are you looking for other Quakers who share your concern? Connect and deepen at Quaker Earthcare Witness, and share your experience of seeking right relationship with all of creation. I have really enjoyed working with other Quakers from around North America and it has deepened my connection to Spirit. — *Maia Wolff Ostrom*

QEW Fall Steering Committee

Quaker Earthcare Witness Fall Steering Committee Meeting October 11 to 14, 2018 at Dumas Bay Centre, 3200 SW Dash Point Road, Federal Way, WA 98023

An Invitation to Be Part of EarthLight Bookstore

Did you visit the EarthLight Bookstore during PYM? Did you find it to be a place you would like to spend more time in? We are always

looking for people to help at a Yearly, Quarterly or other gathering, and in between gatherings. The major prerequisite is that you love books and want everyone to love them as much as you do. If you think you qualify, contact EarthLight via Farley@spont.com.

A Poem

I go among trees and sit still.
 All my stirring becomes quiet
 around me like circles on water.
 My tasks lie in their places
 Where I left them, asleep like cattle ...

Then what I am afraid of comes.
 I live for a while in its sight.
 What I fear in it leaves it,
 And the fear of it leaves me.
 It sings, and I hear its song.
 —*Wendell Berry*