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Preface

This document is the formal record of Pacific Yearly Meeting’s 2015 Annual Session (PYM-AS-2015). Records of the Annual Session have traditionally been assembled into a “packet” after the conclusion of each session. The packet would then be sent (historically by paper mail, more recently by email) to Clerks (or their designees) of Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups and Preparatory Meetings as well as to PYM’s officers and committee clerks.

Due to a breakdown in our processes, PYM minutes for the years 2013 through 2016 were only published as separate pages or PDF files on our website (https://pacificyearlymeeting.org). They were not collected into a single “packet” and not explicitly circulated. This document, assembled in 2018, is a reconstruction of the packet that should have been prepared in 2015.

In 2015 the minutes were only published as “posts” (a separate web page on the PYM website for each plenary), not as PDF files. Furthermore, the “attachments” were not systematically numbered in the minutes nor even unambiguously identified in all cases. In most cases the minutes refer to reports that “are posted on the website”. Therefore in assembling “the attachments” for this 2015 Minutes Packet, I have simply gathered all the reports I could find on the website. These I have attached unnumbered, but in alphabetical order by committee or officer name, without regard to where or even whether they are referenced in the minutes.

This document is the product of many hours of work by many people; the authors of the reports, our Recording Clerks, the Presiding Clerk and the Secretariat Committee. This accounts for the various changes in formatting that exist 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. So, if you find errors, please inform me.

Respectfully submitted,

George Mills, PYM Secretariat Clerk (Communications Committee)
November 29, 2018
List of Action Minutes

**AS Minute 2015-01**: Pacific Yearly Meeting approves having the clerk endorse the travel minute for Paula Palmer (Boulder, Colorado, Intermountain Yearly Meeting).

**AS Minute 2015-02**: Pacific Yearly Meeting approves having the clerk endorse the travel minute for Friends General Conference General Secretary Barry Crossno, (Arch Street Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting).

**AS Minute 2015-03**: Pacific Yearly Meeting approves endorsing as a first step the “Facing the Challenge of Climate Change” statement.

**AS Minute 2015-04**: Pacific Yearly Meeting approved this minute: “Those gathered at the 2015 Annual Session of Pacific Yearly Meeting support the efforts of the Latin American Concerns Committee and numerous other Friends who are seeking justice and showing compassion toward those who are fleeing the violence in their home countries and need a place of refuge in the United States. We encourage monthly meetings and individual Friends to read the minutes passed by Monthly Meetings and take them to heart. We also encourage Friends to support the efforts of American Friends Service Committee and Friends Committee on National Legislation to promote just and compassionate policies toward immigrants.”

**AS Minute 2015-05**: Pacific Yearly Meeting approved this minute with one person standing aside: “We hold a deep concern for over reliance and investment in fossil fuels. We ask that monthly meetings and individuals engage in discernment on how to reduce their dependence and investment in fossil fuels. Meetings and individuals are asked to share their efforts with the greater community.”

**AS Minute 2015-06**: Pacific Yearly Meeting approves the revised Finance Committee Report.

**AS Minute 2015-07**: The Pacific Yearly Meeting approved the Nominating Committee report as published.

**AS Minute 2015-08**: The Pacific Yearly Meeting acknowledges the receiving of various reports from Yearly Meeting Committees and Representatives which will be attached to the minutes.

**AS Minute 2015-09**: Pacific Yearly Meeting accepts all epistles with gratitude.
The plenary began with worship.

1. Clerk’s Welcome
Steven Smith, Presiding Clerk, welcomed all the attendees. He reminded attendees that all these meetings will begin and end on time. The theme is “Love and Justice” values at the heart of what it means to be a Friend. Gospel Order has to do with how we behave with each other the entire week.

2. Thanks to the Miwok People
The Presiding Clerk took a moment to regard the peoples who were here first, the Miwok people. This gathering takes place on the land of those people and we acknowledge them as the custodians of this land. A few moments of worship ensued to consider those First Peoples.

3. Walker Creek Ranch Welcome
George Stratman, Ranch Manager of Walker Creek Ranch, welcomed all here again. He mentioned a few housekeeping items, described the purpose of the Ranch and noted activities during the school year.

4. Roll Call
Roll call of meetings and worship groups was completed and is attached.

5. Visitors
Visitors introducing themselves were the following:
Lloyd Lee Olson, Keynote address speaker (Friendship Meeting, North Carolina Conservative Yearly Meeting), Greensboro, NC
Paula Palmer (Boulder Monthly Meeting, IMYM), workshop presenter.
Miguel Angel Costop Bara, Director, Guatemala Friends Scholarship Program
Hailey Hathaway (Mexico City), Casa de Los Amigos
Yasmen Mercer of Berkeley, attending with a JYM Friend
Mary Klein (Palo Alto), Western Friend, announced that anyone interested in writing for Western Friend please contact her.
Melissa Weis (Central Coast Friends Meeting)
Katie Aburizik (Cambridge Meeting)

6. Arrangements
Eric Moon (Berkeley), one of two arrangements clerks, encouraged all to be understanding with and take care of each other. He reminded us of some respectful and kind ways we might do that. Jan Turner (Humboldt) noted that those with special dietary needs who have not already been cared for in registration, should please contact her. She will be wearing her special hat so she can be easily identified. She also described the signs in the cafeteria indicating the classification of the food.
7. Committee Briefings

**Naming Committee.** Sarah Tyrell (Berkeley) of the Naming Committee gave the first report. There are four spots to fill on Nominating Committee. Three of these are proposed to be filled by those who have accepted nomination for three year terms. One spot has not yet had anyone volunteer for that one year term. The three who have offered to serve three year terms are: David Mackenzie (Orange Grove), Deicy Steffy (Sacramento) and Juanita Mora-Malerva (Santa Cruz). If anyone is interested in serving on Nominating Committee, please see Sarah Tyrell or another member of the Naming Committee. The other members of the Naming Committee are: Pat Smith (Claremont), Linda Rowell (Chico) and Alvaro Alvarado (Sacramento).

**Children’s Program (CP).** Keenan Lorenzato (Davis), point person for the Children’s Program, reported that those with questions or concerns regarding the CP should come to a person wearing an orange T-shirt. Sign-ins for Children’s Program are from 8:00 to 8:10 a.m. Children’s Program starts at 8:30 a.m. All are welcome to join CP activities or volunteer. They have had much trouble finding help for the Children’s Program and encourage those who might be interested in serving on the committee or in the program to please contact them.

**Ministry and Oversight Committee (M&O) Briefing.** Bronwen Hillman, Clerk of M&O introduced the members of M&O. If you have a concern or issue please come to a member of M&O. Bobcat Cabin is their location, with two members there each morning. She described how to sign up for worship sharing and how to change your choice. She encouraged buddies and newbies to find each other and noted how to do it. The safety of the children is of paramount importance. There is no childcare outside of the Children’s Program so all children must be under the care of an adult at all times.

**Listening Session Briefing.** The Presiding Clerk described the purpose and nature of the listening sessions and encouraged those with something to say on a topic to come to the relevant listening session.

**Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM).** Co-clerks Nathasha Herrera (Mexico City)and Maya Price (Berkeley), and M&O members, David Shaw (Santa Monica), Rose Nadis (Santa Barbara and Nina Shaw (Santa Monica) reported. JYM has many fun activities planned. There will be a mini workshop on AVP and another on creativity. Others are encouraged to join in worship sharing with them. JYM will also have worship each morning from 8 to 8:30 a.m.

**Young Adult Friends (YAF).** Co-clerks, Kylin Navarro (Berkeley) and Elena Anderson-Williams (San Jose) reported. YAFs will be meeting in the evenings starting at 8:30 p.m. They just completed a YAF retreat this morning.

**Epistle Committee.** David Lederman (Orange County), Ministry and Oversight Committee, reported that two persons, Jim Anderson (Chico) and Kate Connell (Santa Barbara), have agreed to serve on the Epistle Committee for Annual Session 2015. He described the duties of this committee and indicated that one more member is needed.
Secretariat. Raph Levien (Berkeley) reported for the Secretariat. During free time after breakfast there will be someone there for questions/requests. He and Tom Yamaguchi can be emailed also.

Registrar. Sarah Tyrell (Berkeley) and Joyce Samati (Strawberry Creek), those present who have not yet registered to do so.

8. Minutes
The minutes were read, corrected and approved.

The plenary closed with worship.
The session began at 9:50 am with worship.

1. Opening
Clerk Steve Smith (Claremont) welcomed all and read the letter of traveling ministry from North Carolina Yearly Meeting (Conservative) for Lloyd Lee Wilson of Friendship Meeting of North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative.

Reading Clerk Diego Navarro (Santa Cruz) read the epistle from New England Yearly Meeting. The following visitor introduced herself and was welcomed: Delaney Miller (Ben Lomond Quaker Center).

2. Lloyd Lee Wilson
Elena Anderson-Williams (Palo Alto) introduced Lloyd Lee Wilson whose writings she found most insightful and beneficial.

Lloyd Lee Wilson rose to deliver his keynote talk and to offer his ministry based on Psalm 127 (“Unless God builds the house, we labor in vain: except God keep the city, the watchman wakes but in vain.”)

He updated his status as a recorded minister which, while true at the time that the traveling minute, was dropped without prejudice recently when he moved from sojourning member to full member at Friendship Meeting. As in the early life of the church, Friends continue to send out in ministry two by two and during this time Elaine Emily (Strawberry Creek) joins Lloyd Lee Wilson as an elder in this ministry.

Lloyd was led to emphasize the need for ongoing discernment, since the movement of the Holy Spirit is not one way, from leading to action, but back and forth. His stories and examples built us up. The ministry was well received.

3. Speaker’s Background
Lloyd Lee Wilson is a deeply-grounded author on Quaker spirituality. His many writings include Essays on the Quaker Visio of Gospel Order and a recent Pendle Hill Pamphlet, Radical Hospitality (#427). Wilson has written eloquently of the need to center our Quaker activism in the gestalt of Quaker practice, knit together in a faithful Quaker community by the redeeming spiritual power of loving-kindness. He writes that when that spiritual grounding is absent, “In our hasty desire for the fruit of right social order, we have neglected the Root from which all good fruit springs.”
Plenary III – Meeting for Business I
Tuesday, July 14, 2015

The meeting began at 3:15 pm with worship.

1. Epistle
Diego Navarro (Santa Cruz), Reading Clerk, read an epistle from the 120th Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at George Fox University at Newberg, Oregon. It will be posted on the website.

2. Naming Committee
Sarah Tyrell (Berkeley), Convener of the Naming Committee, noted that the Naming Committee is also charged with naming the co-clerks of Nominating Committee. Stephen Matchett (San Francisco) and Nora Cooke (Grass Valley) are nominated co-clerks. Sarah also listed those who are continuing as members of the Nominating Committee.

3. Nominating Committee
Stephen Matchett (San Francisco), co-clerk of Nominating Committee, provided attendees with hard copies of the report, including the first reading of the proposed slate. In addition to filling positions, the Nominating Committee has updated PYM job descriptions—with special thanks to Carl Anderson (Strawberry Creek). At the Committee Fair there will be a binder of those job descriptions available at their table. Also at the table will be an opportunity to offer your volunteer services to PYM. Stephen listed the members of the committee who are attending Annual Session and encouraged those interested in serving to speak with a member of Nominating Committee. A junior arrangements clerk is needed. Another area of concern is the need to fill positions in the Children Programs Committee. Youth Program Coordinating Committee (YPCC) shows one vacancy. Two present members have volunteered to serve an additional term, but new volunteers are needed on the YPCC. Stephen also provided an explanation of the process of listing Donna Smith (Redwood Forest) as clerk of Latin America Concerns Committee (LACC).

4. Ministry and Oversight (M&O) Report
Bronwen Hillman (Mexico City), Clerk of Ministry and Oversight Committee, said the complete report is posted on the Pacific Yearly Meeting website. She noted three items:

1. Roena Oesting (La Jolla), has been approved as the Visiting Friend for this next year. She will be visiting meetings and worship groups. The Visiting Friend Support Subcommittee will be contacting monthly meetings about her visiting them.

2. Annual Session 2016 is scheduled for Friday through Wednesday, June 17th through June 22nd. The change in schedule to Friday through Wednesday is a two-year trial and its success will be evaluated.

3. The revised PYM Abuse Protection Policy 2015 Final Draft is posted on the PYM website. Approximately half the document provides a process for dealing with abuse complaints.
5. **Statistical Report**
Statistical Co-clerks, Don Bean (Conejo Valley) and Lee Knutsen (Live Oak), started their presentation with some statistical humor including a math challenge. A 10-year review of PYM membership changes, and the number and types of changes per Meeting, will be available on the Pacific Yearly Meeting website.

6. **Treasurer’s Report**
Roy Allen (Berkeley), Treasurer, presented the report and provided hard copies for those who wished. He summarized the revenue and expenses broadly which seemed on target compared to previous years. The balance is healthy. However the Annual Session 2014 income and expenses resulted in a reduction in reserves.

7. **Finance Report**
Stratton Jaquette (Palo Alto), Clerk of the Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee had been charged with bringing forward a revised donations plan to a selection of Quaker organizations. He read the proposal which reflects vigorous discussions during Representative Committee meeting in February. Stratton described the travel policy to date for delegates and how it affected some of the Finance Committee recommendations. Due to the previous practice of not fully budgeting delegate travel, the Finance Committee is recommending for next year’s budget to limit delegates to a maximum of two per organizations and fully funding them. Two exceptions were made: three delegates are suggested to Western Friend and three delegates are recommended to Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC).

Comments from the floor included a suggestion to carry the topic over to the Listening Session. Only a few committees responded to Finance Committee inquiries regarding their needs for the next fiscal year. Stratton described the changes included in the proposed budget. Based on the statistical report data, the new requested amount per member next year would be $110.

A Finance Committee member researched transportation costs and means for getting to Annual Session from the various Monthly Meetings, to compensate for the additional costs of travel from Southern California Quarterly Walker Creek Ranch. The details are included in the report, which is posted online. Further discussion will happen during the Listening Session on Wednesday. A comment was made that the four meetings falling outside the two quarterly meetings should also be considered.

The full Finance Committee Report is posted on the YM website.

8. **Youth Program Coordinating Committee (YPCC)**
Jim Summers (La Jolla), Mary Klein (Palo Alto), Alyssa Nelson (Davis), and Steve Leeds (San Francisco) gave a summary report, noting that the full report is posted on the PYM website. Jim described the committee’s activities, including grants. Sixteen grant applications were received this year, twelve of which were funded. They also co-sponsored and partially funded the Spring 2015 Youth Service Learning Camp with Quaker Oaks Farm and the Wukchumni Tribe. The YPCC is now considering a fourth round of grant applications. All are encouraged to attend the Committee’s interest groups and talk to members individually. The Committee mentioned the
considerable efforts of Alyssa Nelson, the Youth Program Coordinator, in supporting youth and monthly meetings concerning their youth.

Alyssa thanked the Coordinating Committee, Treasurer, and Finance Committee for their support for the making of grants that are turned into great events.

In response to multiple requests from members of the wider PYM community for the YPCC or YPC to find or recommend Friendly Responsible Adult Presences (FRAPs) or other youth-workers, the committee labored with this and decided that the YPCC will continue to do background checks for potential youth workers for the needs of the Youth Program, Children’s Program and JYM. They will not in the future do these for monthly meetings or other groups, which would be outside their charter.

9. Junior Yearly Meeting Adult Support Committee
Sue Torrey (Central Coast), reported for the committee. She described their purpose, concerns, and issues and how they initiated community building in the fall. Their work continued during the winter with much being accomplished at RepCom. Sue gave much credit to the youth involved.

One of the issues the committee struggled with in JYM, the JYM Adult Support Committee and beyond was about how to transition from one age cohort to next age cohort. The JYM Adult Support Committee continues to work on a process. Additionally this Committee has requested to continue working with the Registrar on what data is gathered on young people before they come to annual sessions, in order to place the youth appropriately and be prepared for those with special needs.

10. Minutes
Minutes were read, corrected and approved at Meeting for Business II.

The Meeting for Business closed with a moment of worship.
Shayne Lightner (Santa Monica) member of Ministry & Oversight Committee clerked the session that began at 8:50 a.m.

1. Subcommittee on Child Refugee and Migration
Lynnette Arnold (Santa Barbara) from the Subcommittee on Child Refugee and Migration reported that the subcommittee has met 25 times. Six Meetings have approved minutes on this matter of concern (Inland, Redwood Forest, Humboldt, Santa Monica, Orange Grove, and La Jolla). She read the minute of support that LACC and the Peace & Social Order Committee have proposed. It is posted on the Pacific Yearly Meeting website.

Appreciation was expressed for the Committee having done the minute right, going to local Meetings, encouraging direct support action and caring out activities (such as going to a Texan detention center, working with local detainees, and exploring work with AFSC and FCNL).

Another suggested support activity would be to go to immigration court hearings (which requires both sides to give permission to attend) and listen to the stories and experiences expressed there while showing outside concern for the proceedings.

A question was raised about the portion of unaccompanied minors in the migration. In 2014, this group was the largest of all, followed by the group of mothers with small children. The interest group this afternoon will answer questions more fully.

This minute supports work being carried out by members of the Yearly Meeting.

The subcommittee’s work focuses on children and family detention. The prisons are private entities and this issue needs to be addressed.

Is the work of LACC seeking a path to citizenship, or to give out green cards? US will have to support these children and families. Monthly Meetings need to address these questions but also need to think more about the moral rightness of addressing this migration.

There is a piece on the PYM website, and a briefer note in an issue of Western Friend regarding the moral issues surrounding child migration. The subcommittee has tried to keep spiritual and moral values in the front of its work, as have the six minutes from the Meetings.

Sacramento Friends Meeting has underwritten some legal fees for persons representing migrating children: is this occurring elsewhere in the Yearly Meeting? Some local governments have underwritten these costs and the committee has information for those wanting to check out their local area’s response.

La Bestia DVD will be shown this evening. There will be time for hearing what La Casa de los Amigos is doing.
A Friend suggested that the section on calling for Meetings to act be more explicit in strongly calling for discernment on what a Meeting is led to do in response to this situation.

2. Abuse Protection Policy
Barbara Babin (Redwood Forest) of Ministry and Oversight Committee presented the background and asked to hear concerns and questions about the Abuse Protection Policy. Several years ago the Yearly Meeting’s insurance company came up with requirements for qualifying for continuing insurance coverage for working with youth.

A Friend expressed appreciation to the Committee for its work. A question was asked about the company collecting the data: is it sharing it with anyone else? The Committee will check out that question.

One Friend served last week in abuse protection at FGC and underwent training ahead of that service. This might be a good thing for Yearly Meeting to do. He expressed a hope that Friends might also address the “ban the box” (movement to end practice in which felons can’t be hired when checking a box on a hiring application).

A step seems missing in banning an attender who has been guilty of abuse from Annual Session: can their participation be restored by some means—perhaps through the local M&O working with them? Might participation in banning someone lead to the decision-maker(s) being criticized, or the person being removed from relevant future service?

What does the policy say about consensual sex between minors? M&O said they would look at the California Penal Code for guidance.

One Friend shared his experience of being told that comforting/hugging a male child while on his lap could be perceived as dangerous: are we responding out of fear with these policies?

This policy is adequate for the insurance company but not for our community. Are we clear that when someone is labeled as a sex offender, that is an extremely broad brush? A key aspect is to be aware of the power relationships. Sometimes the adult reactions can be as harmful as the event itself. We should teach kids to resist exploitation or power plays. The way confidentiality is carried out should not induce shame and guilt.

A Friend called for M&O to be available to those present whose past experiences might lead them to be experiencing trauma/emotional upheaval at this time.

3. Finance Committee
Statton Jaquette (Palo Alto), Clerk of Finance Committee, called attention to their report (posted on the website). Questions and comments:

Are you recommending reducing the number of representatives to two? Not this year, but we will let attrition get it down to two.
M&O several years ago had been asked to look into the number of delegates appropriate for each Quaker organization: should we do this based on financial consideration (as proposed here) or should some body such as M&O discern? Stratton said we cannot afford to fully fund the maximum number of delegates.

Nominating and M&O did do discernment and those considerations do not seem to be present in this discussion, so maybe this can be carried over to March 2016 RepCom and in the meantime, the three Committees might meet over this matter. Finance Committee said that M&O’s recommendations in the past were not approved and Finance Committee does not have all the information on the number of times a group meets nor the costs. It has had to ask for an augmentation when the expenses went over those budgeted.

The worth of going as representatives to FWCC or FCNL has more value to the individuals, the organizations, and the Yearly Meeting than may be reflected in the financial determinations being made.

QEW has two delegates that need to go to several meetings a year whose costs may exceed the budgeted amount. The Finance Committee does not know the value of representatives who often are not given Plenary time to report back.

4. Unity with Nature (UwN) Report
The report from Unity with Nature Committee (attached) was read by UwN.
We opened in worship at 8:45 a.m.

1. Travel Minutes
The Presiding Clerk read the traveling minute for Paula Palmer (Boulder, Colorado, Intermountain Yearly Meeting) who is traveling under the concern about right relationships with indigenous peoples.

**AS Minute 2015-01:** Pacific Yearly Meeting approves having the clerk endorse the travel minute for Paula Palmer (Boulder, Colorado, Intermountain Yearly Meeting).

The Clerk then read the traveling minute for Friends General Conference General Secretary Barry Crossno, (Arch Street Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting).

**AS Minute 2015-02:** Pacific Yearly Meeting approves having the clerk endorse the travel minute for Friends General Conference General Secretary Barry Crossno, (Arch Street Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting).

2. Epistle Reading
Reading Clerk Diego Navarro (Santa Cruz) read the epistle from Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

3. Minutes
The minutes from Meeting for Business I were read, corrected, and approved.

4. Departure of Lloyd Lee Wilson
The Clerk announced that Lloyd Lee Wilson had to leave the Annual Session due to a family health emergency. We entered worship, holding Lloyd Lee Wilson and his family in the Light.

5. Nominating Committee
Stephen Matchett (San Francisco), Co-Clerk of Nominating Committee, presented updates to Tuesday’s report for seasoning until Saturday. Friends may bring any concerns to Committee members. The updates are attached to the minutes and were posted outside the dining hall.

Julie Harlow (Davis), David Lederman (Orange County), and Barbara Babin (Redwood Forest) of Ministry and Oversight Committee read the State of the Society report gathered from 28 Meetings and three worship groups. The report will be posted to the Yearly Meeting website and attached to the minutes.

7. Unity with Nature Committee
Unity with Nature Committee Co-Clerks Catya de Neergaard (Strawberry Creek) and Muriel Strand (Sacramento) called attention to their report posted on the Yearly Meeting website. They then introduced the June 2015 Facing the Challenge of Climate Change statement, created and signed onto by many Friends’ bodies which declares, “as members of this beautiful human
family, we seek meaningful commitments from our leaders and ourselves, to address climate change for our shared future, the Earth and all species, and the generations to come.” Six PYM Monthly Meetings have endorsed this call: Delta, Humboldt, Strawberry Creek, Honolulu, Palo Alto, and Sacramento. A concern was expressed for the statement’s lack of mention of the role that nuclear power plays in creating adverse climate change. Also what actions Friends might take seem to be absent. This call is not an action in itself but relies on us as individuals and as corporate bodies to carry out implementing actions. Two Friends stood aside and released the Yearly Meeting to act.

**AS Minute 2015-03**: Pacific Yearly Meeting approves endorsing as a first step the “Facing the Challenge of Climate Change” statement.
Plenary VI – Meeting for Memorials
Thursday, July 16, 2015, 3:15 pm.

Welcoming  Janet Gastil, San Diego, Maggie Hutchinson, Santa Monica, Arthur Kegerreis, Orange Grove, Pat Wolff, Orange Grove

Reader  Maya Price, Berkeley
Susan Atlee, Central Coast
Bob Baker, Sacramento
Stephen Bowles, Honolulu
Anna Bruff Cox, Strawberry Creek
Stephanie "Steve" Burnham, Reno
Harold Bush, Berkeley

Reader  Anthony Chang, Honolulu
Mary Cochran Thomson, San Francisco
Marshall "Mickey" Cohen, Marloma Long Beach
Peter Cohen, Santa Barbara
Mary Duffield, Santa Cruz
Jane Fessenden, Santa Cruz
Anne Fong, Honolulu

Reader  Graciela Martinez, Visalia
Leslie Fowler, Palo Alto
Rick Hargreaves, Redwood Forest
George Heaton, Palo Alto
Russell Hollister, Santa Barbara
Paul Johnson, Orange Grove
Toni Jordan, Lake County Worship Group

Reader  Elinor Steffy, Sacramento
Mary Jorgensen, Grass Valley
Gloria Kershner, Grass Valley
Mary Lindauer, Redwood Forest
Anne Maiden Brown, Strawberry Creek
Tanna Moontaro, Santa Monica
William Newman, Orange Grove

Reader  Julian Garrett, San Jose / Katie Aburizik, Cambridge
Catulle-Albert de Sousa Mendes, San Francisco
John Standing, San Francisco
Ronald Steelman, Orange County
Stephen Thiermann, AFSC
Kent Wolcott, Strawberry Creek
Bill Wright, Jr., Whittier
Plenary VII – Meeting for Business III  
Friday, July 17, 2015

We began with worship at 8:45 am.

1. Epistle Reading
Diego Navarro (Santa Cruz), Reading Clerk, read the epistle of Britain Yearly Meeting 2014, University of Bath.

2. Visitors
One visitor introduced herself: Kevan Insko, Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCLCA).

3. Clerk’s Announcements
Ministry and Oversight Committee’s Abuse Protection Policy has been pulled off the table for further consideration and revision. It will come to the 2016 Representative Committee. The Clerk announced that the Finance Committee topics may be deferred to a called Meeting for Business after family night this evening.

The Presiding Clerk read a quote from George Fox on good order in Meeting for Business:

On Good Order in Meeting for Business

Now dear Friends, let there be no strife in your meetings, nor vain janglings nor disputings . . . . In all matters of business, or difference, or controversies, treat one another in such things kindly and gently, and be not fierce, or heady and high minded . . . Be careful in all your meetings that they be kept peaceable, in the wisdom of God, which is pure, peaceable and easy to be entreated . . . .that, being ordered by the pure, gentle, heavenly, peaceable wisdom, easy to be entreated, they may be holy and virtuous examples to all others. Let all be careful to speak shortly and pertinently to matters in a Christian spirit, and dispatch business quickly and keep out of long debates and heats; and with the help of the Spirit of God, keep that down which is about questions and strife of words and tends to parties and contention.” -George Fox, Institution of the Discipline, 1683

4. Friends General Conference (FGC)
Barry Crossno, Executive Director, thanked supporters of FGC. The FGC Gathering was recently held near Asheville, NC, with some 1400 in attendance. Videos of some speakers from that gathering are available online. Next year’s Gathering will be in northern Minnesota. Barry invited all to visit the FGC website for information. FGC’s Quaker Books revenue has been declining. The service will not close and decisions are happening about how it will adjust. Central Committee is making those decisions. The way to help is to buy books. The experiment of moving Quaker Books to Pendle Hill seems to be doing well.

5. Latin America Concerns Committee (LACC) and Peace and Social Order Committee (P&SO)
Donna Smith of LACC, Anthony Manousos of P&SO and Lynnette Arnold of the Child Refugee and Migration Subcommittee presented the minute for approval. The minute was approved.

**AS Minute 2015-04:** Pacific Yearly Meeting approved this minute:

“Those gathered at the 2015 Annual Session of Pacific Yearly Meeting support the efforts of the Latin American Concerns Committee and numerous other Friends who are seeking justice and showing compassion toward those who are fleeing the violence in their home countries and need a place of refuge in the United States. We encourage monthly meetings and individual Friends to read the minutes passed by Monthly Meetings and take them to heart. We also encourage Friends to support the efforts of American Friends Service Committee and Friends Committee on National Legislation to promote just and compassionate policies toward immigrants.”

6. **Unity with Nature (UWN)**

Muriel Strand (Sacramento) and Catherine de Neergaard (Strawberry Creek), Co-clerks of UWN, read the minute concerning divestment of fossil fuel companies.

Several comments were made concerning the level of commitment in divesting oneself of fossil fuel support. Also mentioned was that a next step may include divestment in anything nuclear. After several comments the Presiding Clerk noted that, although considerable support exists for the idea, there is not unity at this time. A proposal was made that a revised minute may be approved. The minute was redrafted and approved.

**AS Minute 2015-05:** Pacific Yearly Meeting approved this minute with one person standing aside:

“We hold a deep concern for over reliance and investment in fossil fuels. We ask that monthly meetings and individuals engage in discernment on how to reduce their dependence and investment in fossil fuels. Meetings and individuals are asked to share their efforts with the greater community.”

7. **Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)**

Roena Oesting (La Jolla), Hulda Muaka (Palo Alto), Anthony Manousos (Orange Grove), and Jan Turner (Humboldt) presented the report. Roena Oesting reminded attenders that not all Friends are like those in PYM, which is on “the outer fringes.” The Quaker family is very diverse and often members are not accepting of those different from themselves. FWCC is the one body that tries to talk to all Friends of all varieties around the world in a loving manner. “If we cannot make peace within our own family how can we make peace in the world?” Several perspectives of other meetings in Latin America were shared. Anthony Manousos (Orange Grove) described the diversity of meetings overseas. He has a power point presentation to share from those experiences. Hulda Muaka (Palo Alto) announced the next FWCC gathering will be in Peru next January. She described the theme and the invitation to delegates and showed some of the items whose sale will support the attendance of Peruvians to that gathering. Jan Turner (Humboldt) reported that FWCC is going through a reorganization, reducing its staff and relying more upon volunteers. She urged support of FWCC.
8. **Discipline Committee Report**  
DJ Bloom (Appleseed), Discipline Committee Clerk, described the process that the committee has begun. The queries circulated to PYM Meetings and Worship Groups, asking them to reflect upon the current Faith and Practice just the first round; more queries will follow. Roughly one third of the meetings have responded and others are encouraged to do so. The Committee appreciates the responses received. Many respondents expressed the value of newly studying Faith and Practice.

DJ read the letter that the Committee initially sent to all meetings and Quaker groups to remind all what was requested.

9. **Nominating Committee update**  
Stephen Matchett (San Francisco), Co-clerk of Nominating Committee, shared the latest developments. He mentioned a few positions that still needed to be filled.

10. **Registrar’s report**  
Sarah Tyrell (Berkeley) and Joyce Samati (Strawberry Creek), Registrars, said the report is available on the website. Brylie Oxley, webmaster residing in Finland, was thanked for getting items on the website promptly. The Registrars itemized the numbers of attendees from various groups. The total this year is 303, which is 22 more than last year. They also made a call for application for registrar contractors.

11. **Friends Committee on Legislation of California**  
Kevan Insko, Director of Outreach and Development, described the organization that represents Quaker values in Sacramento. She noted President Obama’s visit to a prison yesterday where he also asked for reform. There seems to be a movement in the direction of reform. She described some criminal justice reform bills that FCLCA is supporting. This week it was reported that one third of Californians live in poverty. FCLCA is supporting actions that provide relief to those living under the burden of poverty. FCLCA also supports actions protecting the environment, demonstrated by the Green Day last Monday at the legislature. In particular, she noted the support of a clean water bill now being brought to the legislature. FCLCA needs support to continue the work. Kevan described how help can be given. Bill numbers and descriptions are on the FCLCA website.

An important fundraiser for FCLCA is the Harvest Festival each September produced by Palo Alto and San Jose meetings. Donations of books and nice stuff is needed for that event.

12. **Draft Epistle**  
Kate Connell (Santa Barbara), Jim Anderson (Chico), and Margaret Mossman (Berkeley) reported. Jim described the purpose of the epistle, which is to try to provide a sense of the gathering. The draft was read. The draft will be posted at the back of the plenary tent and on the wall next to the cafeteria. A suggestions box will be placed next to the Dining Hall after this meeting.

13. **Finance Committee**  
The issues remaining were deferred until the called meeting at 8:30 this evening.
14. Minutes
The minutes were read, corrected and approved.

The meeting concluded with worship.
Plenary VIII – Jose Aguto Address  
July 17, 2015, 3:15 pm  
Notes, not minutes

Rick Herbert (Strawberry Creek) and Quaker Earthcare Witness introduced Jose Aguto, Friends Committee on National Committee (FCNL) Legislative Secretary, Sustainable Energy and Environment Program, which seeks to contribute to the restoration of our shared Earth so that every person’s potential may be fulfilled in and through peace, equity and justice.

Currently, Jose is on the advisory committees of Citizens Climate Lobby and the Center for Earth Ethics. Prior to joining FCNL in February 2012, Jose worked for the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) as the Policy Advisor tribal energy, environment, natural resource, and climate change issues. Prior to NCAI he worked to protect and advance tribal sovereignty over their lands, air and water as Senior Policy Advisor at EPA’s American Indian Environmental Office.

He has a B.A. in International Relations from Brown University, and a J.D. from Villanova University School of Law.

Jose Aguto, asking permission to speak after the manner of the Tewa Pueblo, opened with the Holy Spirit prayer: “Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Thy faithful and enkindle in them the fire of Thy love. Send forth Thy Spirit and they shall be created. R. And Thou shalt renew the face of the earth….”

FCNL’s focus is rightly the U.S. Congress, that is pivotal to addressing climate change. FCNL has issued a Call to Conscience on Climate Change:

To solve the problem of climate change, Congress must first acknowledge its existence and the human contribution to it. FCNL is helping legislators have candid, confidential conversations to find bipartisan leaders. Talking to members of Congress about climate change from a faith and moral perspective is a practical, political strategy to establish common ground.

FCNL has found Bill Moyer’s statement to still ring true, that the only antidote to organized money is organized people. Having the Pope on board and about to address the U.S. Congress is a great help in this work.

What are values that inform this work? We need to courageously confront the sin of pride that politically blocks progress in facing climate change. The opposite of pride is humility: are we truly humble in confronting our own part in the fossil fuel. He read from Thomas Kelly’s Holy Obedience: “Humility does not rest, in final count, upon bafflement and discouragement and self-disgust at our shabby lives, a brow-beaten, dog-slinking attitude. It rests upon the disclosure of the consummate wonder of God, upon finding that only God counts, that all our own self-originated intentions are works of straw. And so in lowly humility we must stick close to the Root and count our own powers as nothing except as they are enslaved in His power.”
The program leads advocacy efforts that are morally based, multi-faith, non-partisan and grassroots inspired, recognizing that bridges must be built across the partisan divides about climate disruption, for meaningful solutions to flow. Our Call to Conscience on Climate Disruption – based on the premise that a problem cannot be solved unless first admitted – is focused on manifesting soon, an official bipartisan declaration in Congress that climate disruption is real and human-caused and requires action.

Jose noted that he is but a channel in working with Congress; constituents are the vital connection that gains him access and authority. Communicating often with your members of Congress and thanking them when they take a step forward are important steps.

50 Quaker and other delegations have met with moderate Republican members of Congress to get them to introduce and co-sponsor a Congressional resolution naming climate change as real and as needing Congressional action. In September 2014 Rep. Chris Smith (NY) introduced the resolution and wanted ten more Republicans to sign onto it. FCNL is working with the Senate for a companion resolution.

Jose Aguto exhorted us to join humbly in this work that seeks to restore the face of the earth.
The Presiding Clerk, Steven Smith, convened the meeting at 8:30 pm with worship.

1. Opening
The Presiding Clerk reviewed earlier efforts this week on this issue. Thanks were given for the work of the Finance Committee.

2. Revised Budget Proposal (Finance Committee)
Laura Magnani (Strawberry Creek) passed out hard copies of the revised budget, which reflects listening to the comments that have been made. This revision reflects full funding of the delegate, so the Treasurer has the ability to carry out the policies. The full funding was made by using reserves. Therefore the increase in fee per member will no longer be raised to $110 from $95, but to $100 per member, for meetings that are part of SCQM and CPQM. Lesser amounts are assigned for the meetings not in quarterly meetings, Hawaii and Guatemala assessed $41 per member, and Mexico City Meeting assessed $20 per member.

Guidelines are being looked into for travel and expenses in the future. The Finance Committee will start that process.

$9,000 remains the amount for donations to organizations. The Office at the UN line item was put back into the budget.

The current level of reserves is now $122,000, but this amount does not yet reflect contributions to the organizations and some other expenses. Therefore the approximate level of reserves after those expenses is $95,000 to $100,000.

In response to questions some line items were clarified.

In response to a question about the clarification of the meaning of “under the care of,” the Finance Committee indicated that this question is being continuously examined. This phrase needs clarification but cannot be fully resolved in this Meeting for Business, and needs to be deferred to a future time. Roy Allen of the Finance Committee offered to examine the various meanings attached to the phrase “under the care of” in PYM, and to bring that information to Finance Committee.

A discussion ensued on the pros and cons of having a budget that draws upon reserves to match the total travel costs, or using augmentations if needed. Clarifications were made on certain line items of travel.

The Treasurer noted a budget correction in Line 5278, FGC Central Committee. The amount should be changed from $21,000 to $1,000.

The Treasurer requests specific approval for the donations to organizations as listed for this year’s budget be approved for next year’s budget as well.
A request was made to use the Nominating Committee roster for determining the number of delegates reflected in the budget.

The revised budget presented by Finance Committee was approved with one Friend standing aside. The list of donations to organizations as listed for this budget year is also approved for the next year’s budget. (Attachment #1)

**AS Minute 2015-06**: Pacific Yearly Meeting approves the revised Finance Committee Report.

3. Minutes
Minutes were read, corrected and approved.

Announcements were made.
The meeting closed with worship.
Plenary IX – Closing Plenary
Saturday, July 18, 2015, 10:00 am

We opened with silent worship at 10:07 a.m.

1. Opening
The Clerk welcomed all to the final plenary of the 69th Annual Session of Pacific Yearly Meeting.

2. Epistle Reading
Reading Clerk Diego Navarro read excerpts from three yearly meetings’ epistles: New York Yearly Meeting, Lake Erie Yearly Meeting, and Yearly Meeting of Aotearoa/New Zealand (Te Hāhi Tūhauwiri or “The faith community that stands shaking in the wind of the Spirit.”)

3. Naming Committee
Sarah Tyrrell (Berkeley) gave the report of the Naming Committee: they named David McKenzie (Orange Grove), Delcey Steffy (Sacramento), and Juanita Mora-Malerva (Santa Cruz) as members all to serve three year terms (2018) and Stephen Matchett (San Francisco) and Nora Cooke (Grass Valley) as co-clerks to serve one year terms of Nominating Committee. There is an opening for a one year term yet to be named.

4. Nominating Committee
Stephen Matchett (San Francisco) co-clerk of Nominating Committee called attention to the published report. They put forward for consideration of Representative Committee the name of Doug Smith (Reno) for service with the Western Friend Board.

AS Minute 2015-07: The Pacific Yearly Meeting approved the Nominating Committee report as published.

5. Peace and Social Order Committee
Anthony Manousos (Orange Grove) clerk of the Peace & Social Order Committee called attention to their report posted online and thanked all for their various roles in carrying out our corporate witness.

6. Acknowledging Receipt of Reports

AS Minute 2015-08: The Pacific Yearly Meeting acknowledges the receiving of various reports from Yearly Meeting Committees and Representatives which will be attached to the minutes.

We settled into worship upon the news of the death of Lloyd Lee Wilson’s mother yesterday, holding her and the family in the Light.

7. Hearing our Epistles.
Young Adult Friends Epistle: The epistle was read by J.T. Dorr-Bremme (Orange Grove), currently residing in Mexico City, and is attached. (See Attachment 1).

Junior Yearly Meeting Epistle: Yasmeen Mercer of Berkeley, CA, accompanied by members of Junior Yearly Meeting, read the epistle which is attached (See Attachment 2).

Elementary Epistle: The 12 foot long epistle was read by Reliable Robin Keeler (Live Oak) accompanied by program participants. A facsimile is attached to the minutes (Attachment 3).

Preschool Epistle: This epistle was read by Rebekah Percy (La Jolla). (See Attachment 4).

Middle School Children’s Program Epistle: The program participants led by Santiago Myers (San Francisco) and Sierra Velasquez (Santa Monica) read the Epistle in turn, which provided a picture of their week of learning and other delights. (See Attachment 5).

PYM Epistle: Epistle Committee (Jim Anderson (Chico), clerk, Kate Connell (Santa Barbara), and Margaret Mossman (Berkeley). The Epistle Committee Clerk read the Pacific Yearly Meeting 69th Annual Session Epistle, describing concerns and also the strengths that drew us together. (See Attachment 6).

AS Minute 2015-09: Pacific Yearly Meeting accepts all epistles with gratitude.

8. Clerk’s Closing Remarks
The Clerk feels gratitude for the gifts brought to support him over his three years of service. He found the service of clerking as challenging but spiritually enhancing.

Officers of the Junior Yearly Meeting and Young Adult Friends will be attached to the minutes (Attachment 7).

9. Minutes
Minutes were approved with corrections.

10. Closing
Meeting closed with a promise of 45 minutes of silent worship, beginning at 11:45 am.
Epistle
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
69th Annual Session 2015

July 18, 2015
To the gathered people called Friends, everywhere:
At Walker Creek Ranch in northern California, from July 13 through July 18 2015, Pacific Yearly
Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends met on land where the Miwok people have lived
among the oak and deer, sustained by a gentle stream, both still and swirling with movement.
Our widespread community came together from Mexico, Guatemala, Hawaii, Nevada, and
California, to share a week of friendship, nurture, and the promise of transformation, centered
on our theme of love and justice
““This is the day the Lord has made…” With these words, Lloyd Lee Wilson, Friend with us under
a traveling minute from North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative, began his keynote
address. Drawing on Psalm 127, Lloyd Lee reminded us that before we can change the world,
we must be changed ourselves. Our shared conviction as Friends, that the total healing of the
world is possible, inspires our lives. Yet not by our own wisdom and direction but through the
faithful and courageous responsiveness to God’s guidance will this be accomplished. And like
the motion of a pendulum, the shape of this life involves stillness, the swing to motion, and the
return to reflective stillness. True Godliness does indeed turn us to the mending of the world,
but it must first be true Godliness that does the turning.
We were deeply moved in our gathering by what we learned of marginalized and vulnerable
people in our world. Children fleeing violence in their home countries, who cross the southern
United States border, face mistreatment and risk in the U.S., often being placed in privatized
detention centers. We grieve for these young persons and feel called to their support, and to
the work required to insure their safety.
We are sensitive also to the potential dangers to our own Quaker children here. Our Ministry
and Oversight committee brought the fruits of a long discernment over our responsibility to
protect our children from sexual and other forms of abuse. We wrestled with this call to more
careful work in staffing and overseeing our children’s and youth programs.
Paula Palmer, Friend with us under a traveling minute from Boulder Monthly Meeting and
Intermountain Yearly Meeting, brought her concern to promote right relationships with First
Peoples. She led intergenerational workshops to help us understand the legacy of the Doctrine
of Discovery. Through an experiential encounter with our history many became aware of th
 burdens of our complex past and present, and of the call to an active recovery of right
relationship with native peoples.
Our Walker Creek setting brought us to an immediate awareness of the beauty and
preciousness of the natural world. Jose Aguto of Friends Committee on National Legislation,
called on us to join a movement of moral conscience for climate action. FCNL urges us to join
with other faith communities in a coalition of conscience for the stewardship of our world.
There is awareness and good will in our country, a great reservoir of possibility for change; the
faith community, including Friends, has a crucial role in releasing this reservoir to action.
Our Unity With Nature Committee brought us another call for climate action. We approved
endorsing “Facing the Challenge of Climate Change: a Shared Statement by Quaker Groups,”
which calls on our leaders and other communities to take action to protect our natural world. This endorsement led Friends to minister that such statements are only the first step. We must also take action on our own part in support of this call.

The needs of the world are great and we found ourselves challenged by these new levels of awareness. How can we be a moral witness and follow our leadings into action? How can we develop a foundation of faith and trust that will guide and support us in a turn toward the mending of the world?

Our week together also included other opportunities for deepening discernment, for learning, and for spiritual growth. In these ways we sought to make manifest the beloved community not yet fully present among us.

Our “listening sessions” were opportunities to share discernment on topics in advance of our business plenaries. Freed from the pressure to move to unity, we were able to more fully explore sensitive and complex issues in preparation for our business meetings.

We gathered to learn as well. We sought to honor our elders and ancestors in a series on transformative Quakers. These included Albert Bigelow, sailor of the Golden Rule, John and Alice Way, founders of Pacific Ackworth Friends School, Marjorie Sykes, Quaker educator in India, and Heberto Sein, co-founder of Casa de Los Amigos and Mexico City Monthly Meeting.

We continued our daily “come as you are” Bible study sessions, to which all were invited, regardless of viewpoint or degree of experience with the Bible. Attenders were asked only to be willing to have a respectful and spirit-led experience of the text. Many came and were nourished.

Our Quaker Youth Program Committee told us of the work of our Youth Program Coordinator and the newly funded projects in support of youth. We were told of the youth service learning camp at Quaker Oaks Farm, put on in partnership with the local Wukchumni tribe. A weekend gathering immediately preceding our annual session brought Lloyd Lee Wilson and Paula Palmer to join Young Adult Friends and others in a rich time of learning and exploration. Our Children’s and Junior Yearly Meeting programs brought energy and intergenerational spirit to our week. Our times in worship in our great meeting tent were often accompanied by the voices of children around us.

The call to deepen our trust in the spirit and follow our leadings in action, to find the way of love and justice, pervaded our time together. An exercise in the teen program proposed a metaphor for our search and the role of our community. Blindfolded groups of teens, supporting one another, struggled to stay on a rope line, on a course that took unexpected turns through unfamiliar territory. So, too, do we as a corporate body, seek to support each other’s leadings together, our imperfect attempts at following the light rooted in the Holy Spirit. Truth comes through our relationships as a gathered people in our search for love and justice. The word is given to us as a community and made manifest in action. Let us try what love can do.

Steve Smith
Presiding Clerk
Finance Committee Report to PYM, July 2015

Finance Committee brings this report to Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) for its sessions in July 2015. We hope that each of you attending PYM will read and understand this report before these recommendations are brought to plenary session for consideration and possible approval. Speak to a Finance Committee member if you have questions or concerns, preferably well before the budget and financial policy items are brought to plenary for consideration.

The Finance Committee meets just before Representative Committee in March to consider interim financial requests, including budget augmentations, and to prepare the PYM Sessions fees and budget for the coming summer meetings. The Session Budget and fees cannot be dealt with earlier than just before Representative Committee, as the contract is often not defined and negotiated until about March or April. We also meet at PYM Sessions in the summer for urgent items and to provide an opportunity for those Friends who did not talk to us before PYM to express their financial requests and concerns.

We hope that this report to PYM will help Friends come prepared to consider and act on the matters of finance and budget which Finance Committee brings to Plenary.

1. **PYM recommended budget for donations to other Friends Organizations for the current budget year:** The Finance Committee recommended outreach contributions to Quaker organizations brought to PYM a year ago were not approved, and an ad hoc committee was appointed to decide how to distribute the budget. Representative Committee, having received a report with proposed guidelines and allocations for the current fiscal year, adopted the recommended guidelines but referred the specific budget allocation recommendations back to the Finance Committee since RepCom could not unite on the ad hoc committee’s recommendation. The Finance Committee now recommends that the schedule of donations as recommended by the ad hoc committee, except for the recommended donations to AFSC and QUNO be approved for the current FY 21014-15 be approved. Specifically, we recommend the following donations:

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1 Finance Committee members are Stratton Jaquette, Claire Gorfinkel, Ed Flowers, Laura Magnani, Martha Hunkins, and Mary Miché plus participating ex officio member Roy Allen (Treasurer).
2 RepCom meets the Saturday before the first Sunday in March and is thus sometimes the last day of February.
3 Finance Committee supported by the Registrars bring the Session budget for consideration and approval at RepCom in ‘March’. At the same time, the proposed attendance fee schedule comes for approval.
2. **Augmentations for FY 2014-15:** No augmentation requests have been received by the Finance Committee.

3. **Finance etc. procedures meeting for new clerks:** Finance Committee has agreed to the suggestion that the Finance and Nominating Committees jointly sponsor a session for new committee clerks sometime during this Yearly Meeting.

4. **Specific Suggestions for changes to polices etc., mainly from individuals:** Finance Committee reviewed suggestions for changes to our finance practices.

   a) **Upcoming (January 2016) FWCC in Peru:** There are budget implications for PYM’s delegates attending these meetings. The Finance Committee took this into consideration in its budget recommendations for the coming fiscal year.

   b) We received a **concern about travel reimbursement for a recent meeting in Mexico City;** however we did not receive sufficient information and documentation to act, viz. it was not clear to us to what meeting this referred.

   c) We received an **objection to the requirement for committee members to assert “hardship”** in order to be reimbursed for travel expenses that exceed the standard mileage rate. We have altered wording on the forms to eliminate the need for justification of requests for reimbursement of travel expenses in excess of the mileage allowance. Such requests no longer require that claim, and no longer require the committee clerk’s approval. Reimbursement for such expenses, **to the extent that they exceed applicable mileage allowances, are charged to “5237 Committee supplemental expenses” rather than to the individual committee’s budget.**

   d) We received a **request for clearer guidelines, with greater consistency, related to reimbursement policies,** guidelines and documentation requirements, for reimbursement of travel expenses for committee meetings and for representatives’ and delegates’ travel. Although Finance Committee agreed to under take this task, we could not begin on that task at this time.
5. **Budgeting for Delegate/Representative/Liaison Travel Expenses:** The Finance Committee’s budget recommendations for conference travel for outside organizations are based on fully reimbursing the expected costs for each PYM delegate or representative to attend one conference or meeting per year, except for appointees to the Board of Directors for *Western Friend* (an official organ of Pacific Yearly Meeting). This decision is hereby reported to PYM.

6. **Concerning the numbers of PYM representatives to various organizations:** The Finance Committee calls your attention to the budget implications of fully funding travel expenses for the current numbers of delegates appointed and offers an example of the budget impact of possible smaller numbers. We recommend that PYM implement these changes given the implications of our current polices coupled with the number of delegates we appoint. We think it wise for reductions in numbers of delegates begin with the 2016-2017 appointments year.

We drew up an alternative budget for Conference Travel, to illustrate what the budget impact would be if the numbers of delegates were capped at 2 per organization, except for Western Friend and the FWCC Triennial. This alternative may be presented to PYM as part of the Finance Committee report for illustrative purposes only; we are not making a recommendation as to what the numbers of delegates ought to be, yet clearly Finance Committee believes it is in PYM’s interests to reduce the number of delegates we send to other organizations’ meetings.
7. Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016: We drafted a proposed budget for the coming fiscal year (attached). This budget reflects continuing the same expense budgets as for the current fiscal year (as adjusted by augmentations approved at RepCom 2015), with the following exceptions:

- **5215 Western Friend** – increased $500 to $12,500 (per WF Board’s request)
- **5229 Nominating Committee** – reduced $500 to $2,000 (no search for a new Presiding Clerk this year)
- **5233 Site** – reduced $275 to $25 (no site search needed this year)
- Support of Friends Organizations – same amounts as proposed for 2014-2015
- **5275 AFSC Corporation travel** – increased $1,300 to $2,500 (5 reps @ $500)
- **5277 FCNL & Penn House** – increased $4,500 to $9,000 (6 @ $1,500)
- **5278 FGC Central Committee** – increased $1,000 to $2,000 (2 @ $1,000)
- **5279 FWCC Sect of Americas** – increased $4,500 to $5,000 (5 @ $1,000)
- **5287 FWCC Triennial** – increased $2,000 to $4,000 (Peru gathering this fiscal year; 3 @ $2,000, drawing on an existing $2,000 reserve)
- **6100 Youth Program** – increased $1,940 (per YPCC request)

8. Proposed Quota Contributions to Fund PYM in 2015-16 (aka “assessment”): To fund this budget, we propose that the per-member assessments (quota) be set at $50 per member for **all** meetings (up from $39 this year), plus an additional $60 per member for California and Nevada meetings (up from $56 this year) which benefit from the Youth Program. Thus the total would be $110/member for California and Nevada meetings and $50/member for Hawaii, Mexico City and Guatemala
meetings (versus $95 and $39 this year, respectively). This is based on the best information we have on the number of members in PYM and their distribution between SCQM, CPQM, and others. Note that 15 members became “missing” when Marin Friends Meeting was laid down and their members not transferred to other meetings; based on some past experience with this vagary, we have assumed that the quota for those 13 members will also be missing when we get contributions from our constituent meetings. We used 345 SCQM, 836 CPQM, and 104 in Hawaii, Mexico, and Guatemala meetings.

9. **PYM’s loan to FASE** matured on June 6. As FASE indicated it is ready to repay the loan, in light of reported change of management of FASE to a non-Quaker organization, and in consideration of the need to have access to PYM funds, including reserves, as needed, we decided not to renew the note.

10. *Concerning conversations about balancing the cost of attending PYM summer meetings between those who live close to the site and those who live at a distance:*

Mary Miché, in support of the conversations Finance Committee had on the subject at its meeting in early June, did some analysis on the issue of long distance travel to PYM if we continue to meet at Walker Creek. This is not a specific proposal to PYM for approval but rather a discussion piece based on genuine research; you will note that many assumptions have been made.

This focuses on Meetings that are over 200 miles south of Yearly Meeting site for summer sessions; San Jose, Santa Cruz, and all Bay Area Meetings are 100 miles or less from Walker Creek Ranch. The analysis chose some central points from which people might meet and share a van: San Diego, Los Angeles, Visalia, and San Luis Obispo and considered the cost of renting a van from each location. Here are the van costs to rent for one week (each van holds 7 people):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>$437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>$592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visalia</td>
<td>$433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Luis Obispo</td>
<td>$488</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As you can see, it would be cheaper to rent two vans in San Diego and take one to Los Angeles since the total round trip would be more than $100 cheaper. So a Los Angeles rental was eliminated from the analysis. The mileage from each pick-up site and calculating the gas cost at 20 mpg for minivans at $4 per gallon yielded total round trip costs are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>$437 plus gas $216 = total cost $653 per person cost $93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visalia</td>
<td>$433 plus gas $106 = total cost $539 per person cost $77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Luis Obispo</td>
<td>$488 plus gas $110 = total cost $598 per person cost $85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The analysis for renting smaller, 4 passenger cars at 30 mpg yield these results:
San Diego $255 + gas $144 = total cost $399 per person $100
Visalia $222 + gas $71 = total cost $273 per person $73
San Luis Obispo $228 + gas $73 = total cost $301 per person $75

Considering that the cost is less to ride in a 4 passenger car from Visalia and San Luis Obispo, it is only cost effective to rent vans for the people from San Diego and Los Angeles area.

Considering that there should be some contribution per person to the cost of getting to Yearly Meeting, that contribution should be about $25 per person, which is roughly what Bay Area people pay.

Thus if Yearly Meeting could provide a subsidy of $50 per person for those coming from San Luis Obispo and Visalia rather than getting all involved in renting minivans etc., it would seem to balance out.

If we wanted to stay out of the minivan business from San Diego and Los Angeles area, we could give those folks a $75 subsidy per person and let them put their money together, e.g., 4 people in one personal car paying $75 each would provide $144 worth of gas and $156 of payment for the use of the car for the week, so that the car owner would have a free round trip ride to PYM for the group using that personal car.

Thus a reasonable recommendation is to give a subsidy to each person coming from a SCQM Meeting. The subsidy would either be $50 or $75 per person.

The subsidy could be determined by the Meeting's location, e.g., San Luis Obispo and Visalia $50. The subsidy could be discounted from the price to attend Yearly Meeting.

A method on how to fund the subsidy: Charge an additional $20 per person to attend PYM to subsidize SCQM travel. (250 PYM attenders times $20 each is $5000.) 25 attenders from Visalia and San Luis Obispo times $50 each is $1250; 50 attenders from all other SCQM Meetings times $75 each is $3750.

As a rough guess, having PYM in Southern California has cost us (collectively) WAY more in transportation than $5,000.00 per year, both in higher site costs as well as higher travel costs for the Northern California attenders.

This subsidy scheme is a substitute for our previous practice of holding PYM in Southern California every 2 years. Northern California Quakers are closer to Walker Creek now that it is in the North, therefore no subsidy is proposed. Fresno is in the South and would be included as a subsidy at the Visalia/San Luis Obispo level. Each Meeting in the South has not been specifically named. The postulated subsidy would need to be spelled out per each Meeting.

Hawaii, Mexico City, and Guatemala Meetings are not included because their costs are essentially the same no matter whether PYM is held in the North or South.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ordinary Income/Expense</th>
<th>2014-2015 Budget</th>
<th>PROPOSED FOR 2015-2016</th>
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<td>4000 · Income</td>
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<tr>
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<td>520 · General Expenses</td>
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<td>Quaker Earthcare Witness</td>
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<td>Total 527 · Conference Travel/PYM Delegates</td>
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<td>Administration &amp; Travel</td>
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<td>Total 6100 · Youth Program</td>
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<td>Total 6000 · Programs</td>
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<td>Net Ordinary Income</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Net Income</td>
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<td>0</td>
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The JYM Adult Committee is actively involved in supporting and nurturing JYM as we worked with the teen leadership leading up to the Annual Session. The committee began with communications and community building in the fall and we began planning for JYM in January with conference calls and meet the same weekend as Representative Committee in Berkeley. At that meeting with the JYM Leadership team, a draft schedule was created, sub-committees of teens and adults were appointed to implement the plans, and the teen leadership and adult committee held numerous conference calls with subcommittees reporting on their work right up to the Annual Session.

**Joys:**

*An engaged committee of seven Friends who work well together.

*Working with the teen leadership to raise consciousness and build a stronger Intergenerational Community within PYM.

*Watching the teens “step up” in their leadership roles.

*When there were challenges in terms of planning, with reflection and worship, way opened.

*Finding FRAP’s to serve JYM and the PYM community can be both challenging and rewarding. This year two members of the Adult Committee will serve as FRAPs

**Concerns:**

*Transitions from the Middle School Program to JYM to Young Adult Friends aren’t necessarily smooth. We have initiated discussions with clerks of the MSP and YAF’s to promote right communications and a better understanding.

*Access to detailed information from the Registrar about JYMer’s, their needs, parents concerns and questions, etc. can be difficult. The committee requests input into the JYM part of the registration process.

**Adult Committee members are:** Sally Kingsland (Strawberry Creek), Kate Connell (Santa Barbara), Dan Strickland (Orange Grove), Erika Tarabini (Chico), Suzanne Doss (Orange Grove), Sue Torrey (co-clerk - Central Coast), Steve Leeds (co-clerk - San Francisco).

Respectfully Submitted,
Sue Torrey and Steve Leeds
Co-Clerks – JYM Adult Committee 2014-15
LATIN AMERICAN CONCERNS COMMITTEE
REPORT TO PYM ANNUAL SESSION 2015

In 1997, PYM annual session established a standing Latin America Concerns Committee to gather and disseminate information to Pacific and other Yearly Meetings regarding Friends groups and service projects in Latin America. The intention is to support rather than replace spirit-led projects already supported by Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups and individual Friends.

LACC has met three times since last annual session. LACC, along with Peace and Social Order Committee, encouraged the invitation of Paula Palmer of Boulder Meeting to present a workshop at Annual Session 2015 titled Toward Right Relationship with America’s Native Peoples. The director of the Guatemala Friends Scholarship Program, Miguel Costop, is attending Annual Session and will be presenting an Interest Group on Quakerism and Mayan Spirituality. The basic elements of Mayan spirituality will be discussed by an indigenous Kaqchikel Guatemalan as he shares how Quakerism became part of his spiritual journey. Participation in a Mayan ceremony of thanksgiving will be part of this Interest Group.

This year six monthly meetings in Pacific Yearly Meeting have approved minutes of concern for refugee children crossing the border from Latin America. A special subcommittee of the Latin American Concerns Committee, Child Refugees and Migration, was formed to address this concern at Annual Session in 2014. Many Friends have taken action from visiting elected officials, to accompanying a local child refugee through the legal processes, to traveling to Texas to visit refugees being held in family detention facilities. Friends interested in learning more can contact members of the Child Refugees and Migration Subcommittee (see the LACC report posted on the PYM website).

PYM Latin American Concerns Committee and PYM Peace and Social Order Committee bring the following Minute of Support for approval by those gathered at the 2015 Annual Session: “Those gathered at the 2015 Annual Session of Pacific Yearly Meeting support the efforts of the Latin America Concerns Committee and numerous other Friends who are seeking justice and showing compassion toward those who are fleeing the violence in their home countries and need a place of refuge in the United States. We encourage monthly meetings and individual Friends to read the minutes approved by monthly meetings and take them to heart. We also encourage Friends to support the efforts of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) and Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) to promote just and compassionate policies toward immigrants.”

CHILD REFUGEE AND MIGRATION SUBCOMMITTEE

The Child Refugee and Migration subcommittee, originally convened during last year’s Annual Session by Lynnette Arnold, has met via conference call on a weekly or biweekly basis a total of 30 times this year. We have a very dedicated group of 4 members who are on every call with another 4-5 who are generally on the calls. We also have an email list of about 25 who are kept in the loop of our work. One of our first actions as a group was to discuss together the leading of Spirit we felt guiding our work, which was later published in the September 2014 issue of Western Friend (and can be found online at https://westernfriend.org/article/love-always-protects). We also drafted a mission statement to guide our work, which reads: “We are called to show love to the many children and families from Latin America who are arriving on our Southern border after fleeing difficult conditions in their home countries. We
seek to provide a network among Friends in Pacific Yearly Meeting to share information about actions that Monthly Meetings are taking, as well as resources available at the regional and national level. Through this communication, we work to encourage Friends and others to take action to provide care for these refugees, to lobby political leaders for more humanitarian policies, and to speak out against fear and hatred and in support of kindness and compassion.”

As we have moved forward this year following our leading, many of us have worked with Friends at our Monthly Meetings to write minutes that address this issue. Six Monthly Meetings in PYM have now passed such minutes – listed here in order approved: Inland Valley, Humboldt, Redwood Forest, Santa Barbara, Orange Grove and La Jolla. Each of these minutes reflects how spirit is moving this shared concern in different ways within our community, and they can all be found on the PYM website, under PYM Documents, Committee Reports, LACC (http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/committee-newsletters-and-reports/latin-american-concerns/). We also compiled a list of resources with information on different aspects of this issue, which is posted on the website as well. The minutes and resources packet were sent out electronically to each Monthly Meeting within PYM as well.

We have also been working with our Monthly Meetings to move forward in corporate action. Sacramento Meeting’s Peace Committee brought forward a proposal that their meeting fund the legal defense of refugee children and the Meeting subsequently approved a donation to be made to the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant for this purpose. Redwood Forest has formed their own Child Refugees and Migration subcommittee of their Peace and Social Concerns Committee, and this group of 4-5 Friends has been actively accompanying a child refugee through the legal process. Santa Barbara Meeting held regular vigils for four months, sponsored a Friend to travel to Texas to visit the detention centers where refugee families are being held, and participated in a solidarity fast with detained mothers who had launched a hunger strike. Many meetings joined in an effort organized by Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services to send Christmas cards to many detained immigrants, and we were especially glad to have the active participation of young Friends from Junior Yearly Meeting in this effort. We have also organized screenings of a powerful new documentary on family detention (available here: http://grassrootsleadership.org/host-screening-no-sanctuary).

To strengthen our local efforts, we have also worked to make connections with others who share this concern beyond Yearly Meeting. Many of our efforts have evolved in coalition with other faith groups and community organizations including among others the Unitarian Society and the Interfaith Welcome Committee. We have also reached out to AFSC, including writing them a letter to express our concern with this issue. La Jolla Meeting also reached out to local AFSC staff, and was able to spark a rich conversation on this issue that helped strengthen the minute the Meeting eventually approved.

This year at Annual Session we will be holding an Interest Group on our work, including background information as well as suggestions of actions Friends can take on this issue. A child refugee and her mother will also be present and will share about their experiences, and we look forward eagerly to a rich discussion.

**CASA DE LOS AMIGOS**

Casa de los Amigos has had a full and productive year of wide-ranging peace work in Mexico City. The Casa’s Hospitality Program, which includes our social justice oriented guesthouse and community center, has been active as ever. Our flourishing Migration and Economic Justice
Programs are built on this fertile ground. The Casa offers temporary emergency housing and accompaniment to migrants and refugees from around the world, and this summer we celebrate 5 years of continuous free, daily Spanish classes for the migrant community in the city. We continue to slowly renovate our historic building and move toward more ecological practices and infrastructure. This year the Casa has also expanded opportunities to share our work and witness by coordinating educational and awareness-building activities for many of our visiting groups. In 2015 we have organized three weeklong study-tours, including two successful Quaker Social Action in Mexico Learning Tours. This summer we are hosting four summer interns from Haverford College and will welcome a new full-time volunteer team in August. We invite all, especially PYM Friends, to come and participate in our community of faith, celebration, daily service and good will.

EL SALVADOR PROJECTS OF PALO ALTO MEETING
The El Salvador Projects of Palo Alto Meeting currently support 13 university students from poor rural communities with student loans that can be repaid in cash, through community service, or through financial support for another student. The students’ fields of study are varied and wide-ranging, from law and medicine to art and teaching. Many students live in a house in San Salvador that we rent in partnership with other programs that also support university students.

Annually, our Field Director, Robert Broz, is the principal organizer of a university fair in Suchitoto, El Salvador, that brings prospective students together with representatives of institutions of higher learning and programs that offer financial aid.

The Projects also help to fund a few positions in rural schools that do not receive adequate support from the government. We also help to support periodic skills workshops in rural villages on such topics as how to build efficient and inexpensive stoves and alternatives to violence training. We collect unneeded reading glasses in the United States and send them to El Salvador, where they enable older people to resume work and activities that had been beyond them due to vision loss.

The Projects are overseen by a committee of Palo Alto Meeting that supports the Field Director in discernment and planning and raises funds, largely through newsletters that are sent to supporters 2-3 times per year.

GUATEMALA FRIENDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
In 2014, 20 students graduated from the Guatemala Friends Scholarship Program (known as Progresa in Guatemala) 15 at the secondary level and 5 from university. We accepted 28 new students including 4 who are in medical school. Our total number of students for 2015 is 76. We have 46 women and 30 men, and 65 are indigenous. Of our 57 University students: 11 are in Secondary education, 8 in Professional Nursing RN, 8 in Medicine, 7 in Law and 5 in Business Administration.

Each student is responsible for planning and conducting a Community Service Project each year. This program has been successful in developing leadership in our students and providing needed service to their communities. Projects have included First Aid classes, Legal Rights training, recycling, organic agriculture, and domestic violence prevention.

Last summer, a group of 20 Junior Friends from North Pacific Yearly Meeting toured around Guatemala with our director Miguel Costop. During their travels, they met several Progresa
students and graduates. They learned first hand about the hardships Guatemalans face and came to realize how important Progresa has been in overcoming obstacles.
The sixth Teaching English Experience was held in January with 14 North Americans teaching 14 Progresa students. It is such a rewarding experience that half of the teachers were returnees.
Next year’s Teaching English will be held January 3-11, 2016.
The 30th Annual Student Conference was held May 2-3 Mixco with 60 students in attendance.
Graduates of Progresa in the fields of psychology, civil engineering and nursing gave inspiring talks on Leadership. The theme for Sunday was “Who are the Quakers?” presented by members of Ipula Friends Church in Guatemala, North Pacific YM, Redwood Forest and Guatemala Monthly Meetings.
For all the work involved, we continue to feel encouraged and blessed when we see how lives and communities are enriched by the opportunities for economic and social justice that education provides.
Further information is available on www.guatemalafriends.org.
Submitted by
Donna Smith, Clerk
Committee: Barbara Babin, Margaret Bean, Erin Cizina, Laura Kohl, Nico Wright
Child Refugees and Migration Subcommittee: Lynnette Arnold- convener, Alvaro Alvarado, Holly Anderson, Laura Kohl, Maryanne Michaels, Patricia Portillo, Donna Smith, Leslie Zondervan-Droz
Abuse Protection Policy

Policy for Prevention of Sexual and Physical Abuse in Pacific Yearly Meeting Programs and Activities

(Short Title: Abuse Prevention Policy, June 2015)

Approved by the PYM Ministry & Oversight Committee
June 6, 2015
Executive Summary

Abuse is a difficult issue to talk about, and most of us would like to believe that there are no predators within a Quaker community. Unfortunately, abuse can happen in any community and Quakers are not immune. In fact, our research shows that Meetings and Yearly Meetings that have no policies in place are more likely to be torn apart when an incident happens than are Meetings that are prepared.

This is a draft policy for the prevention and reporting of sexual abuse of minors at Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) sponsored events. The policy defines sexual abuse, describes the recruitment and screening (including reference and background checks) of applicants for youth worker positions, and discusses the measures that the youth programs will implement in order to minimize the possibility of sexual abuse.

This document outlines the training of youth workers, the requirements for mandated reporting, and the procedures that will be undertaken should an allegation of sexual abuse come forward.

Although the policy focuses on sexual abuse prevention and reporting, the same procedures would be undertaken to prevent/report any kind of abuse.
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INTRODUCTION

Informed by their deep conviction that there is that of God in every person, Friends affirm the basic dignity of all humankind. In our gatherings we seek an environment of welcoming love and acceptance which encourages the full and equal participation of all. Friends strive to bring together a community of mutual trust which challenges all forms of violence against others, a community in which faith and principles are expressed in appropriate action.

Sexual harassment and abuse profoundly violate that community of love and trust for which we yearn. Abuse in our Quaker family is similar to abuse within our personal family, and it can be devastating—the difficulties of the victims are compounded by estrangement from those of whom they had expected the most, and by grief for what has been lost. (Pacific Yearly Meeting, Ministry and Oversight Committee, “When Quaker Solidarity is Broken” second edition, 8/93)

No segment of society, including the Religious Society of Friends, is immune to the dangers of sexual abuse. In fact, parts of our own community have been damaged by incidences and accusations of abuse. If we are honest with ourselves as Friends, we acknowledge that the same potential for hurt exists in our community as in others, and that mindfully attending to issues of safety is the best way to protect individuals and the community. (Friends Meeting at Cambridge, “Reducing the Risk of Child Sexual Abuse”, March 2006) Denial of the possibility of hurt does not prevent hurt – if anything, it heightens its likelihood.

If we experience or learn of abuse, “grooming”*, or harassment—taking advantage of another person's youth, smaller size, weakness, desire to please, or timidity for one's own sexual gratification—it must be and will be confronted.

*“Grooming” is a process consisting of six stages where a sex offender draws a victim into a relationship that becomes shrouded in secrecy and leads to molestation.

POLICY STATEMENT

Pacific Yearly Meeting affirms that it will provide for the safety of the children and youth of the Yearly Meeting to help ensure the fellowship, support and educational experience for our children and youth in an environment free from any kind of abuse, sexual or otherwise. We also affirm our concern for the safety of adults who, without this policy, might be unjustly accused. This policy will set forth policies, practices and procedures that all who work with children and youth will follow.

Further, as a component of this policy we seek to educate and inform members and attenders of the Yearly Meeting's gatherings about our concerns and convictions in establishing a healthy and safe environment for our children and youth. Therefore, this policy applies to those youth workers who take care of our children and youth for us. It also applies to members and attenders who interact with our children and youth. Ultimately what is done with our children and youth is in the name of the Yearly Meeting and in the name of the Spirit that guides us all. (Adapted from Sacramento Meeting, Policy on Child Sexual Abuse Prevention, March 2015)
WHAT IS SEXUAL ABUSE?

California law defines sexual abuse as “sexual assault” or “sexual exploitation.” As defined by California Penal Code § 11165.1. It includes rape, sexual penetration, sodomy, lewd and lascivious behavior, pornography, and some cases of consensual sexual behavior (statutory rape).

In addition, we define sexual abuse as including, but not limited to:

- verbal or visual obscenities,
- unwanted sexual comments, teasing or jokes,
- unwanted sexual or suggestive touching or closeness,
- pressure for dates or meeting alone,
- sexual intercourse or touching without consent,
- sexual intercourse, contact, or touching, even with consent, between two minors or between a minor and an adult,
- any sort of threat, implied or stated, if the victim “tells.”

Note regarding sexual harassment and unwanted sexual activity between adults: Although this policy is primarily concerned with the safety of children, similar care and concern is extended to adults who report unwanted sexual attention. These reports are referred to the Clerk of M&O, who will discern how to proceed. One important concern may be whether or not, and how, to involve police or other authorities.

PREVENTION

Pacific Yearly Meeting takes reasonable and necessary precautions to ensure that our children, young people, and the adults who work with them are safe and secure during their programs and activities, and that the safety and reputation of teachers and program organizers is also protected.

Youth Workers

Youth workers include all volunteers, employees and or/or contractors who work with youth at yearly meeting events.

- Youth workers such as FRAPs (Friendly Responsible Adult Presences), children's program teachers, and the children's program coordinator, are well known to the program organizers or to their meetings so that the program organizer may easily determine their suitability. They have been active members and attenders in the PYM community for at least six months before the event.

- To be considered for a position as a youth worker for a PYM-sponsored program, the applicant must complete an application which will ask will ask the applicant to disclose whether they have ever been convicted of a crime. The applicant will also be asked to give PYM permission to to conduct a criminal background check.

- Background checks and reference checks must be conducted on all youth workers before being appointed, and those checks shall be repeated every 36 months for returning youth workers. The clerk of the relevant committee (JYM, Children's Program, etc.) or their appointee will conduct the reference checks. The PYM Youth Programs Coordinator, with the support of the Youth Programs Supervisor and a liaison from Ministry & Oversight, will order the background checks, including for the adult members of the
Children's Committee and JYM Committee, but not including occasional or casual volunteers who will not be left alone or in charge of any youth.

- The Youth Programs Coordinating Committee will be responsible for seeing that the Youth Programs Coordinator has met the above criteria, and for ordering the background check and conducting reference checks on any new hire. The background check shall be repeated every 36 months.

- Reference checks and background checks are but pieces of a larger discernment process, not a substitute for broader discernment or outreach in the Good Order of Friends. If a reference or background check brings up a concern or question, the committee in charge hiring/appointing should consider the information and discern whether it prevents them from being able to offer the position to the candidate. The candidate should be given a copy of the background check and allowed to provide additional information in response. Data collected from both reference and background checks shall be protected and kept confidential.

- The committee will decide which offenses (convictions) to examine in the background checks and which offenses will disqualify applicants. For child sexual abuse, absolute disqualifiers include violent behavior and child sexual abuse perpetration history. Other convictions will be considered in terms of their relevance to the duties of the youth worker position, the seriousness of the offense, the length of time that has transpired since the offense took place, and the rehabilitation efforts of the applicant.

- If an applicant is denied a youth worker position based on conviction information obtained through a background check, he or she will be informed of that fact and will be given an opportunity to appeal the decision. (see https://www.ftc.gov/tips-advice/business-center/guidance/background-checks-what-employers-need-know

**Communication**

This document, including the plan for response, will be communicated regularly to parents / guardians / sponsors, youth workers, and/or appropriate committees and clerks. It includes a written process for reporting any suspected abuse or improper behavior within the community and to state or local authorities. No specific communications about the incident or those involved that would violate the need for confidentiality and privacy will be disclosed to the Yearly Meeting community. The Yearly Meeting will be informed as needed to provide assurance that the situation has been addressed and that this policy has been followed.

**Program Activities**

- At PYM-sponsored events, any minor in attendance without a parent/guardian shall have a designated adult sponsor. For each gathering, there are times when programs are in session and children or teens are being supervised by volunteer staff. At all other times, parents / guardians / sponsors are responsible for supervising their own children and youth. Parents / guardians / sponsors will be informed in advance as to which are program times and which are parental-supervision times.

- All programs, rooms, activities are staffed by at least two adults. There may be times when one adult is working with a small break-out group, but there will be two or more children or teens in such groups. Break-out groups will be within clear view of other PYM activities.
• One-to-one conversations and activities, even with fully trusted and familiar volunteers, will not take place in areas not visible to others.
• Locations of activities, programs, classes are easily accessible by parents/guardians/sponsors and other concerned adults—an area outdoors, or with windows, or near adult activities.
• Field trips or activities in a remote location include an extra adult—for example, two to stay with the group, one to go for help.

**Education and Training**

Although all of us are entrusted with the care of our community, PYM's youth workers are given a special trust: to help the youth and children of PYM grow in the Spirit, and to grow safely. We are conscious that our way of being with youth is as important as the content of the programs provided—children and youth follow our lead, and we teach mostly by example. For our programs to be successful and safe, youth workers, youth, and parents/guardians and sponsors need a common language and understanding of what makes for a safe and trusting environment. Therefore, education and training shall be included in all PYM-sponsored activities that involve youth.

Youth workers of any age, including teens who will be working with younger children, shall receive education and training before the program begins and be told where they can get support during the program. All programs should also include an evaluation and/or debriefing session after the program.

At a minimum, this education and training should include the following:
1) Provide key materials to youth workers to review ahead of time (copy of this Abuse Prevention Policy, program schedule/plan, any documents that have been sent to participants and parents/guardians/sponsors) and 2) Hold a meeting to highlight important information (including the topics covered in this Abuse Prevention Policy), review expectations and the schedule, answer questions, and introduce youth workers to each other, supervisors, and key contact people. In addition, we recommend that in-person group community-building activities be conducted to build collegiality among the youth workers, supervisors, and relevant committee members so that there is a strong understanding of the need for cooperation in the effort to prevent abuse and to address it if it arises.

Children and Teens (except infants) shall receive explicit introduction at the beginning of each program to the adult(s) to whom they should come if they have any questions, problems or concerns. An age-appropriate version of the following suggested statement shall be shared with the youth (adapted from the introduction to this Policy): "We Friends say that we see that of God in every person. We want our gatherings to be full of welcoming love and acceptance that encourage full and equal participation of everyone. Friends try to create a trusting community that challenges all forms of violence against others. If something happens in our gathering here to you or to someone else that feels wrong, ask one of these adults for help. PYM has a policy to help prevent abuse and to address abuse in case it happens. (For older youth: read the "What is Sexual Abuse" section of this document or have a group brainstorm. For younger youth: give an age-appropriate summary, such as 'abuse is touching or words that hurt or feel wrong,' or have a group brainstorm.)

Parents / Guardians / Sponsors shall be provided access to this Policy before any PYM-sponsored event. A Parent Orientation Meeting shall be offered near the beginning of the event to highlight important information (including the topics covered in this Abuse Prevention Policy), review expectations and the schedule (including if/when the program will or will not be in session or when parents/guardians/sponsors are expected to supervise their own children), answer questions, and introduce them to the event's key contact people.
PYM Community Members in general shall have access to this Abuse Prevention Policy and other youth program materials through the PYM website and upon request. PYM Ministry and Oversight Committee (M&O) shall communicate to all PYM Meetings and Worship Groups that this policy exists. M&O will make sure that this policy and relevant resources are referenced in registration materials and in announcements or orientations at the beginning of any PYM-sponsored event.

**RESPONDING TO SUSPICIONS OF ABUSE**

*Everyone involved in the process is urged to hold themselves, and all others involved, tenderly in the Light as we all wait for loving guidance ... (from La Jolla Monthly Meeting's Harassment and Abuse Policy)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definitions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subject</strong></td>
<td>the person who may have been abused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Observer</strong></td>
<td>thinks there may be abuse in a relationship or situation. This may be based on personal experience or a report from someone else.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Named</strong></td>
<td>the person suspected of abusing the Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Response Convener</strong></td>
<td>the person designated by the clerks (see steps #2-3 below) to facilitate the Response Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Response Committee</strong></td>
<td>a small committee consisting of members of the Ministry and Oversight Committee, the adult members of the JYM Committee, the Children’s Program Committee, and may also include the Youth Programs Coordinator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mandated Report</strong></td>
<td>required statement or act of telling an official agency (police, sheriff or Child Protective Services of the suspected abuse).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advocates</strong></td>
<td>individuals suggested by the Response Convener to accompany the Subject Observer, and/or Named through the process. These individuals, suggested by the Response Committee and accepted by the person under their care, will be selected from those persons present at the Gathering with a particular concern and/or training in these issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gathering</strong></td>
<td>usually this is the PYM Annual Session. However, it could also be another PYM event such as Representative Committee or an activity organized by the Youth Programs Coordinator or Youth Programs Coordinating Committee.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Procedure for Reporting and Response**

1. If you see an abuse taking place, stop it immediately.

2. All youth workers of the Junior Yearly Meeting and Children's Programs are considered mandated reporters who must report any incidents of suspected abuse to the appropriate authorities as defined by law. The Mandated Report must be filed with the appropriate agency within 24 hours. (See Appendix 1: Mandated Reporting) *It is not the responsibility of the mandated reporter to decide whether or not abuse has occurred.*

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3. As soon as possible, but no later than within 4 hours of learning of suspicions of abuse of a child, the Observer must share this information with one of the following, who will then notify the others: the Adult Clerk of JYM, the Children’s Program Committee Clerk, the Clerk of M&O, and Clerk of PYM.

4. With input from the aforementioned clerks, the clerk of Ministry and Oversight will designate an individual from among the clerks or from the Ministry and Oversight Committee to serve as the Response Convener who will oversee the response process.

5. A small committee will be formed consisting of members from the Ministry and Oversight, JYM, and Children’s Program Committees and may also include the Youth Programs Coordinator. This committee will be known as the Response Committee.

6. All statements of suspected abuse will be taken seriously, and heard with compassion and without judgment. The first steps for those learning of a suspected abuse is to see that the Subject is safe and there is a safe environment for all participants. The most immediate requirement is to stop all possibility of further harm.

7. Within the first 24 hours of an allegation coming to its attention, the Response Committee’s function will include the following:

   a) Receive, review and monitor any report of child abuse. All or a selected number of the Response Committee members will be available to meet with any potential reporter (Subject or Observer). Ascertain whether a Mandated Report has been filed with the authorities.

   b) Take steps to stop all contact between the Named and the youth of the Yearly Meeting community for the period of inquiry.

   c) If the Subject is a minor, notify the parent/guardian of the Subject that a Mandated Report is being made and provide support as necessary and as requested by the Subject and family. (If the Named is a parent or guardian, the Response Committee might choose to delay this step until the safety of the Subject is secured.) Ideally this initial contact should occur before or as the Mandated Report is filed. Additional support may be offered if requested.

   d) Notify the Named (and his/her parents/guardians if the Named is a minor) that the Mandated Report has been made (again, attending first to the safety of the Subject if necessary). Provide referral to services, including a support committee. Clarify with the Named any restrictions the RC deems necessary on his/her activity or responsibilities within the community to maintain child safety for the duration of the investigation.

   e) Maintain careful records of the conversations and processes that the RC engages in.

   f) Plan and conduct communication (e.g. letter to the community, gatherings for information, worship, reflection) as necessary. Those who are implementing this step must be mindful of appropriate confidentiality. A range of situations may arise, the most extreme of which would be sexual abuse alleged to have been perpetrated by a PYM.
volunteer or staff member during a PYM program. The Response Committee is encouraged to keep in mind, and freely remind those who are involved (and those who have been informed) of the centrality of worship at a time when there may be pain, confusion, shock, fear, disbelief, anger.

g) Take appropriate steps to keep information confidential. Only those with supervisory or organizational need-to-know should be informed of the identity of the Subject and Named, unless permission is given otherwise.

h) If the suspected abuse does not fall into one of the categories required for a Mandated Report or authorities decide not to conduct an investigation, and the Response Committee still feels concern about an allegation, the Response Committee will seek to discern the appropriate steps to ensure ongoing safety for all, pursuing appropriate follow-up with all involved.

CONCLUSION OF PROCESS

At the conclusion of the process, the goal is to provide a written report to Ministry and Oversight Committee as well as to discern whether a continuing risk exists and what further steps need to be taken to protect participants from such risk.

The Response Convener will keep the other clerks in close communication throughout the process. In addition, the Response Committee may choose to recommend one of the following options to the Ministry and Oversight Committee:

1. Requiring that the Named keep a specified distance from children’s activities and individual children;

2. Requiring the Named to leave the Gathering immediately;

3. Escorting the Named off the Gathering property or providing transportation home;

4. Banning the Named from attending future PYM sessions or activities;

5. Consultation between PYM's Ministry and Oversight Committee and the M&O Committee and/or Clerk of the home meeting of the Named. Together they would discern whether there is cause to be concerned about future incidents that endanger the safety of the participants at the Gathering, future Gatherings, or at the home meeting of the Named or the Subject.

Should there be continuing cause for concern, the home meeting of the Named is responsible for notifying the appropriate committee clerks or others as needed to assure the safety of all participants in its activities. Should the Named change meetings, appropriate cautions should be forwarded to the new meeting. If the new meeting is not known, the PYM M&O Committee will determine how to relay its concerns to the rest of the Yearly Meeting.

6. Should there be cause for continuing concern for the Subject, the Response Committee will suggest to the parent/guardian that s/he consult the home meeting about the situation. PYM's ministry and oversight committee will provide support to the Subject's home meeting if
requested.

7. A written report will be provided to the Ministry and Oversight Committee, which will then be provided to the PYM treasurer should an insurance claim be initiated.


With gratitude to:
Pacific Yearly Meeting, Ministry and Oversight Committees of 1993 and 2010
La Jolla Monthly Meeting
Sacramento Monthly Meeting
Friends Meeting of Cambridge
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
Friends General Conference
National Center for Youth Law
Appendix 1:
Mandatory Reporting

Who are mandated reporters at Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) functions?
Mandated reporters include all of the following:

- A teacher.
- An instructional aide.
- An administrator or employee of a public or private youth center, youth recreation program, or youth organization.
- An administrator or employee of a public or private organization whose duties require direct contact and supervision of children. Although our teachers and FRAP's are technically volunteers rather than employees, they could fall into this category, meaning that they can and should report suspected abuse. They do not need the approval of a supervisor to do so, and should initiate a report on their own.
- A physician, surgeon, psychiatrist, psychologist, dentist, resident, intern, podiatrist, chiropractor, licensed nurse, dental hygienist, optometrist, marriage, family, and child counselor, clinical social worker, or any other person who is currently licensed under Division 2 (commencing with Section 500) of the Business and Professions Code.

May I report child abuse even if I am not a mandated reporter?
Any person who has knowledge of or observes a child whom he or she knows or reasonably suspects has been a victim of child abuse or neglect may report the known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect. Cal. Penal Code § 11166(g).

When is a mandated reporter required to submit an abuse report?
“A mandated reporter shall make a report . . . whenever the mandated reporter, in his or her professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment, has knowledge of or observes a child whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect.” Cal. Penal Code § 11166(a).

What if I am not sure that abuse has occurred?
Confirmation of abuse is not required. Reporters must report whenever they have “reasonable suspicion” that abuse has occurred.

“Reasonable suspicion” means “that it is objectively reasonable for a person to entertain a suspicion, based upon facts that could cause a reasonable person in a like position, drawing, when appropriate, on his or her training and experience, to suspect child abuse or neglect.” Cal. Penal Code § 11166(a)(1).

What sexual activity am I mandated to report?
Mandated reporters must report sexual abuse. California law defines sexual abuse as “sexual assault” or “sexual exploitation.” As defined by California Penal Code § 11165.1. It includes rape, sexual penetration, sodomy, lewd and lascivious behavior, pornography, and some cases of consensual sexual behavior (statutory rape).
To whom should reports be made?

Reports of suspected child abuse or neglect should be made to any one of the following:

- any police department or sheriff’s department, or
- the county welfare department (often referred to as CWA or CPS).

California law obligates the police, CPS, and the other agencies responsible for receiving child abuse reports to accept every child abuse report made to them, even if the agency lacks jurisdiction over the case. If the agency does not have jurisdiction over a particular case, the agency is obligated to immediately refer the case to the proper authorities. The only exception to this rule is that an agency may refuse a report if the agency can immediately electronically transfer the reporter’s call to an agency with proper jurisdiction. Cal. Penal Code § 11165.9.

How do I make a report?

“A mandated reporter must make an initial report immediately or as soon as is practicably possible by telephone. The mandated reporter then must prepare and send, fax, or electronically transmit a written follow-up report thereof within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident. The mandated reporter may include with the report any nonprivileged documentary evidence the mandated reporter possesses relating to the incident.” Cal. Penal Code § 11166(a).

What information must I include in my report?

Mandated reports of child abuse or neglect must include:

- the name, business address, and telephone number of the mandated reporter;
- the capacity that makes the person a mandated reporter; and
- the information that gave rise to the reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect and the source or sources of that information.

If a report is made, the following information, if known, also must be included in the report:

- the child’s name;
- the child’s address;
- present location; and
- if applicable, school, grade, and class;
- the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the child’s parents or guardians; and
- the name, address, telephone number, and other relevant personal information about the person or persons who might have abused or neglected the child.

California Penal Code § 11167(a).

with gratitude to:
Appendix 2:
Additional Resources


http://www.oprah.com/oprahshow/Child-Sexual-Abuse-6-Stages-of-Grooming#ixzz21J3BOD6


Best Practice Standards: The Proper Use of Criminal Records in Hiring, MAY 21, 2013 | LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS UNDER LAW
http://www.lawyerscommittee.org/newsroom/publications?id=0037 (can download PDF there)

Background Checks: What Employers Need to Know (A joint publication of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Federal Trade Commission)
Appendix 3: Insurance Company Questionnaire

Sexual Misconduct Liability

1. Does your organization have a formal written policy that includes procedures designed to prevent acts of sexual misconduct?
   - If yes, does your policy include a procedure in which you ask employees and volunteers if they have ever been accused or punished for violating the policy?
   - If yes, would you be willing to implement a policy that includes employee/volunteer screening, risk management and training on what to do if such an incident were to occur?

2. Are all employees and volunteers involved in any activity involving a minor (person under age of 18) required to sign a release form which you keep on file that shows you have completed background checks?

3. Do you conduct criminal background checks on employees and volunteers?
   - If yes, check all that apply for employees and all that apply for volunteers. For purposes of this question, a volunteer is anyone involved in a nursery or school or some other activity involving minors, counseling of minors, or on-campus counseling of minors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employees We Conduct:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Nationwide criminal background checks on ALL employees</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Reference checks* on ALL employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ No criminal background checks on employees</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ No reference checks* on employees</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Other ____________________________</td>
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<tr>
<th>Volunteers We Conduct:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Nationwide criminal background checks</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Statewide criminal or sexual offender background checks</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Reference checks* on volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ No criminal background checks on volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ No reference checks* on volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Other ____________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The reference check includes contacting, at a minimum, two organizations in which the applicant has worked with minors in the past e.g., other churches, schools, etc.

4. Are you required to alert any employees or volunteers of any sexual misconduct they are accused of?

5. Do you require that any employee or volunteer who is accused of sexual misconduct be immediately removed from working with the minors?

6. Do you have a written policy for handling sexual misconduct report or complaint?

7. Do you have a written policy for handling sexual misconduct report or complaint?

8. Have you had any complaints or allegations of sexual misconduct against you or any employee or volunteer?

9. Have you had any complaints or allegations of sexual misconduct against you or any employee or volunteer?

10. Have you had any complaints or allegations of sexual misconduct against you or any employee or volunteer?

11. Have you had any complaints or allegations of sexual misconduct against you or any employee or volunteer?

12. Have you had any complaints or allegations of sexual misconduct against you or any employee or volunteer?
The applicant acknowledges that the foregoing disclosures and representations are deemed to be material, and that the carrier is relying upon the accuracy and completeness of said disclosures and representations in reaching a decision to issue sexual misconduct liability coverage to the applicant. This supplemental application imposes an affirmative duty to make full and fair disclosures upon the applicant. The insured is obligated to report and changes in any of the foregoing responses to the company.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sexual Misconduct Coverage:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$2,000,000/$2,000,000</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Occurrence/Aggregate Limit:</th>
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<td>$2,000,000/2,000,000</td>
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### Claims-made Coverage

1. Retroactive Date: __________ (mm/dd/yyyy)
2. Are there any interruptions of claims-made coverage from the proposed retroactive date? If “yes,” submit written details including dates of such interruptions.
3. Are any claims pending of which you or any authorized person are aware? If “yes,” submit a detailed explanation.
4. Are there any incidents or circumstances known to you or any authorized person, that have not yet been reported to the prior carrier, and for which there is a reason to believe that such incident or circumstance may give rise to a future claim under the proposed coverage? If “yes,” submit a detailed explanation.

*This coverage is non-binding.*

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**Authorized Person**

**Signature**

Print name and title or position e.g. Pastor or Board Member

**Date**

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**Authorized person means any employee that is elected, appointed or authorized to give notice or receive notice of claim, offense, incident or circumstance.**
Sexual Abuse Prevention Policy – Accompanying Note

The accompanying draft policy will be presented at Annual Session. If there is clear support for the policy in its current form, it will be brought for the approval of the body, otherwise time will be given for further consideration and the policy will be brought to the 2016 meeting of Representative Committee for approval and formal adoption by the Yearly Meeting.

Note: This policy was drafted for Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) sponsored events, particularly the Annual Session.
Annual Session 2016 Announcement

Pacific Yearly Meeting’s Ministry & Oversight Committee thanks the community for their input in response to the proposal distributed to Monthly Meetings following the 2015 meeting of Representative Committee regarding the configuration of Annual Session.

On careful consideration of the comments received, the distances that many Friends travel to attend Annual Session and numerous scheduling variables, we hereby announce that Annual Session 2016 will be held June 17 (Friday) to June 22 (Wednesday).

For more information regarding this announcement, please see the full Ministry & Oversight Committee Report to Annual Session 2015.
Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Ministry and Oversight Committee  
Report to Annual Session 2015

The role of Ministry and Oversight Committee is to help foster the spiritual life and good order of the Yearly Meeting, by offering assistance and counsel and endeavoring to make the Annual Session a fulfilling experience for all participants. Upon request, Ministry and Oversight committee may assist any Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) committee, Meeting or individual of the Yearly Meeting. The committee also considers and reports on any other matters brought to it by the Yearly Meeting, Representative Committee, Quarterly or outlying Meetings.

Annual Session 2015

We are reminded of our collective need to come back to the center of love from which all good work grows. The theme of the Annual Session, knitting together our spirituality and our activism, continues the work of bringing us to more kindness, more patience.

The Committee is preparing to report on the state of the society at Annual Session after reviewing the State of the Meeting reports received from most PYM Monthly Meetings and some Worship Groups. The state of the society report will be posted on the PYM website following Annual Session.

Other activities for which Ministry & Oversight Committee is responsible at Annual Session include Meetings for Worship, Worship Sharing, Meeting for Memorials, the Buddy program, intergenerational activities, and Family Night. Ministry & Oversight Committee is present and active in almost all formal activities offered at Annual Session.

Annual Session Attendance Assistance

This year in particular, we have identified a number of difficulties with the attendance assistance process. We will be working on these procedures over the next year to be able to provide a smoother process for applicants and clearer guidelines for decision-makers for Annual Session 2016.

Quarterly Meetings

Ministry and Oversight Committee is laboring with the concern that trying to maintain three levels of organization (Monthly, Quarterly, and Yearly) is stretching our community. We would like to explore, together with the Quarterly Meetings, where there may be duplications of efforts and what could we do to alleviate this? We are also exploring what the Committee’s role is in supporting the Quarterly Meetings.

Ministry and Oversight Subcommittees

Electronic Communications: The subcommittee is working on defining its scope, policies and procedures for PYM’s web presence, performing an audit of the PYM website, and thinking about security issues. This subcommittee also serves as support for our PYM web developer.

Experimentation and Implementation: The focus of the subcommittee is now the structure of the Yearly Meeting organization.

Racial Justice: This subcommittee has been working with Paula Palmer on her workshop for Annual Session and also on the subcommittee’s interest group on helping to heal the racial divide.

Representative Support: This subcommittee serves as a resource for Meeting representatives and building community within this group.

Visiting Friend: The current work of this subcommittee is preparing to support Roena Oesting as Visiting Friend in 2015 and 2016.

If a subcommittee has completed its work, isn't making progress on its work, or is not serving its purpose, it should be laid down. The Ministry & Leadings and Support for Distant Meetings subcommittees were laid down this year. Ministry & Oversight Committee has taken on this work.
Visiting Friend

Ministry & Oversight Committee approves Roena Oesting (La Jolla) to travel among the Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups of Pacific Yearly Meeting as Visiting Friend under this program from July 2015 to June 2016. She will be supported by the Visiting Friend Subcommittee during her service. Announcements will be made at and following Annual Session encouraging Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups to schedule visits.

Sexual Abuse Prevention Policy

Many Monthly Meetings are being required by insurance companies to draft related policies. Ministry & Oversight Committee has reviewed and revised the policy and procedures of the Yearly Meeting, which in addition to strengthening and caring for our Yearly Meeting community, will be available to help Monthly Meetings as they address this task. The draft policy was built from researching many Yearly Meetings and Monthly Meetings, as well as consultation with PYM’s children’s, Junior Yearly Meeting adult, and youth programs committees, and several other individuals with related expertise. It is posted on the PYM website together with this report and will be presented at Annual Session. If there is clear support for the policy in its current form, it will be brought for the approval of the body, otherwise time will be given for further consideration and the policy will be brought to the 2016 meeting of Representative Committee for approval and formal adoption by the Yearly Meeting.

Ministry and Oversight committee meetings

The committee meets in person three times a year and daily during Annual Session. We have adopted a practice of spending time with local Friends through adult education sessions, Meeting for Worship, and other social interactions. We met this past fall in Santa Rosa and offered a session on leadings for Redwood Forest Meeting. Our winter meeting was hosted by Orange Grove, where we talked about the Yearly Meeting, the committee, and the Annual Session. In late spring we met at San Jose and participated in a general discussion regarding the health of San Jose Meeting. Ministry and Oversight Committee has benefited greatly from listening to these Friends and invites other Meetings to consider hosting a meeting of Ministry and Oversight Committee.

Annual Session 2016

Ministry & Oversight Committee held in its discernment this year a concern regarding how we might be able to make the Annual Session a more accessible experience for a larger portion of our community. We considered the geographic and demographic diversity of our Yearly Meeting, the difficulty Friends may face in attending Annual Session due to work, other commitments, and cost, among other factors.

A proposal of three alternate configurations for Annual Session was presented at the 2015 meeting of Representative Committee. The proposal was prepared on consideration of the work of the former Futures Committee and the Experimentation & Implementation Subcommittee. Following the meeting of Representative Committee, the proposal was amended and the input of the community was sought through the Monthly Meetings. Several Meetings and individuals responded.

As a result, Annual Session will have a different configuration for 2016 and 2017 as an experiment, following which the experience will be evaluated to identify the benefits and drawbacks. A decision will then be made as to whether we continue with the new configuration, experiment with a different configuration, or simply return to a mid-July Monday to Saturday schedule.

Annual Session 2016 will be held June 17 - 22 at Walker Creek Ranch
Annual Session 2017: June 16 - 21 (proposed)

This means a Friday to Wednesday configuration. The schedule will undergo some changes to potentially offer the keynote address, Meeting for Memorials, introduction of business, and listening sessions on the weekend, while other traditional Annual Session activities, such as worship sharing, interest groups, bible study, and transformative Quakers, will be offered throughout. This configuration also means the Yearly Meeting community we will be together for First Day Meeting for Worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Bronwen Hillman
on behalf of PYM Ministry & Oversight Committee

This State of the Society summary report for Pacific Yearly Meeting is based on the State of the Meeting reports of 28 Meetings and 3 Worship Groups for the 2014-2015 year.

Meetings and Worship Groups overall report a sense of spiritual depth and fulfillment from their efforts worshiping, discerning and experiencing together the Spirit. Although many reports conveyed challenges, none indicated things were bad. As Quakers that are part of the liberal, unprogrammed tradition we are positive and, in most instances, joyful.

Nearly every Meeting/Worship Group, however, indicated they were dealing with some form of the circumstance our branch of the Society finds itself in: We are a self-run, volunteer faith that rarely proselytizes or advertises. In many instances we struggle to make the wider world aware of our presence. Perhaps as a result, our numbers are dwindling, those that are part of us are aging and we struggle to fill committee memberships (and rarely lay committees down).

But while there is a common sense of ongoing concern and fragility, there is also a very solid, consistent core. And there is a sense of optimism and hope for the future.

The metaphor that was touched upon in several of the reports was that of a tree: There are references to “strong roots”, “sprouting buds”, “greening”, experiencing the cycles and rhythms of life, and producing nourishing fruit.

Here are some other themes and quotes that reflect the state of our society this past year:

Meeting Space

Many Meetings understandably have either dealt with, are dealing with or will deal with Meeting space issues. Not every Meeting has its own Meetinghouse. Whether renting or owning, each presents its own rewards and challenges.

“Our meeting site has been under renovation. We are grateful that we have a good relationship with the landlord.” Inland Valley MM

“Building a Meetinghouse continues to be a focus and a goal of our meeting.” Inland Valley MM

“Our meeting site has been under renovation. We are grateful that we have a good relationship with the landlord.” Marloma Long Beach MM

“Certain issues regarding the funding of specific programs and around our inherited property have challenged us. Our unity is sometimes bold, sometimes more threadbare.” San Francisco MM

“Over the past year, many of our hopes and concerns have revolved around our physical place of worship. Many members express a longing or yearning for a permanent, OCFM-owned meetinghouse. There are mixed feelings about the wisdom of taking on the upkeep, labor, and financial obligations of owning our own property.” Orange County MM

Outreach/Work In The Community

Regardless of the size of the Meeting/Worship Group, Friends in Pacific Yearly Meeting are involved and engaged in a wide array of activities to try to help make the world better. Perhaps because technology has become so accessible, many Meeting/Worship Groups have worked on or revised their websites this year.
“...Peace & Social Concerns Committee created an Annual Calendar of Community Actions, which identifies Meeting’s participation in monthly events in accord with Quaker Testimonies.” Honolulu MM

“Worship and Ministry Committee brought forward the theme: An Experiment in Radical Hospitality: spiritual hospitality, environmental hospitality (serving people and the planet), and personal hospitality. How do we share what is important to us?” Davis MM

“We recognize the value of service as a meeting, but are also aware that true service should be rooted in spirit.” Humboldt MM

“...we need to think about how to help people understand what we do and why it happens this way. We might think of the Christian metaphor of “laying the table” and connect to the “slow food” concept as a sort of marketing strategy: Quakerism is slow, deliberate, rich, and deep.” Orange County MM

“We are aware of how busy we all seem to be, as we wish for clarity in order that we are not merely busy but expressing the Spirit’s movement among us.” Palo Alto MM

Meeting Community

Meetings spend a lot of time on community and community connections. Meetings are always navigating a line of being mindful that community exists to help us grow into the Spirit together, not as an end unto itself. This is a challenge because our Meetings are a welcoming home to many. But it seems many Meetings within PYM are a place where community is rooted in Spirit and thus very nourishing.

“We in Berkeley Meeting continue to strive to discern how we are led corporately and individually to grow in the Spirit with one another.” Berkeley MM

“We continue our Friendly Eights pot lucks, and care for members that need our support and our young people. Last year we began a group for the grade 6-9 age young people named by them EQYSOF (Epic Quaker Youth Society of Fun). They feel a part of the Meeting and love having their own group.” Sacramento MM

Good Order

Although we struggle from time to time with difficult issues, differences in theological and political perspectives, and interpersonal conflicts, Friends labor faithfully with one another in the search for the guidance of the Spirit and find great joy in the resulting unity.

“The Spirit moves within us during our two weekly meetings for worship, and we take joy in good Quaker order during our monthly meetings for business and the work of our committees.” Palo Alto MM

“Marin Friends Monthly Meeting will be laid down as of Twelfth month, 21st day, 2014. We are sad that we cannot continue to function as a Monthly Meeting; proud of what Friends of this meeting have accomplished; and pleased that (after a multi-year process) we have reached unity on our way forward.” Marin MM
“Pain from past conflicts within the meeting still lingers, evoking such responses as: “We’re dwindling because of hurt feelings that we haven’t worked with yet” and, “We need to be kinder to each other.” Claremont MM

“Our Meetings for Business continue to be a shared time of worship and care for our Meeting.... Spirit continues to prevail with help from silence and listening, and we are careful to show kind regard for one another.” Reno MM

“This has been a year for deep spiritual searching within. During the last 2 years the document, Intentions for the Betterment of Honolulu Friends Meeting, was developed and finally affirmed. It lends words and queries to our efforts at right relationship in our Meeting...” Honolulu MM

“Attendance at our Meetings for Business increased and those Meetings reflected careful presentations by our dedicated committee work and by our growing ability to listen more deeply to one another.” Redwood Forest MM

“Over the past several years, we have struggled together with a number of difficult, soul wrenching issues. True to our Beanite heritage, we keep coming back to the table to labor with one another. While we have not been able to resolve some painful issues, we continue to listen to one another and work towards solutions.” Santa Cruz MM

**Rhythms Of Life**

As mentioned previously, death, dying, aging and the challenges of a limited number of hands to do the work of the Meetings was a common theme to all. In particular, though, our community seemed to suffer the falling of some old trees (i.e. long-time, stalwart Members...anchors of many communities).

“Must advancing age or diminishing strength remove F/friends from having a presence and voice in our Meeting? Can we restore kindness and love among us and conduct our business in a way that does not lead to over-commitment and burnout?” Claremont MM

“The rhythm of life brings loss to our meeting: deaths of Friends and of those dear to members in our community....We support each other in these times making room for the Spirit to bring healing and peace...The Spirit moves in our lives. We celebrate the cycles of life and our Meeting together, and listen for how we are led to change and grow to meet the coming years.” Palo Alto MM

**New Worship Groups**

One monthly Meeting was laid down this year (Marin) and four new worship groups are forming: Livermore Worship Group under the care of Berkeley Meeting, Carson City Worship Group under the care of Reno Meeting, and Western Shore Worship Group under the care of San Francisco Meeting. In addition, Strawberry Creek Meeting reports that an informal worship group has formed in Contra Costa.

“The outgrowth of the Western Shore Worship Group has allowed another earlier time for Meeting for Worship to be offered, at 9:30am, and in another San Francisco location.” San Francisco MM

**Summary**
There is a sense of optimism and bright future for our Society here in our region. Many Meetings have overcome struggles of personal or Meeting House issues and have emerged looking to the future, for growth...

“Humboldt Friends Meeting is infused with energy, and blessed with new attenders. Our focus on bringing others into our community during the last few years may be manifesting results. Several people, including younger adults, have come to explore what meeting has to offer, and stayed.” Humboldt MM

“A healthy meeting is like an orange tree. It has deep roots, a strong trunk, wide spreading branches, fragrant blossoms and nourishing fruit. We strive to bring this metaphor to life at Orange Grove Meeting.” Orange Grove MM

“Overall, 2014 was a year when Redwood Forest Friends Meeting planted a variety of seeds that sprouted buds, and that with proper tending can yield strong shoots and full foliage in the future.” Redwood Forest MM
Visiting Friend Announcement

Ministry & Oversight Committee is pleased to announce that Roena Oesting (La Jolla) will serve as Visiting Friend from July 2015 to June 2016. She will travel to the Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups of Pacific Yearly Meeting on invitation, offering to speak on topics that will include, among others:

- Membership in the Society of Friends
- Serving as a Resident Friend
- End of life paperwork workshop: why Quakers should care
- The Elizabeth Fry program and discussion of modern prison issues
- Stories of lesser known Quaker women

Meetings, Worship Groups and PYM representatives are invited to speak with Roena and/or Leslie Zondervan-Droz (Visiting Friend Subcommittee convener) at Annual Session to schedule a visit or to contact Leslie by email at lesliezd@reninet.com. General announcements will be distributed following Annual Session.
The year shown to the left of an officeholder’s name is the year their current appointment expires (at the end of that year’s annual session unless otherwise indicated). Each name is followed by the individual’s monthly meeting or worship group, and, in parentheses, the year of their original appointment. Appointment as a committee clerk or co-clerk, or as the convener of a delegation, is for one year only. Vacant positions are indicated by an underscore next to the term-expiration year.

**PYM OFFICERS**

**Presiding Clerk** (one-year term)
2016 Diego Navarro, Santa Cruz (2015)

**Assistant to the Clerk** (one-year term)
2016 Amy Cooke, Grass Valley (2014)

**Arrangements Clerks** (two-year terms)
2016 Rick Altherr, San Jose (2015)
2017 __________________________

**Historian-Archivist** (three-year term)
2016 Jan Tappan, Orange Grove (2013)

**Reading Clerk** (one-year term)
2016 Sue Torrey, Central Coast (2015)

**Recording Clerks** (two-year terms)
2016 Stephen McNeil, Strawberry Creek (2013)*
*through Representative Cmte. meeting only
2016 __________________________
2017 Leslie Zondervan-Droz, Humboldt (2013)

**Registrars** (two-year terms)
2016 Sarah Tyrrell, Berkeley (2012)

**Statistical Clerk** (three-year term)
2016 Lee Knutsen, Live Oak (2007) co-clerk
2016 Don Bean, Conejo Valley (2013) co-clerk

**Treasurer** (three-year term, 10/1-9/30)
2016 Roy Allen, Berkeley (2013)

**Assistant to the Treasurer** (one-year term)
(not requested this year)

**Assistant to the Treasurer** (one-year term)
(not requested this year)

**PYM COMMITTEES**

**Ministry and Oversight Committee**
(9 members, 3-year terms)
2016 David Lederman, Orange County (2013)
2016 Shayne Lightner, Santa Monica (2013)
2016 Amy Cooke, Grass Valley (2015)
2017 Bronwen Hillman, Mexico City (2011) clerk
2017 Joe Magruder, Berkeley (2011)
2017 Julie Harlow, Davis (2014)

2018 Janet Gastil, San Diego (2014)
2018 Sally Kingsland, Strawberry Creek (2015)

**Children’s Program Committee**
(6 members, 3-year terms)
2016 David Forbes, Santa Cruz (2013)
2016 Carol Cruickshank, San Francisco (2015)
2017 Denise Williams, Santa Barbara (2011)
2017 Heather Aymie, Santa Monica (2015)

2018 Chamba Cooke, Grass Valley (2015)
2018 Mary Klein, Palo Alto (2015)

Ex Officio: current and past program coordinators
(Note: no clerk currently appointed)

**Ex Officio: current and past program coordinators**
(Note: no clerk currently appointed)

**Discipline Committee**
(6 members, 3-year terms)
2016 Carolyn Stephenson, Honolulu (2010)
2016 Liz Baker, Sacramento (2013) co-clerk
2017 Carl Magruder, Strawberry Creek (2014)
2017 Robin Durant, Orange Grove (2015)

2018 Chuck Orr, La Jolla (2014) co-clerk
2018 Bob Runyan, Santa Cruz (2015)
   Ex Officio: Historian-Archivist

Finance Committee
   (6 members, 3-year terms)
2016 Laura Magnani, Str. Creek (2013) co-clerk
2016 David Barrows, San Diego (2015) co-clerk

2017 Martha Hunkins, Humboldt (2010)

2018 Mary Miché, Lake County (2012)
2018 Sandy Farley, Palo Alto (2015)
   Ex Officio: Treasurer(s), Statistical Clerk(s)

Holding Corporation
   (6 members, 3-year terms)
2016 Jeff Kroeber, San Jose (2013) secretary*

2017 Jennifer Carr, Las Vegas (2014)
2017 Sharlene Roberts-Caudle, Visalia (2014)

2018 Peter Neumann, Santa Barbara (2015)
2018 Beth McCleary, Reno (2012) treasurer*
   Ex Officio: Treasurer, Presiding Clerk
*Holding Corp. appoints own officers. Current
   president is Stratton Jaquette, Palo Alto

Junior Yearly Meeting Committee
   (9 members, 3-year terms)*
2016 Susanne Doss, Orange Grove (2013)
2016 Dan Strickland, Orange Grove (2013)
2016 Erika Tarabini, Chico (2013) co-clerk

2017 Steve Leeds, San Francisco (2011) co-clerk
2017 __(intentionally left unfilled) ______
2017 __(intentionally left unfilled) ______

2018 Kate Connell, Santa Barbara (2012)
2018 __(intentionally left unfilled) ______

*This committee has expressed that only six
   positions need be filled.
   Ex Officio: Youth Program Coordinator

Latin American Concerns Committee
   (5-9 members, 3-year terms)
   (plus three members appointed year-to-year by
   Guatemala MM, Mexico City MM & El
   Salvador Project)
2016 Laura Kohl, La Jolla (2013)
2016 Lynnette Arnold, Santa Barbara (2015)

2017 Margaret Bean, Guatemala (2013)
2017 Burton Housman, La Jolla (2015)

2018 Linda Rowell, Chico (2015)

El S. Erin Cizina (2014)
Guat. Donna Smith (2014) co-clerk
Mex. Nick Wright (2014)

Peace and Social Order Committee
   (9 members, 3-year terms)
2016 Jeff Kroeber, San Jose (2009)
2016 Sandra Gey, Berkeley (2013)
2016 Consuelo Santamaria, Mexico City (2013)

2017 Bill Spencer, Humboldt (2011)
2017 Anthony Manousos, Or. Gv. (2014) co-clerk

2018 _______________________
2018 _______________________
   Ex Officio: clerks CPQM & SCQM P&SO,
   1 PYM FCNL rep., & PYM FCL rep.

Religious Education for Children Committee
   (9 members, 3-year terms)
2016 Cate Wilson, Orange Grove (2010)
2016 Melanie Cantu, Santa Cruz (2013)
2016 Anthony Chang, Honolulu (2013)

2017 Ramona Hussey, Honolulu (2011)
2017 Elizabeth Bills, La Jolla (2014)
2017 _______________________

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2018  John Cantu, Santa Cruz (2012)
2018  Delcy Steffy, Sacramento (2013) clerk
2018  ____________________________

Secretariat Committee
(3 members, 3-year terms)
2016  Raph Levien, Berkeley (2013) clerk
2017  Dawn Moore, San Francisco (2013)
2018  Elisa Jo Harkness, Santa Monica (2015)
     Ex Officio: Assistant to the (Presiding) Clerk

Site Committee
(6 members 3-year terms)
2016  Pat Wolff, Orange Grove (2010)
2016  Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2013) clerk
2017  Paul Harris, Redwood Forest (2011)
2018  John Pixley, Claremont (2009)
2018  Sue Torrey, Central Coast (2015)
     Ex Officio: Arrangements Clerks
     (current & immediate past)

Unity with Nature Committee
(9 members, 3-year terms)
2016  Alice Rosenthal, Berkeley (2013)
2016  Shelley Tanenbaum, Strawberry Ck. (2013)
2017  Cedar Rose Selenite, Chico (2012)
2017  Meagan Fischer, Chico (2014)
2017  Rick Herbert, Strawberry Creek (2014)
2018  Catya de Neergaard, Str. Creek (2013) clerk
2018  Kathy Trisolini, Orange Grove (2015)

Youth Programs Coordinator
(appointed by Youth Programs Coord. Cmte.)
xxxx  Alyssa Nelson, Davis (2012)

Youth Programs Coordinating Committee
(6 members, 3-year terms)
2016  Jim Summers, La Jolla (2013) clerk
2016  Lynnette Arnold, Santa Barbara (2014)

2017  Jennifer Carr, Las Vegas (2013)
2017  Stephen Myers, Sacramento (2014)
2018  Lisa Hubbell, Strawberry Creek (2015)

YPCC Youth Members
(4 members, 1-year terms; nominated by YPCC)
2016  Kylin Navarro, Berkeley (2014)
2016  Thomas Rios, La Jolla (2014)
2016  Bertha Peña, Mexico City (2015)
2016  Rebecca Percy, La Jolla (2015)

Naming Committee
(3 members, 1-year terms; appointed by Representative Committee at its midyear meeting, to serve through the following midyear meeting)
2016  Alvaro Alvarado, Sacramento (2015)
2016  Pat Smith, Claremont (2015)
2016  Sarah Tyrrell, Berkeley (2015) convener

Nominating Committee
(9 members, 3-year terms; nominated by Naming Committee)
2016  Tom Farley, Palo Alto (2010)
2016  Elaine Emily, Str. Creek (2012)
2016  ____________________________
2017  Stephen Matchett, San Fran.(2011) co-clerk
2017  Graciela Matinez, Visalia (2013)
2017  Nora Cooke, Grass Valley (2014) co-clerk
2018  David Mackenzie, Orange Grove (2015)
2018  Delcy Steffy, Sacramento (2015)

PYM REPRESENTATIVES, DELEGATES, AND OBSERVERS TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Corporation
(4-5 representatives, 3-year terms)
2016  ____________________________
2017  David Barrows, San Diego (2014) convener
2017  Graciela Martinez, Visalia (2014)
2018  Nancy Mellor, Sacramento (2012)
Evangelical Friends Church Southwest  
(1 observer; 3-year term)  
2016  Emelyn Buskirk, Live Oak (2013)

Friends Bulletin Corp. (Western Friend) Board of Directors  
(9-member board, 3-year terms; 3 appointed by PYM, 3 by NPYM and 3 by IMYM)  
2016  ____________________________  
2017  Jim Mangis, Visalia (2011)  

Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCLCA)  
(1 representative, appointed by Peace & Social Order Committee)  
2016  Steve Birdlebough, Redwood Forest ( )

Friends’ Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)  
(6 representatives, 3-year terms)  
2016  Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2010)  
2016  Amy Southwick, Apple Seed (2010)  
2017  Carolyn Stephenson, Honolulu (2013)  
2018  ____________________________

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)  
(2 representatives, 2-year terms, appointed by Unity with Nature Committee)  
2016  Catya de Neergaard, Berkeley (2014)  
2016  Rick Herbert, Strawberry Creek (2014)

Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Committee  
(1 observer, 3-year term)  
2016  Eric Moon, Berkeley (2013)

Friends Peace Team Project Board of Directors  
(1 member, 3-year term)  
2018  Gay Howard, Central Coast (2009)

Friends United Meeting (FUM)  
(1 observer, 3-year term)  
2018  Dorothy Henderson, Grass Valley (2015)

Friends World Cmte. for Consultation (FWCC) Section of the Americas  
(5 representatives, 3-year terms)  
2016  Anthony Manousos, Orange Grove (2010)  
2016  Jan Turner, Humboldt (2013)  
2017  Roena Oesting, La Jolla (2011) convener  
2017  Hulda Muaka, Palo Alto (2014)  
2018  Lee Sisson, Orange County (2015)

Reunión General de los Amigos en México  
(1 observer, 2-year term; the Reunión meets every 18 months)  
2017  Burton Housman, La Jolla (2015)

(1 representative, 1-year term)  

Listings of:  
Junior Yearly Meeting officers and committees
Young Adult Friends officers and committees
Ministry and Oversight Cmte. subcommittees

to be included when received from those bodies
Peace and Social Order report for Annual Session 2015

Report of the PYM PSO

I want to begin by expressing my gratitude to the Miwok people, the original inhabitants of this beautiful place where we are meeting. I want to thank their ancestors and their elders. May we learn from their wisdom!

I love being part of this yearly meeting and I love being part of the Quaker peace community, and I thank God that I can be here with you as clerk of the Peace and Social Order Committee. I want to thank all of you who have made this Yearly Meeting possible through your committee work, through your participation, and through your donations. I want to give special thanks to our clerk, Steve Smith, for his leadership, his vision, his wisdom and his incredibly loving heart. I also want to thank Amy Cooke, the organizer of interest groups, for her hard work and her patience.

I’d like to begin this report by thanking all of you in this session who have done anything this year for peace and justice. Please stand, if you able, if you are a member of a Peace Committee or a peace group in your Meeting or community. Keep standing and we will hold you in the Light. Please stand if you have been arrested or visited someone in prison. Please stand if you have fed or done anything to help a homeless person. Please stand if you have visited someone in the hospital or contributed clothing or food to a shelter. Please stand if you have signed a petition, written or visited an elected official, or attended a peace vigil. Please stand if you have taken part in a business meeting that approved a minute of concern from your Peace Committee. Friends, you are all peacemakers and you are all blessed. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

The purpose of the Peace and Social Order Committee is to support your concerns for justice and peace. Each month the Peace Committee has a phone conference call, to which all are invited. Contact me at interfaithquaker@aol.com if you’d like to be included. You can also learn more about peace concerns at my blog: aquaker.blogspot.com

I am always inspired and encouraged when I hear of the wonderful work being done by Friends around issues of peace and justice and Quaker service. This year I especially want to lift up Lynnette Arnold for her remarkable work on behalf of refugee children crossing the border from Latin America. This spring she traveled to Karnes, Texas, to take part in an action supporting mothers who are being held in detention and have gone on a hunger strike. She has a loving heart and a deep concern for the most vulnerable, at-risk children and families who are seeking a safe haven in our privileged land.

The Peace and Social Order Committee is sponsoring four interest groups dealing with the following concerns.

1. **Mass Incarceration and Restorative Justice:** This is an AFSC interest group convened by Laura Magnani and her colleague, Jerry Elster, a former incarcerated man who has become our healing justice coordinator.

2. **A Quaker response to the increased migration of Latin American children and families,** an interest group led by The Child Refugee and Migration Subcommittee of the Latin American Concerns Committee.

3. **Stopping Lethal Drone Warfare:** Two years ago PYM approved a minute calling for Friends to oppose militarized drone warfare. This workshop will provide an update and action suggestions for implementing that minute based on the Princeton Theological...
Seminary lethal drone warfare conference held at the end of January with 150 interfaith participants, including around 10 Friends. Presented by AFSC’s Stephen McNeil.

4. **Friends Peace Teams.** This is a Spirit-led organization working around the world to develop long-term relationships with communities in conflict to create programs for peacebuilding, healing and reconciliation.

There are many other interest groups devoted to peace and justice not sponsored by PSO, but worth mentioning and attending. I especially want to lift up the presentation by Jose Aguto of FCNL on the challenge of worldwide environmental decay, and from Paula Palmer of Intermountain Yearly Meeting, who will present her powerful workshop, “Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with America’s Native Peoples.”

The main concern to surface this year in both SCQM and College Park Quarterly Meeting has been immigration, and the plight of refugee children crossing the border from Latin America. The Latin American Concerns Committee of PYM has appointed a special subcommittee devoted to this concern; and the Casa de los Amigos in Mexico City is deeply involved in immigration and migrant issues. Six Meetings—Santa Barbara, Inland Valley, Humboldt Redwood Forest, Sacramento, Orange Grove Meeting—have approved minutes of concern regarding the plight of refugee children crossing the border; and La Jolla Meeting is currently considering one.


The six minutes approved so far can be found online at: [http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/committee-newsletters-and-reports/latin-american-concerns/](http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/committee-newsletters-and-reports/latin-american-concerns/)

Finally, here is action recommended by AFSC – click on the link to send a letter to your Congressperson asking them to vote in favor of a budget amendment that would get rid of the “bed mandate” that requires 34,000 immigrant detention beds to be filled every day: [http://salsa3.salsalabs.com/o/50601/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=16493&tag=bedquotafb](http://salsa3.salsalabs.com/o/50601/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=16493&tag=bedquotafb)

As Paul says in his letter to the Corinthians, each of us has different gifts. Some are called to vocal ministry, some to committee work, some to prayer, and some to prophetic witness. If we are going to be a healthy, Spirit-led community, we need to support each other in our gifts and callings. I don’t expect each of you to get arrested, or to visit your elected officials, or to write articles, as I and others in our Quaker peace movement have done. Some of you are called to sign a petition or to say, “Approved,” when a minute of concern is presented. Some of you feel led to raise questions and challenge us to be more authentic in seeking to follow the leadings of the Spirit. This is also good and necessary work. Whatever you are led to do, do it with love and respect, and we will be the beloved community that God intends us to be. Thank you, Friends.

Yours in friendship and peace,
Anthony Manousos
1628 N Garfield Ave
Pasadena CA 91104
626-375-1423
interfaithquaker@aol.com

Blog: http://laquaker.blogspot.com/
As of July 10, 2015, the San Fernando Valley Meeting House fund held $13,889.28 in its account and continues at intervals to receive $581.79 in monthly mortgage payments from the “Church” which, during 1996, purchased the former San Fernando Valley Meeting House. The Principal balance of the mortgage is gradually declining as payments are made. At the moment, we could distribute perhaps $12,000 were we to receive appropriate proposals from Monthly Meetings requesting assistance with new building, renovation of their meeting houses, or upgrades to make them more accessible. This past year, Pacific Yearly Meeting Holding Corporation (PYMHC) made no grants to meetings from the San Fernando Valley Meeting House fund.

PYMHC holds a fund transferred to us by Marin Friends Meeting in March 2015. This $10,202.86 is held in the Green fund at Friends Fiduciary Corporation. PYMHC will manage and eventually disburse the initial $10,000 and its earnings as directed in the agreement between the former Marin Friends Meeting and PYMHC.

In a separate account, PYMHC holds its own funds of $1,090.82, unrelated to the above accounts.

As reported at Representative Committee in the Winter 2015, PYMHC recovered Orange County Friends Meeting common stock, sold it, and then disbursed the proceeds to Orange County Friends Meeting in January 2015.

Note that there was a typographical error in our Representative Committee report earlier this year: PYMHC’s Articles of Incorporation were filed August 7, 1962 – not 1966.

For Pacific Yearly Meeting Holding Corporation,

Stratton Jaquette
President of PYMHC, i.e., Clerk
Registrars’ Report to Pacific Yearly Meeting’s 69th Annual Session
We wish to thank Brylie Oxley for his continuing efforts to improve the on-line registration system. This has been a time-saver for the registration team. We are planning on further improvements for the 2016 Annual Session. We welcome your comments.
Also thanks to Berkeley Meeting for ably providing contract registration services in close coordination with the Registrars.
The total number of persons attending this year is 303, not counting those who came just for the Meeting for Memorials. There are 234 attending for the full week, 39 attending for part of the week, and 30 day attendees. Among those attending for the full week, 195 are adults, 14 are teens aged 13-17, 19 are children 6 to 12 years old, and 6 are children 5 years old or younger. We had 59 attenders identified as first-time attenders, which included several invited guests.
By way of comparison, the total attendance was 281 last year, so we have 22 more people attending this year.
We are also announcing the Call for Applications for a Contract Registration Service for Pacific Yearly Meeting’s 70th Annual Session, to be held June 17th to 22nd, 2016. All interested and qualified parties affiliated with PYM (Meetings, organizations, or individuals) are encouraged to apply. Applications are due by November 15, 2015. See the Registrars if you would like more information.
Love,
Sarah Tyrrell
Joyce Samati
Registrars
**X indicates present at roll call**

- Appleseed X
- Redwood Forest X
- Berkeley X
- Reno X
- Big Island –
- Sacramento X
- Palo Alto X
- Central Coast X
- San Diego X
- Chico X
- San Francisco X
- Claremont X
- San Jose X
- Davis X
- Santa Barbara X
- Delta X
- Santa Cruz X
- Fresno –
- Santa Monica X
- Grass Valley X
- Strawberry Creek X
- Guatemala X
- Visalia X
- Honolulu X
- Humboldt X
- Inland Valley –?
- La Jolla X
- Live Oak X
- Conejo Valley X
- Friends House X
- Marloma-Long Beach –
- Kauai –
- Mendocino
- Lake County X
- Mexico City X
- Las Vegas –
- Monterey Peninsula –
- Maui –

- Napa-Sonoma –
- Modesto –
- Orange County X
- Molokai –
- Orange Grove X
- Oakland –
- Palo Alto X
- Ojai –
- Redding –
- Southern Humboldt X
- Ukiah –
- Whitleaf –
- Friends of Soledad X
- Placer –
- Carson City X
- Western Shore Worship Group X
- Livermore X
Pacific Yearly Meeting Statistical Report - 2015

This report summarizes membership information within the monthly meetings of Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) for the statistical year ending May 31, 2015.

There are 36 Monthly Meetings. Twenty-three meetings are in College Park Quarterly Meeting (65 % of PYM's membership - Marin Monthly Meeting was laid down). Nine meetings are in Southern California Quarterly Meeting (27% of the total membership), and four meetings are not affiliated with a Quarterly Meeting (Big Island, Honolulu, Guatemala, and Mexico City are 8% of the membership).

There are 16 Worship Groups in total:
CPQM – 8 Worship Groups
- Sierra Foothills, under the care of Delta Meeting
- Southern Humboldt, under the care of Humboldt Meeting
- Soledad, under the care of Live Oak Friends Meeting
- Friends House, Ukiah, and Lake County, under the care of Redwood Forest Meeting
- West Marin, under the care of San Francisco Meeting
- Oakland, under the care of Strawberry Creek Meeting

SCQM – 4 Worship Groups
- Las Vegas, under the care of Inland Valley Friends Meeting
- Conejo Valley and Whitleaf, under the care of Orange Grove Monthly Meeting
- Ojai, under the care of Santa Barbara Monthly Meeting

Unaffiliated with Quarterly Meetings – 4 Worship Groups
- Maui, Kauai, and Molokai under the care of Honolulu Meeting
- Oaxaca, under the care of Mexico City.

The largest Meetings are: Strawberry Creek (101), Palo Alto (91), and Berkeley (90). Seven Meetings have 10 or fewer members.

Overall membership within Pacific Yearly Meeting has decreased by 36, for a total of 1,285, down from 1,321 last year.

Twenty-one people joined by convincement, down from 27 last year. Twenty-one members died, and 43 members were released or withdrew.

Within the past 10 years, Pacific Yearly Meeting membership was at its highest, 1,518 members, in 2006. The lowest is in 2015. Total membership was down 2.73% for this statistical year. The ten-year loss is 16.23%.

A 10-year Year-over-Year view of PYM membership changes, and the number and types of changes per Meeting, are included in this report.

Respectfully submitted, Don Bean and Lee Knutsen, Statistical Co-Clerks
### Pacific Yearly Meeting

**Statistical Report - Summary of Meeting Responses**

**Statistical Year:** June 1, 2014 through May 31, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Park Quarterly Meeting</th>
<th>Number of Members</th>
<th>Gains</th>
<th>Losses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>865</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Southern California Quarterly</th>
<th>Number of Members</th>
<th>Gains</th>
<th>Losses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>353</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independent</th>
<th>Number of Members</th>
<th>Gains</th>
<th>Losses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>1,321</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Adjustments include gains and losses that occurred in prior years and were not reported at that time.

* Marin MM was laid down during the Statistical Year. Although members may have gone to other MM/WGs, they have not appeared in Meetings within PYM as either "transfers in" or "new members."
Pacific Yearly Meeting Membership - Year over Year View
2006-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth to Adult</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred In</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convincement</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decreases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred Out</td>
<td>(21)</td>
<td>(25)</td>
<td>(24)</td>
<td>(9)</td>
<td>(26)</td>
<td>(20)</td>
<td>(15)</td>
<td>(17)</td>
<td>(22)</td>
<td>(8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Released or Withdrew</td>
<td>(27)</td>
<td>(25)</td>
<td>(31)</td>
<td>(28)</td>
<td>(21)</td>
<td>(28)</td>
<td>(28)</td>
<td>(22)</td>
<td>(20)</td>
<td>(43)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corrections/Adjustments</td>
<td>(13)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Statistical Year</td>
<td>1,518</td>
<td>1,490</td>
<td>1,453</td>
<td>1,462</td>
<td>1,449</td>
<td>1,417</td>
<td>1,390</td>
<td>1,346</td>
<td>1,321</td>
<td>1,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Gain (Loss)</td>
<td>(9)</td>
<td>(28)</td>
<td>(37)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>(13)</td>
<td>(32)</td>
<td>(27)</td>
<td>(44)</td>
<td>(25)</td>
<td>(36)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Gain (Loss)</td>
<td>-0.59%</td>
<td>-1.84%</td>
<td>-2.48%</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
<td>-0.89%</td>
<td>-2.21%</td>
<td>-1.91%</td>
<td>-3.17%</td>
<td>-1.86%</td>
<td>-2.73%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ten-year Change 16.23%
## General Account Budget vs. Actual

### FY 2013-2014 (ending 9/30/2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Transfer to Reserves</th>
<th>FY 2014-2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4100 — Miscellaneous Contributions to PYM</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>3,914</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4101 — Contributions from Member Meetings</td>
<td>118,477</td>
<td>117,313</td>
<td></td>
<td>119,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4102 — Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4104 — Return on Invested Capital</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,264</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4105 — Transfer from (to) Reserve</td>
<td>21,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>12,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4106 — Transfer from (to) YPC Reserve</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>146,477</td>
<td>126,553</td>
<td></td>
<td>139,426</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total revenue: 146,477

Assessment per member:
( Calif. and Nev., Guatemala and Hawaii, Mexico City)

**$92, $38, $15**

### FY 2014-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Transfer to Reserves</th>
<th>FY 2014-2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4100 — Miscellaneous Contributions to PYM</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,381</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4101 — Contributions from Member Meetings</td>
<td>119,646</td>
<td>109,255</td>
<td></td>
<td>119,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4102 — Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4104 — Return on Invested Capital</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>3,580</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4105 — Transfer from (to) Reserve</td>
<td>12,780</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>12,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4106 — Transfer from (to) YPC Reserve</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>139,426</td>
<td>115,235</td>
<td></td>
<td>139,426</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total revenue: 139,426

Assessment per member:
( Calif. and Nev., Guatemala and Hawaii, Mexico City)

**$95, $39, $30**

### EXPENSES

#### GENERAL EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Transfer to Reserves</th>
<th>FY 2014-2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5202 — Clerk's Travel &amp; Discretionary</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5203 — Expenses of the Officers</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>750</td>
<td></td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5204 — Website Hosting</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5206 — Young Friends PYM Attendance Assistance</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5208 — Travel-Repcom - Mar. &amp; Ann. Sess.</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5209 — Young Friends Officers Expense</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5209 — Audit Account</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5212 — Latin America Concerns Outreach</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>600</td>
<td></td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5213 — PYM Attendance Assistance Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5214 — Holding Corporation Expenses</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5215 — Western Friend</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5216 — Misc. Operating Expenses</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5217 — Insurance - Sexual Misconduct</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>321</td>
<td></td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>36,070</td>
<td>34,121</td>
<td></td>
<td>37,191</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total expenses: 36,070

#### COMMITTEE EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMITTEE EXPENSES</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Transfer to Reserves</th>
<th>FY 2014-2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5221 — Ad Hoc Committees</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5222 — Children's Program</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>194</td>
<td></td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5224 — Discipline</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5225 — Expenses of the Officers</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5227 — Junior Yearly Meeting</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5228 — Ministry &amp; Oversight</td>
<td>4,950</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5229 — Nominating</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5230 — Peace &amp; Social Order</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5231 — Religious Education for Children</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5232 — Secretariat</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5233 — Sites</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5235 — Unity with Nature</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5237 — Committee Supplemental Expense</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5238 — Latin American Concerns</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL COMMITTEE EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>15,525</td>
<td>10,454</td>
<td></td>
<td>14,525</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total expenses: 15,525

#### SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Transfer to Reserves</th>
<th>FY 2014-2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5251 — Friends Committee on National Legislation</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5252 — Friends Committee on Legislation of California</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5254 — FWCC</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5255 — Quaker United Nations Office NY</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5260 — AFSC (LA &amp; SF)</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5265 — Friends House Moscow</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5266 — Right Sharing of World Resources</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>800</td>
<td></td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5264 — Friends General Conference</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5265 — Quaker Earthcare Witness</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGS.</strong></td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total expenses: 9,000
General Account Budget vs. Actual

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Actual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONFERENCE TRAVEL/PYM DELEGATES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5271 - &quot;Western Friend Board&quot; R2748 (3)</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5275 — AFSC (5)</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5277 — FCNL (6) &amp; William Penn House (1)</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>4,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5278 — FGSC Central Committee R2744 (1)</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5279 — &quot;FWCC, Section of the Americas&quot; R2743 (5)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5280 — Friends United Mtg. (Triennial) R2745 (1)</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>-224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5281 — Gen. Reunion of Friends Mexico R2746 (1)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5282 — Friends House Moscow (2)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5283 — Evangelical Friends Church Southwest (1)</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5286 — Quaker Earthcare Witness (2)</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5287 — FWCC World Gathering R2747 (4)</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5288 — Young Friends Travel R2742</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBTOTAL CONFERENCE TRAVEL/PYM DEL</td>
<td>14,100</td>
<td>9,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUTH PROGRAM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6105 — Youth Program Supervisory Committee</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6110 — Personnel Costs</td>
<td>57,272</td>
<td>58,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6140 — Insurance</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6150 — Professional Development</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6160 — Office</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>2,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6170 — Events</td>
<td>-714</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6190 — Administration &amp; Travel</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>5,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBTOTAL PROGRAMS</td>
<td>71,982</td>
<td>69,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>146,677</td>
<td>132,443</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expense accounts with a bold face R27XX following the account name have that associated reserve fund on the following page. Transfers from these special reserves are negative (-) in the Transfers column. A positive transfer means that funds remaining in the expense account at the end of the year were transferred to the associated reserve. A negative number indicates transfers from the reserve. In Conference Travel, (n) is the number of representatives/delegates now appointed.

Contributions to PYM Restricted Funds
October 1, 2013-September 30, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2733 - Fund for Concerns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberry Creek Meeting</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various individuals</td>
<td>597.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2734 - Sharing Fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palo Alto Meeting</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strawberry Creek Meeting</td>
<td>80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco Meeting</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2736 - Unity With Nature Project Fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palo Alto Meeting</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berkeley Meeting</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various individuals</td>
<td>162.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2781 - Bob Vogel Endowment Fund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Friends Outreach Society</td>
<td>441,177.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# General Account Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number and Title</th>
<th>9/30/13</th>
<th>9/30/14</th>
<th>7/4/15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1701 — General Account Checking (Wells Fargo)</td>
<td>32,586</td>
<td>44,146</td>
<td>55,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1702 — Checking/Payroll Account (Bank of America)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1704 — Invested Capital (Pax World)</td>
<td>84,375</td>
<td>50,228</td>
<td>23,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1704.01 — Invested Capital (Friends Fiduciary)</td>
<td>50,228</td>
<td>50,228</td>
<td>50,228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1704.7 — Vogel Endowment (Friends Fiduciary)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>460,192</td>
<td>478,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1705 — Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,073</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1705-1710 — Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1720 — Inventory of Faith &amp; Practice</td>
<td>2,068</td>
<td>2,068</td>
<td>2,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1750 — FGC Meeting House Fund Note</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1751 — Friends House Note</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>149,926</td>
<td>608,188</td>
<td>652,462</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</strong></th>
<th>Reserve Caps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2400 — Payroll Withholdings</td>
<td>962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2500 — Payroll Taxes Payable</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2704 — Credit Cards</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2712 — Student Conscience Fund</td>
<td>17,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2713 — Clerk's Travel &amp; Discretion (5202) Reserve</td>
<td>1,364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2714 — Committee Supplemental (5237) Reserve</td>
<td>1,352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2712.1 — Pre-Publishing Reserve (F&amp;P)</td>
<td>4,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2722 — Equipment Purchase (5207) Reserve</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2723 — Account Audit (5210) Reserve</td>
<td>3,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2732 — PYM Traveling Friend Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>3,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2733 — Fund for Concerns (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>3,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2734 — Sharing Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>1,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2735 — FGC Scholarship</td>
<td>1,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2736 — Unity with Nature Project Reserve</td>
<td>968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2742 — Young Friends Travel (5288) Reserve</td>
<td>2,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2743 — FWCC, Sect of Amer Travel (5279) Reserve</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2744 — FGC Travel (5278) Reserve</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2745 — FUM Travel (5280) Reserve</td>
<td>1,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2746 — Gen. Reunion Fr. Mex. Travel (5281) Reserve</td>
<td>908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2747 — FWCC World Gathering Travel (5287) Reserve</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2748 — Western Friend Board Travel (5271) Reserve</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2749 — Latin Amer. Concerns Outreach (5212) Reserve</td>
<td>596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2750 — PYM Attendance Assistance Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>1,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2780 — Youth Program Coordinator Reserve</td>
<td>13,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2811 — Bob Vogel Endowment</td>
<td>626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2782 — Vogel Youth Work Reserve</td>
<td>9,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3900 — Uncommited Reserves</td>
<td>83,518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</strong></td>
<td>149,926</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2014 Annual Session Budget vs. Actual

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6110 — Miscellaneous Contributions</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6111 — Fees from Attendees</td>
<td>96,330</td>
<td>85,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6112 — Fees from Session Accts.</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>7,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6113 — Fees from PYM General Funds</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>10,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6114 — Interest on PYM Sessions Accts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6116 — Contributions to Annual session</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>1,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6115 — Transfer from (to) Reserves</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income:</strong></td>
<td>111,550</td>
<td>105,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expense</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6220 — Registrar's Expenses</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6221 — Secretariat's Expenses</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6222 — Arrangement Clerk Expenses</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6223 — Children's Program</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>8,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6224 — Cost of Facilities</td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>90,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6225 — Junior Yearly Meeting</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>4,124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6226 — Young Friends</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6227 — Breakage and Equipment</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6228 — PYM Clerk's Invited Guests</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6229 — Insurance</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6232 — Bank fees</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6233 — Miscellaneous</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6234 — Fee for registration</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6235 — Contingency Expenses</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense:</strong></td>
<td>111,550</td>
<td>109,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS (DEFICIT):</strong></td>
<td>-3,741</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Session Balance Sheets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>9/30/12</th>
<th>9/30/13</th>
<th>9/30/14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1001 — Session Checking Account</td>
<td>35,985</td>
<td>27,694</td>
<td>24,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1100 — Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200 — Loan Receivable from General Acct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500 — Deposits on Future Sessions</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>38,110</td>
<td>29,794</td>
<td>26,052</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities and Reserve</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6450 — Accounts Payable</td>
<td>138</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6451 — Loan Payable to General Acct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6455 — PYM Session Reserve</strong></td>
<td>37,971</td>
<td>29,794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Reserve</strong></td>
<td>38,110</td>
<td>29,794</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Friends worldwide,

The Statement below was developed by Quaker Earthcare Witness, the Quaker United Nations Office, and Friends Committee on National Legislation for their joint presence at events during the UN Climate Summit in September 2014.

A number of fellow Quaker organizations wished to add their name, including FWCC which sent the Statement out to Quaker communities worldwide. As a result we continue to receive signatures, which we add to the Statement, uploading the most recent versions onto the QEW and QUNO websites.

Three concerns have arisen in this process. Some meetings have asked us to give the Statement longer life by making it non-date specific, so that it can continue to be seen as relevant. Others encouraged language that was less anthropocentric. Still others felt that to be truthful we should more strongly acknowledge the grave dangers we face from climate change.

We have attempted to do this, while holding to the core message that Quaker organizations and Meetings have already upheld and signed.

If you wish to add your Meeting to this Statement, please contact Lindsey Cook as suggested at the end of the Statement.

If you do not wish to sign, but wish to use this material as a base for a Meeting-specific Statement, you are most welcome, but please take off the signatures.

In peace and with gratitude,

QEW, QUNO and FCNL

June 2015
June 2015: Facing the Challenge of Climate Change: A shared statement by Quaker groups

“It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world, that they were better studied and knowing in the Creation of it. For how could [they] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the great Creator stare them in the face, in all and every part of it?”

William Penn, 1693

As Quakers, we are called to work for the peaceable Kingdom of God on the whole Earth, in right sharing with all peoples.[1] We recognize a moral duty to cherish Creation for future generations.

We call on our leaders to make the radical decisions needed to create a fair, sufficient and effective international climate change agreement.

As Quakers, we understand anthropogenic climate change (climate change due to human activities) to be a symptom of a greater challenge: how to live sustainably and justly on this Earth.

We recognize that the current rise of greenhouse gas emissions is leading to an unprecedented rate of increase in global average surface temperature of extreme detriment to the Earth’s ecosystems and species, including human beings.

We recognize that catastrophic global climate change is not inevitable if we choose to act urgently.

We recognize a personal and collective responsibility to ensure that the poorest and most vulnerable peoples now, and all our future generations, do not suffer as a consequence of our actions. We see this as a call to conscience.

We recognize the connections between climate change and global economic injustice as well as unprecedented levels of consumption, and question assumptions of unlimited material growth on a planet with limited natural resources.

We recognize that most greenhouse gas emissions are created by fossil fuel combustion. We recognize that our increasing population continues to pursue fossil fuel-dependent economic growth. We recognize that the Earth holds more fossil fuel reserves than are safe to burn, and
that the vast majority of fossil fuel reserves must remain in the ground if we are to prevent the
catastrophic consequences of climate change. We therefore question profoundly the continued
investment in, and subsidizing of, fossil fuel extraction.

We seek to nurture a global human society that prioritizes the well-being of people over profit,
and lives in right relationship with our Earth; a peaceful world with fulfilling employment, clean
air and water, renewable energy, and healthy thriving communities and ecosystems.

As members of this beautiful human family, we seek meaningful commitments from our leaders
and ourselves, to address climate change for our shared future, the Earth and all species, and the
generations to come. We see this Earth as a stunning gift that supports life. It is our only home.
Let us care for it together.

Quakers in Ghana
Quakers in Britain
Living Witness, UK
EcoQuakers Ireland
Quakers in Australia
Quakers in Denmark
Norway Yearly Meeting
Quaker Service Australia
Netherlands Yearly Meeting
Miami Friends Meeting, USA
Quaker Institute for the Future
Memphis Friends Meeting, USA
New York Yearly Meeting, USA
Quaker Concern for Animals, UK
Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)
Newtown Monthly Meeting, USA
Croton Valley Meeting, NY, USA
Quakers in Aotearoa New Zealand
FWCC- Asia West Pacific Section
Cookeville Monthly Meeting, USA
Eugene Friends Meeting, OR, USA
Winnipeg Monthly Meeting, Canada
Lafayette Friends Meeting, IN, USA
Princeton Friends Meeting, NJ, USA
Nashville Friends Meeting, TN, USA
Trenton Meeting of Friends, NJ, USA
Humboldt Friends Meeting, CA, USA
Honolulu Monthly Meeting, HI, USA
Santa Fe Monthly Meeting, NM, USA
Westtown Monthly Meeting, PN, USA
Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, UK
Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)
Palo Alto Friends Meeting, CA, USA
Sacramento Friends Meeting, CA, USA
Chena Ridge Friends Meeting, AL, USA
Salmon Bay Friends Meeting, WA, USA
Belgium & Luxembourg Yearly Meeting
Northampton Friends Meeting, MA, USA
Yellow Springs Friends Meeting, OH, USA
Delta Monthly Meeting, Stockton, CA, USA
Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting, CA, USA
Canadian Friends Service Committee (CFSC)
American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)
Quaker Council for European Affairs (QCEA)
Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)
Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)
South Central Yearly Meeting (TX, OK, AR, LA), USA

Please contact Lindsey Cook at lfcook@quno.ch if you need more information, or wish to add your Quaker group.

Recommendations for all Friends from the QEW Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group

April 25, Ann Arbor, Michigan

To Friends Everywhere: The Sustainability: Faith and Action Working Group of Quaker Earthcare Witness developed some challenges, which are recommendations for Friends’ Churches and Meetings throughout North America. We ask local Friends’ fellowships and Yearly Meetings to prayerfully examine these challenges and to explore ways to act upon part or all of them. These are suggested actions to encourage Friends to set an example of active service in behalf of the many free gifts that we receive from God’s Creation. We encourage these actions as a witness to those outside of our Churches and Meetings.

I. Challenges at Home
A) We ask all Meetings that have land to landscape with native plantings that promote natural ecosystems. An important beginning to this ministry would be to establish a patch of native plants favored by pollinators and other beneficial insects. Given that in a transition to a carbon-free future we need to grow locally, have urban gardens, and be prepared to feed ourselves, we recommend inclusion of edible native plants in the Meeting’s landscape. QEW will provide instructions and suggested links on our website.
B) We ask that all Friends’ Houses of Worship, (which are able to in their locality) shift from non-renewable to renewable electricity suppliers by 2016, that we may serve as models and examples, showing our willingness to welcome the transition to a low carbon world. All Friends are encouraged to do the same. Your local power company may offer the ability to buy energy from renewable sources. This is also possible through Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs). By switching to solar or wind, many meetings could eventually redirect their resources away from utility bills to immediate needs and other projects that further Kingdom work.

II. Regional and State Challenges
We ask regional Meetings to develop a plan of action to encourage their state or province to hold the highest possible standard to address the risks of climate change and protect our health and environment now and for future generations. We know that the United States and Canada are two of largest carbon polluters and that the US-EPA has proposed a commonsense plan to cut carbon pollution from power plants. Each US state will be required to craft its own plan to meet the new emissions standards by 2016
· Identify your state or province’s current climate change plan.
· Compare it to the 100% renewable plan proposed by the Solutions Project
· Identify and reach out to other faith and community partners
· Create the space for dialogue and negotiation with policy makers
· Prepare a minute of support for the state plan which reflects the urgent need to lower carbon pollution.
· Discern what form of witness will most effectively make visible our deep commitment to protecting the commonwealth of life now and in the future

III. National and International Challenges
We ask that all Yearly and Monthly Meetings address the moral dimension of investments in fossil fuels and consider reinvestment options that reflect your Meetings’ values. This call for divestment includes freezing any new investments in the top 200 fossil fuel companies with the
largest reserves and committing to shift any current fossil fuel investments over the next 5 years to investments that better reflect Friends’ testimonies. As many Meetings do not hold investments, consider a Minute in support of divestment as well as holding discussions about how individuals can divest. To see the Minute written by Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting in California, visit http://www.quakerearthcare.org/article/strawberry-creek-monthly-meeting-minute-climate-change-and-divestment

Blessings and peace to all
Greetings, Friends,

Much of UWN’s activity since the 2014 annual gathering has been described in our Report to Representative Committee.

We are presenting two proposals to plenary. The first is signing “Facing the Challenge of Climate Change: A shared statement by Quaker groups” which was developed by QEW, QUNO, and FCNL. At of early June, at least five PYM monthly meetings have joined their voices to this inspiring statement of Unity. The five meetings are Palo Alto Friends Meeting, Sacramento Friends Meeting, Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting, Humboldt Friends Meeting, and Honolulu Monthly Meeting. The statement will be available on our PYM website and on our information table at annual session.

The second proposal is a minute advocating divestment of fossil fuel energy stocks as a strategy for slowing climate change. We are aware of at least two PYM monthly meetings, Strawberry Creek and Sacramento, who have come to Unity on a divestment statement or minute. We understand from Treasurer Roy Allen that “PYM has no investments in fossil fuel companies, either directly or indirectly. Our investments at Friends Fiduciary are in their Green Fund.” So, we will be asking for a statement of unity to the effect that “PYM has no investments in fossil fuel companies and will not be making any investments in fossil fuel companies in the foreseeable future. We urge other Quaker groups to consider doing the same, taking, if necessary, up to five years to do so. We further encourage individuals to consider divesting their own portfolios of fossil fuels.”

Our offer, of developing an optional DIY carbon tax as part of the 2015 annual gathering registration process, was accepted by Representative Committee. We thank the Registrar for including this in the online procedure. Friends were able to select the tax they felt to be appropriate for them, based on approximate estimates of CO2 (typically several hundred pounds) generated by individuals’ travel for annual gathering. These funds will be used for Earthcare purposes according to UWN committee unity.

We received no responses to our invitations to apply for a 2015 UWN mini-grant. We share a report on the outcome of our 2014 mini-grant to Casa de los Amigos in support of their rainwater storage system, on our information table this week. Friends can also find there other Earthcare information and homemade items for those wishing to donate to future mini-grants and other UWN efforts.

We are very excited that Jose Aguto, FCNL’s Legislative Secretary of Sustainable Energy and Environment Program, is joining us this year and will give a plenary talk on Friday at 3:30 PM. UWN is sponsoring an interest group given by Jose Aguto called, ‘The Climate Change Challenge: Legislative Possibilities and Earthcare Action’ – on Wednesday right after lunch. We hope that his advice and counsel is inspiring and useful to Friends.

We offer two other interest groups this year:
- **Walking the Land: Listening to Nature, Tuesday 1:30pm**
  Getting to know the flora and fauna of Walker Creek while opening our senses and centering down into our bodies, a part of nature. Through directed experiment to centering in silence, we Worship in Unity with Nature.

- **Greening the Meeting, Greening Our Lives: Discerning and Living Our Earthcare Testimony, Saturday at 8am**

  A presentation about levels of sustainability will be followed by queries and discussion about what we may be called to do, individually and collectively. Queries will include the ‘Three Challenges’ developed recently by QEW’s Sustainability, Faith, and Action Working Group, as well as reports from participants about what they and their meetings have already accomplished, and their hopes for the future.

  Our mission statement and proposed charter revision of October 25, 2014 will be posted on our PYM website. We are in unity that the two PYM representatives to QEW are also ex officio members of Unity with Nature Committee. We thank PYM for supporting the work of QEW—the unfolding of the Earthcare testimony—by continuing to support PYM’s two representatives to attend the twice yearly QEW conferences.

  We are dedicated to continue giving support for and information about living our felt Earthcare testimony.

  We sponsored Interest Groups at College Park Quarterly Meeting. At spring quarterly at Ben Lomond, Robin Keeler and Cedar Selenite presented exploring embodiment in nature using non-violent communication processes.

  As outgoing co-clerks, we devoutly hope that PYM will seek discernment about how the committee can best support Friends’ future Earthcare ideas and sustainability goals.

  Friends who are interested in Earthcare may be interested in the fall conference of Quaker Earthcare Witness [QEW] – Thursday October 22nd to Sunday 25th at beautiful Ben Lomond Quaker Center which is open to all. Friends are especially encouraged to come on Saturday the 24th for a day of inspiring speakers, workshops, and worship in Unity with Nature. On Wednesday the 21st and the morning of the 22nd, QEW is planning some hands-on projects for wise stewardship of the land.

  We are honored to have had the privilege of this service.

  Thank you.

  Respectfully submitted by:

  - Muriel Strand, co-clerk
  Sacramento Meeting
  - Catya de Neergaard, co-clerk
  Strawberry Creek Meeting
UwN mission statement and proposed charter revision Oct 2015

Appendix A

Note: this proposed Charter from PacYM was revised by Unity with Nature Committee on 10/25/2014. It is based on UwN’s 2005 Charter from PacYM.

Unity with Nature Committee’s Charter from Pacific Yearly Meeting

This committee acts on behalf of Yearly Meeting on spiritual concerns related to the environment. It strives to keep alive in the consciences of Friends the spirituality of and the kinship with all creation. It has the function to educate, inform, inspire, and give Witness about earth care and the environment.

The Committee may have several subcommittees such as:

1. Sustainability,
2. Service projects and internships,
3. Nature experiences and outings,
4. Education and interest groups.

The committee has nine members, serving three-year overlapping terms, with three members appointed annually. Two Pacific Yearly Meeting [PYM] representatives to the national Quaker Earthcare Witness [QEW] (formerly named “Friends Committee on Unity with Nature”) are members ex-officio, if not already members of PYM’s Unity with Nature Committee.

Tasks

- Appoints PYM’s representatives to QEW
- Supports publications such as Earthlight Magazine and QEW newsletter.
- Encourages and supports QEW and other Friends’ environmental initiatives such as Friends Committee on National Legislation [FCNL], Friends Committee on Legislation in California [FCL-CA], and Quaker Institute for the Future [QIF].
- Nominates candidates for Earthlight’s Board of Directors
- Provides means for communications among PYM Friends concerned about the environment and with Friends similarly concerned nationally and internationally
- Proposes and conducts interest groups and nature-oriented worship at Quarterly and Yearly Meeting sessions.
- Encourages change toward sustainable lifestyles by Meetings and their members and attenders.
- Raises funds to further its work.

Goals

Goals and Projects may include:
- Sponsoring an internship program for Young Friends
• Responding to queries such as recommendations for books and other educational materials related to care of the earth
• Proactive educational programs such as the mini-grant program
• Proactive educational and fundraising programs such as the dime a gallon carbon credit program
• Seasoning concerns arising out of Witness, we nurture the process of taking those concerns towards a minute at annual session.
Youth Programs Coordinating Committee (YPCC) & Coordinator (YPC)  
Pacific Yearly Meeting – Annual Session 2015  
7 July 2015

Summary Report

This Summary Report gives an overview of what the PYM Youth Programs Coordinating Committee (YPCC) and the Youth Programs Coordinator (YPC) have accomplished in 2014-2015, some plans for next year, and what we have found engaging, exciting or challenging. Friends are invited to read our more detailed Extended Report, appended to this Summary.

Simply put, our work falls into two main categories: 1) committee work with support from the coordinator and 2) coordinator work with support from the committee. This work is organized around a Goals and Objectives document and subcommittee structure that the committee approved in June 2014 and which is posted on the PYM website at: http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/ypcc_GoalsObjectives_2014_06_AnnualReport.pdf.

Work of the Committee

Youth Programs Fund
During the past year, the YPCC has put the new Youth Programs Fund (interest from the Bob Vogel Endowment) to work, both by awarding grants for projects proposed by others and by sponsoring activities of our own initiative. We wrote guidelines for the application process in alignment with our goals and objectives, devised a calendar for the receipt and consideration of applications, and created a process for making awards. So far, we have made minor revisions to our procedures after each application cycle, and we intend eventually to have an online application form to make it easier to fill out and submit. The Committee has received 16 applications and has funded 12 of them, as well as co-sponsoring and partially funding the Spring 2015 Youth Service Learning Camp with Quaker Oaks Farm and the Wukchumni Tribe. (Particulars of the awards and the events they supported may be found in the Extended Report and Appendices.)

The committee is currently considering our fourth round of applications. Both the process and the applications are getting better each time as committee members work with applicants to refine their ideas and within the committee to smooth the process. Many thanks to the Treasurer and Finance Committee for their work to manage the endowment’s investment and accounting, and especially the Treasurer for handling our requests to write and send checks.

Interest Groups and Activities at Annual Session 2015

- We are scheduled to report to plenary during the first business meeting, Tuesday, July 14 between 3:15 and 4:30 PM.
- Members of the YPCC and the YPC will be available to chat during the Committee Fair on Tuesday, July 14 at 4:45 PM.
Our first of two interest groups is “Growing Intercultural and Intergenerational Relationships on the Land: Friends, the Wukchumni People, and Quaker Oaks Farm,” with Melissa Lovett-Adair, Wukchumni elders and youth, Jim Summers, Alyssa Nelson, and teen camp participants from PYM. It will be held on **Wednesday, July 15 at 1:30 PM.** An article about this collaboration was published in the most recent issue of *Western Friend* (July/Aug 2015).

- We are hosting a joint discussion on “Membership” with teens, young adults and Discipline Committee on **Thursday, July 16th at 8:30 PM.**

- Friends with a particular interest the YPCC Youth Programs Fund are invited to attend our interest group on that topic on **Friday, July 17 at 1:30 PM.**

**Developing Adult Allies to Youth**

The committee continues to sponsor “Adult Allies to Youth” workshops, as described in the Work of the Coordinator section below. In response to multiple requests from members of the wider PYM community for the YPCC or YPC to find or recommend “Friendly Responsible Adult Presences” or other youth-workers, the committee has labored and found unity as expressed in the following guidelines:

**Minute of the YPCC regarding requests for lists of youth-workers (July 2015):**

The Pacific Yearly Meeting Youth Programs Coordinator (YPC) and Youth Programs Coordinating Committee (YPCC) continue to be available to consult with groups in PYM on developing safe, reliable, well-known and well-prepared adults to work with youth (“youth-workers”) whose interests and abilities match the specific program needs. The Committee believes that, due to the broad geographic span of PYM, widely differing program needs, and the necessity for frequent updates, any lists of potential youth-workers should be developed and maintained by those groups or programs at their own local levels. The YPC and YPCC will not provide a general or central list of youth-workers, nor certify the qualifications of potential youth-workers. While the YPC will continue keeping a working list of numerous individuals in PYM who play roles in youth programs, that list is an internal resource for the work of the YPC and YPCC, not for circulation.

**Caveats and Rationale:**

- **Pacific Yearly Meeting spans three countries and three US states.** The YPC Committee’s objective is to assist local communities to draw on local resources rather than to produce a generic, sometimes outdated central list.

- **The Committee will continue to administer criminal background checks at the request of a PYM program and with the permission of the person being checked.**

- **The Committee will also continue to verify participation in its “Adult Allies to Youth” workshops with the caveat that participation in this workshop does not necessarily mean the person is qualified or recommended.**

- **Information provided by the Committee on potential youth-workers should not be a substitute for personal knowledge, reference checks and other forms of discernment or outreach in the Good Order of Friends.** We strongly recommend
that selection of youth-workers for PYM activities be in compliance with any pertinent current policies, such as the PYM Abuse Prevention Policy.

- Upon request, the YPC and YPCC members may serve as references for individual applicants --in their own private capacities and at their own discretion-- but are not expected to do so as part of their duties.
- Reference Material: PYM Abuse Prevention Policy (June 2015 revision of May 2010 document, to be presented by M&O to Annual Session 2015)

Background materials and further detail concerning this minute are included as an appendix to our Extended Report.

**Work of The Youth Programs Coordinator**

It has been a busy year for the Youth Programs Coordinator (YPC), Alyssa Nelson, as well. She has now visited 34 of PYM’s 44 Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups in California and Nevada since she began her position four years ago and has been regularly attending most of both Quarterly Meetings’ gatherings, where she has been a resource for the planning committees and teen programs. She and the YPCC are still working out how best to serve the five Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups in Hawaii, as well as the two meetings in Mexico City and Guatemala.

Alyssa has supported, helped plan, and attended several Young Adult Friends (YAF) events over the course of the year. The annual YAF Retreat, co-organized by Alyssa and YPCC member / YAF Co-Clerk Kylin Navarro, will be held the weekend just before annual session this year (as it has been for the past two years), this time at the Berkeley meetinghouse. The retreat is predicted to again attract around 30 Friends, including some elders. Two of PYM’s invited guests, Paula Palmer and Lloyd Lee Wilson, will attend, and Paula will be giving her workshop, “Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples.”

Alyssa has again led, with the assistance of committee members, “Becoming Adult Allies to Youth” workshops in both Northern and Southern California; since 2011, a total of 65 Friends have taken the workshop. Meetings willing to host an Adult Allies workshop this coming year should contact Alyssa.

Alyssa supports Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM, the PYM teen program) in its planning process by email and phone and at the JYM planning meeting at Representative Committee Meeting. She has also helped design and facilitate the JYM leadership orientation for the FRAPs, teen clerks, teen M&O, and adult committee members, held on the first afternoon of annual session. She is continuing to redevelop and co-facilitate JYM’s “Respectful Relationships” sexuality education workshop with YAFs. One of her main roles continues to be in helping JYM and YAFs to understand, coordinate with, and navigate within the PYM and annual session structures; and helping other PYM entities understand and connect with JYM and YAFs. She has also provided some such assistance to PYM’s Children’s Program, on a much more limited basis thus far.
Alyssa and her Administrative Supervisor from the YPCC participated in rewriting PYM’s Abuse Prevention Policy. M&O has now asked the YPC to take over the function of ordering the criminal background checks for FRAPs, Children’s Program teachers, and committee members of JYM and Children’s Program, as well as any other youth-workers at PYM-sponsored events. (These are ordered online through a professional company.) Alyssa has provided this service for this year’s annual session, with help and oversight from an M&O liaison and the YPCC Administrative Supervisor.

Alyssa continues to report to PYM throughout the year through occasional epistles, a calendar and youth program pages on the PYM website, and Facebook pages. Throughout the year and especially leading up to annual session, she receives many requests for information, help and referrals; she spends a lot of time online and on the phone, punctuated by opportunities to be with Friends in person.

Word gets around! Alyssa has been contacted by her relatively new counterpart in Australia Yearly Meeting (AYM) with a request from AYM to learn from PYM’s youth programs work, including an invitation to attend AYM’s annual gathering in July 2016 and to sojourn among other local and regional Friends meetings there. Travel costs will be paid by AYM. As well as sharing what she has learned as PYM’s Youth Programs Coordinator, Alyssa looks forward to learning from Australian Friends about their relationships with Native Peoples and their work on restorative justice.

In closing, the YPCC anticipates that the year ahead will be joyfully filled with receiving, refining, and funding grant applications; continuing to support teens, young adults, and adult allies to youth; and further co-sponsorship of activities with Quaker Oaks Farm and the Wukchumni People. Our vision PYM as a whole, intergenerational, interactive community with a vibrant youth component continues to guide our work together.

Submitted on behalf of the YPCC,

Mary Klein and Jim Summers, Co-Clerks, Youth Programs Coordinating Committee
Alyssa Nelson, Youth Programs Coordinator

Full Report (including Extended Report and Appendices) available online: