Pacific Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends

2019
Annual Session
Minutes and Reports

Held at
Walker Creek Ranch
Petaluma, California
July 12-17, 2019
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Minute AS 2019-1: FGC Affiliation ........................................................................................................................................... 18
    Having given careful consideration over these past five years to the question of whether Pacific Yearly Meeting should seek to affiliate with Friends General Conference, we today find unity in taking that step. We do so honoring our history and identity as an independent yearly meeting, and with special consideration of the work in monthly meetings that our affiliation will support. We further commit ourselves to work for environmentally sensitive patterns of FGC meeting participation, as we take up our representative responsibilities. We will remain, as noted in a 1947 PYM document, in “welcoming relationship with all Friends.” ........................................................................................................................................... 18
    We intend to send two representatives to attend the FGC Central Committee Annual Meeting and ask our Ministry and Oversight to take the needed steps to direct Nominating Committee, Finance Committee, and other needed committees to prepare for these responsibilities and to initiate the affiliation process with Friends General Conference, reporting back to us when the affiliation is complete. We empower our Ministry and Oversight Committee and Presiding Clerk to make additional decisions as needed to facilitate this affiliation process. ........................................................................................................................................... 18

Minute AS 2019-2: Personal Data Privacy Policy ........................................................................................................... 19
    We approve the newly developed Personal Data Privacy Policy as presented to us at this session and in our advance documents. [Attachment 13] ........................................................................................................................................... 19

Minute AS 2019-3: Data Breach Policy .................................................................................................................. 19
    We approve the newly developed Data Breach Policy as presented to us at this session and in our advance documents. [Attachment 14] ........................................................................................................................................... 19

    We approve the following augmentations to the 2018-2019 budget: ........................................................................... 19
    1- $500 added to the YPC supervisory committee line 6105 for committee expenses........................................... 19
    2- $6320 added to the youth programs personnel expense line 6110 for under-budgeted personnel costs. [Attachment 15] ........................................................................................................................................... 19

Minute AS 2019-5: General Budget 2019-2020 ................................................................................................................... 19
    We approve the 2019-2020 general budget presented by Finance Committee with one change: the amount of $2000 originally entered to support monthly meetings hosting Representative Committee was removed. [Attachment 16] ........................................................................................................................................... 19

Minute AS 2019-6: Transition Policy for Presiding Clerks .......................................................................................... 22
    Aware of the need for continuity and support for the incoming Presiding Clerk we approve the following policy to serve that need: ........................................................................................................................................... 22
    1. Nominating Committee will bring forward the name of a proposed Presiding Clerk to the Annual Session the year before that person will take office........................................................................................................................................... 22
    2. Once approved at AS, that nominee will be invited to shadow the current Presiding Clerk, attend all meetings, receive all communications, and be in contact and conversation with the current Presiding Clerk for as much of that year as the incoming Clerk desires. ........................................................................................................................................... 22
    3. The purpose of this overlap is to familiarize the incoming Clerk with the variety of connections necessary to the work of the Clerk, not to diminish or curtail innovation or creativity........................................................................................................................................... 22
    4. This change does mean that the Presiding Clerk will serve the Yearly Meeting for up to four years: up to one year of introduction and exposure as Rising Clerk, and three years (approved one at a time) as Presiding Clerk........................................................................................................................................... 22

Minute AS 2019-7: Nominations ........................................................................................................................................... 23
    We name the following Friends for service on the Nominating Committee for terms ending in the years indicated: ........................................................................................................................................... 23
    Gail Thomas [Santa Monica] 2020........................................................................................................................................... 23
    Trudy Friedel [Inland Valley] 2022........................................................................................................................................... 23
    Cody Lowry [Orange Grove] 2022........................................................................................................................................... 23
Minute AS 2019-8: Travel Minute for Stephen Matchett

Pacific Yearly Meeting is united in endorsing Stephen Matchett’s ministry arising from his concern for Bible reading among Friends and authorizes the Clerk to provide a travel minute from PYM commending Stephen to the care of Friends outside the Yearly Meeting. We ask that Stephen provide an annual report on his ministry to our Ministry & Oversight Committee.

Minute AS 2019-9: Nominations

We approve the slate of Friends appointed to serve us in the roles and for the terms listed, as presented at this plenary session. [Attachment 24]
THE MINUTES
Plenary I: Opening Plenary

Seventh Month 12, 2019
We opened with worship

1. Introduction to the session
The Presiding Clerk, Sandy Kewman, welcomed us to the 73rd annual session of the Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. She introduced Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk, and Sharlene Roberts-Caudle, Co-recording Clerk. The Clerk presented her thoughts on how we may move forward listening to the divine presence as the session continues. She introduced David Johnson who will present the keynote address Saturday morning.

2. First Nations Welcome
The Clerk then introduced Jim Summers, Ministry and Oversight Committee Co-clerk, who reminded us that we are not the first to worship here. He introduced Sky Road Webb, who welcomed us to Walker Creek on behalf of the Coast Miwok, and shared some songs with us.

3. Walker Creek Welcome
The Clerk introduced Jared, Walker Creek staff, who explained his job and how important our use of Walker Creek is to allowing the facility to provide environmental education to school children.

4. Roll Call
The Assistant to the Clerk, Sharon Gates, called the roll of Monthly Meetings and Friends stood to announce their presence. The Clerk recognized the following visitors: the Ostrom family, visiting from Paulsville, WA, attending Agate Passage Monthly Meeting in North Pacific Yearly Meeting; Steven Donohoe, of Friends Committee on National Legislation; Trish Johnson, Queensland Regional Meeting, Australia Yearly Meeting; Robert Broz, Palo Alto Monthly Meeting, of the El Salvador Project; Brylie Christopher Oxley and his son, Elvin, from Finland; Shelly Tannenbaum, General Secretary of Quaker Earthcare Witness. [Attachment 1]

5. Youth Programs Coordinator
Barbara Babin, Youth Programs Coordinating Committee member, introduced Javaughn Fernanders, our new Youth Programs Coordinator.

6. Children’s Program
Nate Secrest, Children’s Program Coordinator, was introduced, and he explained the workings of the Children’s program, inviting us to visit.

7. Junior Yearly Meeting
The Clerk introduced the Junior Yearly Meeting Clerks, Elinor Steffy [Sacramento], Charlie Shaw [Santa Monica], and the clerks of the adult committee: Muriel Strand [Sacramento], Sarah
Armstrong-Jones [Big Island], and David Lederman [Orange County]. The Friendly Responsible Adult Presences (FRAPs) were appreciated as they stood to be recognized.

8. Ministry and Oversight
Ministry and Oversight Committee members Thistle West and Gail Eastwood reminded us of the Respectful Relations agreements we made when we registered to attend. Thistle invited us to gather in small groups and talk about what makes us feel welcome, and we did so. The Clerk then invited Shan Cretin and Jim Summers, Co-clerks of our M&O Committee, to speak to us. They introduced the other members of M&O.

9. Arrangements
Bronwen Hillman, Arrangements Committee Clerk, introduced the Arrangements Committee: Don Sands [Sacramento], Jan Turner [Humbolt], Ann Fuller [Santa Monica], Kate Connell [Santa Barbara]. The information booth will be open on the patio and will be staffed by members of the Arrangements Committee.

10 Secretariat
George Mills, Communications Committee member and Secretariat clerk, explained that the Secretariat’s job is much more than “just” compiling and printing the Daily Miracle. Secretariat members prepare the advance packet before the Annual Session, and the minutes after AS, prepare the list of attenders, and more. He explained how submissions for the Daily Miracle can be put in a box or e-mailed to him, and that the Miracle is posted as a public document on the website now.

We closed with worship, and announcements followed.
Plenary II: Keynote Address by David Johnson

Seventh Month 13, 2019

Presiding Clerk Sandy Kewman called us to order and introduced the session. David Johnson will rise out of worship to present our keynote address, to be followed by worship, which will close our session. We will not receive questions for the speaker at this session, but a later interest group will provide opportunity for these. Sandy also reminded us that there are hearing aids available for any who need them.

Sandy introduced our keynote speaker, David Johnson, a member of Queensland Monthly Meeting of Australia Yearly Meeting, and also an affiliate of Marlboro Monthly Meeting. David is a retired geologist with a long commitment to peace work and nonviolence. He has worked with the campaign to ban land mines, including time in Southeast Asia engaged with this issue. He is one of the founders of Silver Wattle Quaker Center and has served as co-director there. He delivered the 2005 Backhouse Lecture to Australia Yearly Meeting, with the title “Peace Is A Struggle.” He has written two books published by Inner Light Books. In 2017 he led a year-end retreat at Ben Lomond Quaker Center, and recently presented a session on John’s gospel at Pendle Hill. He is at present traveling among Friends in the US. He carries a special interest in early Quaker writers, and, in his words, comes mainly to listen, learn, and be useful as needed.

We settled into a period of worship and David Johnson rose to offer the keynote address. David first acknowledged the Miwok people, as it is his custom to honor those original people of lands wherever he speaks. Supported by projected slides, David then offered a presentation titled:

Workings of the Spirit of God Within [George Fox’s “Offices of Christ”]

Raised in Anglicanism, David found his early experience of this tradition “boxlike,” and only later discovered universal spirituality in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Christian monasticism. He first heard the voice of the inner guide in a Buddhist monastery in Sri Lanka. He was drawn to the Quakers by their contemplative worship and witness, but found the terms Jesus and God were strangely absent. Reading early Quakers he found a reliance on the teachings and wisdom of Jesus and God in a universal context.

David began his exposition of the workings of the Spirit within, as they appear in Fox’s offices of Christ, with “unpacking” the word “Christ.” Christ is the Greek version of a Hebrew word meaning “the anointed one.” The term “anointment” is used as metaphor for an experience of the presence felt within. Early Friends spoke of this experience as the only teacher needed, the light, universally present, and, as Penn says, showing us what to do and not do, and enabling us to do it. They saw Jesus as the most perfect manifestation of this way of being in the world, come [as Fox said] to teach his people himself. The “offices” of Christ represent the different roles such guidance and service may take in us.

David then explored six offices of Christ, each having a distinct role in our lives; as these are allowed to work within us, they cultivate the attributes of Christ. In his account of each office,
David was able to share his own experiences as well as those of biblical figures and early Friends.

The first office, that of bishop, offers us a sense of steadiness, stability, and hope. Fox felt this within him in his early transforming experience, a sense of an anchor and trustworthiness. In the office of shepherd [a related word is “pastor”] we are given a sense of being led, guided to the morsel of spiritual sustenance that we need at that point on our spiritual journey. As the bishop role engenders hope, the shepherd role gives rise to gratitude.

The third office is that of prophet, and in this role the spirit works to show us what to do and what not to do—a call to righteousness. One may be called to give up drink, to ‘put one’s sword in one’s scabbard,’” to act or not to act. When we yield to this guidance, we feel peace. Related to this office is that of king [master, guide, authority], that role of inward call that manifests an inward authority and gives us clarity. It both calls to specific action, and unites community. [“Coming into this light, covenant, and spirit, which God puts in the inward parts, here all people meet together… Margaret Fell].

The role of king is related that of the fifth office: that of protector. Early Friends actions often led them into danger and loss, as when praemunire laws resulted in their forfeiture of property and loss of “the king’s protection.” In the face of this, the inner manifestation of the protector office, provided a sustaining sense of protection in the face of external threat and political loss of safety and rights. The sixth office, that of priest, draws one to a life that gives witness to the sacredness of the world. In Fox’s call to Friends to “be patterns, be examples…that, answering that of God in everyone… ye may be a blessing.,” we are called to this priestly role of witness.

The final office is of savior, of healer and redeemer. We awaken to this role as we sense the inner presence of being healed into inner purity and innocence. Fox spoke of “…coming through the flaming sword to the paradise of God. All things were new.”

In concluding words, David reminded us of these six offices and their fruits: from the bishop’s role, we are led to hope; from the work of the shepherd, to gratitude. The prophetic office leads us to a sense of peace; that of the ruler, to courage and unity. The sanctifying role of the priest gives rise to compassion, and the office of savior, to humility and trust. As we allow the spirit of God to work within us in these ways, we are gradually given the attributes of Christ: patience, kindness, compassion, self-control, truthfulness, and love. David's prayer is that God may help us to allow his presence to work within us.

At the conclusion of David’s talk, we entered worship together, and after a time the Clerk closed the session.
Plenary III: Threshing Session on FGC Affiliation

Seventh Month 13, 2019
The plenary session began with worship.

1. Threshing the question of affiliation with Friends General Conference
The Presiding Clerk introduced Heather Levien, observer to Friends General Conference on behalf of PYM, to review information about FGC for those to whom it might be unfamiliar. FGC is an organization working to support Quaker Meetings with programs and materials. Heather reviewed some of the programs that serve as resources for Meetings. She observed that if PYM affiliated with FGC, two to three PYM representatives could attend the FGC General Meeting and one would attend the Executive Meeting, which could be by teleconference. In past years PYM observers have attended the Executive Meeting at their own cost. Some monthly meetings are independently affiliated with FGC, and if PYM affiliates with FGC then those meeting affiliations would be subsumed by the PYM affiliation. The estimated cost to us would be $2.45 per member. Heather listed some reasons to affiliate: prospects for networking, and giving PYM a voice to add to FGC. She noted that there was no central authority in FGC, and that members find opportunity to learn from one another.

Sandy explained the nature and purpose of a “threshing session,” which will proceed in a way similar to worship-sharing. Deep listening with an open heart and deep breathing is necessary, remembering that we are in worship. The Clerk posed the following query, and Friends settled into worship, then sharing out of the silence a range of perspectives, concerns, and hopes in relation to the prospect of affiliating with Friends General Conference.

In what ways has FGC served your, or your Meeting’s, spiritual needs?

The session ended with worship, and announcements followed.

Notes by the Recording Clerks on this session, as well as the continuation of threshing in Plenary V, are included as [Attachment 2].
Plenary IV: Various Business

Seventh Month 14, 2019
The plenary session began with worship.

1. Epistle
Gordon Bishop, the Reading Clerk, read excerpts from the epistles of the annual session of Japan Yearly Meeting, the 2nd annual session of Sierra Cascades Yearly Meeting, and Northern Yearly Meeting.

2. On Preparation for Business Meeting
Barbara Babin, Redwood Forest Meeting, shared some thoughts regarding preparation for business meetings and plenaries. Two useful questions are: What am I preparing for? Why is it important to prepare? She yearns for a meeting for worship that stays grounded and creates space for the spirit to move through us and guide us and to do that in a loving community where that love is demonstrated and practiced, especially where that is difficult. Some ways we can do that involve developing habits that we can bring into the room. Sometimes we aren’t prepared, we have burdens, we’ll be late, we won’t have read ahead. Other friends who are prepared can center and hold the space for us. Recently Barbara has engaged in a practice of querying herself on how she might not be living up to her best self. She read the quote from Isaac Penington, “Give over thine own willing,” and believes this is important for herself and for this body. She invites us to be open to divine assistance to help us to be led by the spirit and to have greater trust in both spirit and community.

3. Visitors
Sonia Tuma, Regional Director of AFSC’s West Region, introduced herself.

4. Introduction to the session
Clerk Sandy told us that we will hear the first reading of some items, and there will be time tomorrow afternoon for committees to listen to Friends’ views on these. There will also be a time for Friends to speak of their concerns related to the proposal to affiliate with Friends General Conference, later in the week.

5. New Youth Programs Coordinator
Youth Programs Coordinating Committee Co-Clerks Rebecca Percy and Bertha Pena, and committee members Melissa Lovett Adair, Barbara Babin, and Kiernan Colby, introduced the new Youth Programs Coordinator, Javaughn Fernanders, who addressed the gathering.

Melissa reported that this year the committee carried out a program evaluation, which is now posted on the website and is attached to these minutes. The committee received useful feedback. Highlights of the improvements noted since the inception of the Youth Programs Coordinating Committee and Youth Program Coordinator include: an increase in activities for youth and in the overall safety and professionalism of the program, an increase in young adult participation, and a change in our community with the expectation that young friends would be involved in our yearly meeting. An increase in communication across committees has made it easier for people
to access information that they needed. Some of the challenges noted were: requests for more support from the monthly meeting level, and concerns that the youth programs don’t adequately support the spiritual needs of our young people. The committee is working to address and acknowledge racism, sexism, and ageism, throughout the PYM community, and to have our youth programs be more inclusive. The hiring of a general secretary was supported by approximately half of the responders. An overwhelming number felt that the money spent on the Youth Coordinator was money well spent. The committee is challenged by the human resources part of its job, which requires specialized knowledge that takes a lot of time. The committee suggests that a human resources committee would be a valuable addition. Rebecca said the lines of communication could be improved. More than $73,000 has been provided for youth programs from the Bob Vogel Fund since 2014. Those with ideas are encouraged to apply for grants.

[Attachments 3 and 3b]

6. Communication Committee
Lawrence Alderson, Clerk of the Communication Committee, introduced members of that committee present: Arthur Kegerreis [Orange Grove], George Mills [Palo Alto], Sharon Gates [Orange Grove], and Mary Klein [Palo Alto]. He noted that PYM has not had a policy related to personal data protection. The committee worked to develop a personal data privacy policy draft and a policy related to data breach, and both are now posted on the website for Friends to review. The committee will be hosting an interest group and following that a listening period. The policies will be proposed for action on Tuesday, subject to any concerns that arise. [Attachment 4]

7. Nominating Committee
Sue Torrey, Committee Clerk, reported. Members of the committee are Julie Harlow [Davis], Heather Levien [Berkeley], Joe Magruder [Berkeley], Jorge Morales [San Jose], Winnie Sunshine [La Jolla], Kate Watkins [Santa Monica] and Sue Torrey [Central Coast] (Clerk). The committee has one minute of action it plans to bring, and will make requests for a few changes in committee size. The minute of action is a policy for the transition of Presiding Clerks, that allows the incoming clerk to shadow the current clerk during the year preceding service.

The committee began its retreats this year by considering the peculiar way Quakers, using worshipful discernment, pair up people with jobs. The committee jointly presented a summary of its report. In the face of pressing needs for Friends willing to serve, the committee posed these questions: Can the Yearly Meeting continue without a Treasurer? Can it continue without a Children’s Committee? Can it employ a Youth Coordinator without a supporting Youth Coordinating Committee? The committee concluded its report with silent worship. [Attachment 5]

8. Treasurer
Roy Allen, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer’s Report. The “bottom line” reveals that reserves are stronger than in years past. For the Annual Session budget, uncommitted general reserves were almost $80,000 at the end of the last fiscal year. This ample condition presents us with the opportunity to consider experimenting with the Pay-as-Led model for next year. Roy reminded us that the budget for the Yearly Meeting’s general operations and the budget for the Annual Session are kept separate with their own accounts. [Attachment 6]
9. Finance Committee
Sandy Farley, Clerk of Finance Committee, presented the committee’s report. She brought us the first reading of a budget augmentation request from the Youth Programs Coordinating Committee, to account for unanticipated expenses. The committee also suggests some type of financial assistance for Southern Quarter monthly meetings that host Representative Committee, and has put an amount of $2,000 in the budget for this purpose. Travel expenses of the incoming presiding clerk’s prior year “shadowing,” are proposed to be covered in the budget. The proposed expected per member contribution is the same this coming year as last year.

[Attachment 7]

We closed our session with worship, followed by announcements.
Plenary V: Various Business

Seventh Month 15, 2019
The plenary session opened with worship.

1. Epistle.
The Reading Clerk, Gordon Bishop, read from the epistle of Wilmington Yearly Meeting.

2. On Preparation for Meeting for Business
Thistle West, Ministry and Oversight Committee member, read to us from the writing of Judith Favor. “As we endeavor to live into The Great Invitation of Jesus together, we practice a Friendly 4-fold way of loving God, self & others with all your mind, all your heart, all your soul and all your strength.” [full text of the reading as Attachment 8]

3. Further Threshing on Friends General Conference Affiliation
Clerk Sandy invited further threshing on the question of whether we should request affiliation with Friends General Conference. Notes on the threshing are included in [Attachment 2].

In closing the period of threshing, the Clerk encouraged further dialogue during listening time and said we will return to this issue. She reminded us that we depend on spirit to work through this, and repeated the words of Jesus: On my own I can do nothing.

4. Unity with Nature Committee Review
Eric Sabelman, Discernment Facilitator for the Unity with Nature Committee review, presented observations on his report on the discernment process around Unity with Nature Committee’s disfunction. This report is attached. Initially, when the committee was established, it was given two charges: 1-to find its own way in what its work would be, and 2-to publish, [a practice which had been an important part of its work for a long time]. There have been a number of times where the committee needed renewal when it was stuck; this is one of those times. What does PYM need the committee to do; and who will do it? Things have changed since the committee was established—the threat of climate change has come front and center and, while it may be hard to think of other focuses, there are alternatives. Avenues of communication have not been maintained, networks need to be explored and developed. There are many questions about broader issues that need to be addressed, and soon, or the committee will be stuck. Right living and right relationships are foundational for Friends. This is the only one of our committees that deals with right relationship with not only people, but with the earth and all of its creatures. The Yearly Meeting needs to give a renewed charge to the Unity with Nature Committee. [Attachment 9]

5. Peace and Social Order Committee
Zae Illo and Linnea Hanson, Peace and Social Order Committee members, reported to us. Zae said that the committee has been trying to present a snapshot of where we are in our meetings’ work in peace and social order. A broad issue of concern is the lack of connection and sharing among monthly meetings. Because there is almost no dialogue between monthly meetings about the work they are doing there is a great loss of synergy. A generous estimate of the percent of
Friends of color in PYM is 10%, but there is difficulty in gathering such information and in drawing others into meeting life. Many meetings do not know how to connect with other community groups that may be doing the work their meetings are interested in. Linnea Hanson invited us to review the state of the meeting reports to see what other meetings may be doing that might be of interest to our own meetings. Her region suffered a great fire recently and she described the efforts her meeting made to raise funds that have now been disbursed. [Attachment 10]

Gale Eastwood, member of Ministry and Oversight Committee, offered observations on the state of our yearly meeting. Is our yearly meeting on its way out, like an old tree that is dropping limbs? Many meetings describe struggles with finding people to serve on committees and care for elders. Very few meetings mention a children’s program. Some have said that this is a crisis. Most meetings are involved in doing good works, putting into practice “Love thy neighbor.” Many mention the bedrock of the sustenance of worship and activities to promote community. But absent is much about how spirit is moving us, changing us. We seem to be still waiting for but not recognizing the transformation that is asked of us. Some meetings struggle with discord, domestic violence, and micro aggressions against women and people of color. There is an emerging yearning for more diversity in our midst and work in this area is difficult and messy. We need humility and tenderness toward one another if we are ever going to put into practice that core mandate, love thee one another. Absence of attention to environmental issues suggests an unconscious arrogance toward the environment we live in – the concern for survival on our planet is universal. Our testimonies give us guidance, but with few exceptions our PYM voice seems to be missing. If we took the commandment, love thy neighbor, seriously, a step deeper, what might we be called to do? Following Gail’s words, we worshipped for a time together and Friends spoke from the silence. [Attachment 11]

7. Ad Hoc Committee on the Children’s Program Coordinator Position
Chamba Cook and Roy Allen presented an abbreviated version of the report [in process] of this ad hoc committee. The committee will bring five proposed minutes. Nurturing the spiritual growth of our children is a vital function of our Yearly Meeting, as weighty as any other part of our Yearly Meeting life. The committee will recommend reassigning some responsibilities currently assigned to the children’s committee coordinator. They will bring these proposals for action to a future plenary.

8. Friends Committee on Legislation of California
Kevan Insko, Co-director of FCLCA, asked that we read the posted report and she summarized a broad array of issues FCLCA is working on. The education fund is separate from the lobbying fund and is allowing them to do much work that we have helped make possible. FCLCA is co-sponsoring bills that would eliminate the mandatory one year sentencing enhancement, and that would lower the cost of phone calls to inmates. The big crisis facing California is poverty, which strongly effects families and children. FCLCA has been working to end childhood poverty in the next 10-20 years. The organization is also working on environmental issues including a comprehensive plan addressing the problem of plastics. [Attachment 12]

The minutes were read and approved, followed by worship and announcements.
Plenary VI: Various Business

Seventh Month 15, 2019
Worship

Clerk Sandy Kewman introduced those serving at the table as we began our business session.

1. Epistle
Gordon Bishop, Reading Clerk, read from the epistle of South Central Yearly Meeting. “Sing and rejoice ye children of the day and of the light….” The theme of light carried through these sessions, and these times of rest prepared all to return to the world of troubles with light and guidance for changing that world. Make a joyful noise.

2. Epistle Committee
Clerk Sandy announced the names of our PYM epistle committee: Stanley Chagala [Redwood Forest], Anthony Chang [Honolulu], Anne Nisbet [Berkeley].

3. Ministry and Oversight: Friends General Conference Affiliation
Jim Summers, Co-clerk of the Ministry and Oversight Committee, brought to us the matter of affiliation with Friends General Conference. Friends who approached M&O members in the listening session all spoke of FGC affiliation. Jim shared some of the concerns and responses M&O heard.

Sandy reminded us of what we have heard in past sessions exploring the prospect of affiliation with FGC. She noted certain concerns we have heard in relation to this possible step. As a community we have listened to and responded to one another. Sandy presented a proposed minute that might reflect where Spirit is leading us.

Friends rose to respond to this proposed minute. One Friend spoke with dissatisfaction at the process we have followed in discernment, and in opposition to affiliation, concerned with the threat to our independent identity. Another spoke of how Christians in our yearly meeting may feel about this step and FGC, her words offered in an effort to allay any fears that this will be an uncomfortable step leaving them out. She, a Christian, feels no hesitation in approving the request to affiliate. Another noted that our step is to seek affiliation, not to affiliate, a step which is to be determined by FGC. Another spoke of the timeliness of a move toward building up, in a world that is in many ways tearing down: this is a time to “gather stones together.” Another asked for a clarification of the reference to “working for environmentally sensitive patterns of meeting participation,” a question that was answered by Shan Cretin, Co-clerk of M&O, speaking of negotiating specifics regarding travel to respect environmental costs. Another spoke of possible impacts on relations with other Quaker organizations. Our recent reduction of representation numbers has in her view signaled an unfortunate retreat from participation and she would prefer increasing that rather than adding another affiliation. She also expressed concern for those now not here who would not support this step.
The clerk reminded us of our search for a sense of the meeting. She expressed her sense that we are in unity. One Friend rose saying he was not in unity. Another spoke of her appreciation of this Yearly Meeting’s particular sense of welcoming. This matter of affiliation, in contrast to many other Yearly Meeting issues, is very mild, and she senses that the yearly meeting is moved to affiliate. She hoped that the opposing Friend might agree to stand aside, but he did not, leaving the reading of the sense of the meeting in the clerk’s hands. We were reminded by another of an occasion when a Friend standing against apparent unity swayed the community. This speaker feels he has made efforts to consider the reasons for opposition and does not feel a stop in approving this minute. Julia Bazaar asked to be recorded as standing aside if this minute is approved. A former clerk reminded us of the heavy responsibility of sensing unity; she feels that the clerk has done so appropriately and we should move forward.

The clerk sensed the meeting was in unity and asked for approval. The minute was approved as read, with one Friend, Julia Bazaar, standing aside.

**Minute AS 2019-1: FGC Affiliation**

Having given careful consideration over these past five years to the question of whether Pacific Yearly Meeting should seek to affiliate with Friends General Conference, we today find unity in taking that step. We do so honoring our history and identity as an independent yearly meeting, and with special consideration of the work in monthly meetings that our affiliation will support. We further commit ourselves to work for environmentally sensitive patterns of FGC meeting participation, as we take up our representative responsibilities. We will remain, as noted in a 1947 PYM document, in “welcoming relationship with all Friends.”

We intend to send two representatives to attend the FGC Central Committee Annual Meeting and ask our Ministry and Oversight to take the needed steps to direct Nominating Committee, Finance Committee, and other needed committees to prepare for these responsibilities and to initiate the affiliation process with Friends General Conference, reporting back to us when the affiliation is complete. We empower our Ministry and Oversight Committee and Presiding Clerk to make additional decisions as needed to facilitate this affiliation process.

4. **Nominating Committee update**

Sue Torrey, Clerk of Nominating Committee, presented an update on the Nominating work at this session. She noted some additional names which are already posted on the web site. She read those names to us.

5. **Naming Committee update**

Liz Baker, Clerk of the Naming Committee, presented names of Friends proposed to serve on the Nominating Committee for the terms noted:

- Gail Thomas [Santa Monica] 2020
- Trudy Friedel Inland Valley] 2022
- Cody Lowry [Orange Grove] 2022

6. **Communication Policies**

Lawrence Alderson, Clerk of Communications Committee, presented for consideration two policies created by the committee. There have been no questions raised at listening sessions.
regarding these policies. These policies have been posted on our website and were reviewed at an earlier plenary. One Friend raised a question about the availability of past Daily Miracles and personal information regarding her that was published there. She is troubled that others also may have this concern. Lawrence acknowledged this concern can be addressed but that this was not a policy matter.

The clerk asked for approval of the proposed policies, and we did so:

**Minute AS 2019-2: Personal Data Privacy Policy**

We approve the newly developed Personal Data Privacy Policy as presented to us at this session and in our advance documents. [Attachment 13]

**Minute AS 2019-3: Data Breach Policy**

We approve the newly developed Data Breach Policy as presented to us at this session and in our advance documents. [Attachment 14]

7. Budget

Sandy Farley, Clerk of Finance Committee, presented the budget for consideration. It has been posted on the PYM website and given review in a previous plenary. We record our approval in the following two minutes:

**Minute AS 2019-4: General Budget Augmentations for 2018-2019**

We approve the following augmentations to the 2018-2019 budget:

1- $500 added to the YPC supervisory committee line 6105 for committee expenses
2- $6320 added to the youth programs personnel expense line 6110 for under-budgeted personnel costs. [Attachment 15]

**Minute AS 2019-5: General Budget 2019-2020**

We approve the 2019-2020 general budget presented by Finance Committee with one change: the amount of $2000 originally entered to support monthly meetings hosting Representative Committee was removed. [Attachment 16]

The expected per member contribution proposed for the coming year is the same as last year:

For Meetings on the US mainland $122/member [includes YPC participation]
For Friends in the Hawai’ian Meetings $52/member
For Friends in Mexico City $30/member

Minutes were read and approved. We closed the meeting with worship followed by announcements.
Plenary VII: Various Business

Seventh Month 16, 2019
Worship

1. Epistle
Gordon Bishop, Reading Clerk, read from the epistle of Britain Year Meeting 2019. Climate justice rose to challenge the community; they asked: how are we inclusive as Friends? Children and youth shared as the gathering felt joy and sadness, richness and vulnerability—guilt and shame was one effect of the light, as well as the call to be faithful. We seek to be in the unity with all creation. It is all about love.

2. Peace and Social Order
Shannon Frediani, Clerk of Peace and Social Order Committee, reported to us. She called us to awareness and action, to an opportunity to grow. She shared an experience. A song came to her that she was called upon to sing at her husband’s mother’s memorial. A time of deep grief before her sharing of the song allowed it to communicate to others. We need to grieve and reach out against the destruction of the world. She spoke of someone who left a large tract of land to recover itself. Former old growth forests remain a rich resource, hidden and living. Something remains for us to draw from. We need to do our grieving so we can be beacons of light. Shannon recalled an early memory of family gatherings. The family tree representations fascinated her, but hid the true history of settler genocide we all share in. We all inherit this hidden history, a history of capitalism slavery, commodification of bodies and labor, and orientalism, and of the suffering caused, a suffering which continues in hidden ways as well, and is supported by false narratives that perpetuate these patterns of pain. As we move ahead, we must see these truths and acknowledge our call and our opportunity to grow, a call to decolonize our minds and hearts, be aware of white fragility, and do our emotional homework. [Attachment 10]

3. Latin American Concerns Committee
Donna Smith, Co-clerk of the committee, spoke to us. She brought a recommendation that grew out of experience at an FCNL gathering. She recommends strongly that we write to our legislators calling for policies that focus on the protection of children at the border.

Dinah Bachrach [Redwood Forest], brought another suggested action we can take regarding undocumented people. She was part of a coalition of groups working on immigrant rights who, influenced by George Lakey’s book How We Win, sought a way to effective action. They decided to work toward getting local banks to divest from organizations supporting detention centers. They are now pressuring the county supervisors to divest from two banks invested in these projects. Meetings might see this as a model for local action connected to immigration policy and the suffering it causes. This issue of the mistreatment of children is not new. Robert Broz, director of the El Salvador Project, spoke of another opportunity for action we might take on Latin America concerns. He thanked us for past support of his mother Carmen Broz and her projects. He spoke to us on the immigration issue from his perspective of work in El Salvador, a continuation of work initiated by Carmen. He offered some historical background
of Salvadoran immigration to the US. Labor tension and violence occurred throughout the 1930’s; immigration grew in the subsequent decades. In the 1980’s 75,000 people were killed in the wars in El Salvador and large numbers sought to emigrate to the US. In future decades Salvadoran immigrants were often sent back to El Salvador, many as gang members who created gang organizations in El Salvador. Salvadorans are now the third largest Latin American immigrant community in the US, and conditions in El Salvador and other parts of Central America cause suffering, fear, and insecurity. This difficult situation is addressed by the El Salvador Project of Palo Alto Monthly Meeting, and the Progressa Project in Guatemala. Robert will host an interest group tomorrow to share more about his work and the opportunities to support it. [Attachment 17]

4. Friends Committee on National Legislation
Stephen Donohoe, director of major gifts at FCNL, spoke to us on the work of this organization. He invited Friends to indicate their different levels of participation in FCNL, and the great majority of the gathered Friends rose to respond. The work of FCNL is grounded in the faith of Friends, and works for a world free of war, a world of justice, equity, opportunity, and an earth restored. He shared a description of the Advocacy Teams, a network of local teams who work at present on the repeal of the AUMF [Authorization for the Use of Military Force], a repeal movement in Congress led by Representative Barbara Lee. The repeal has passed now in the House, as has a bill preventing the President from going to war with Iran without congressional approval. He encourages Friends interested in the Advocacy Team movement [there are 9 teams in California] to join in a conversation with Stephen and others at lunch today. FCNL has increased its work as support has grown; 500 young people participated last spring in a lobbying weekend and Stephen encourages Friends to send young people their way. More than fifty FCNL staff members work across from the capitol; they teach lobbying, they gather in worship, and they welcome visitors, support, and input regarding their work. Stephen invited Friends to attend his interest group tomorrow for further learning about FCNL. [Attachment 18]

5. Closing
Clerk Sandy invited us to reflect on a query, and we settled into worship. Friends spoke in response to the query.

How do we support youth and young adults in witnessing to the world?

Minutes were read and approved, we heard announcements, settled into worship, and closed our meeting.
Plenary VIII: Various Business

Seventh Month 16, 2019
Worship

1. Opening
Clerk Sandy Kewman introduced those serving at the table.

2. Epistle
Gordon Bishop, Reading Clerk, read from the first epistle of the Quaker Religious Education Collaborative, 2019, gathered in Kaimosi, East Africa. Teachers gathered from a number of countries and African Yearly Meetings, sharing curriculum work to serve the ministry work of Quaker church schools in Africa. Godly play, Faith in play, and potentially materials on Quaker history in Africa, are sources of such curricula. They hope for exchange programs with other countries, and were led by facilitators from Friends Theological College, Kaimosi.

3. Draft PYM Epistle
Anne Nesbit, Anthony Chang, and Stanley Chagala, committee members, introduced themselves; Anne Nesbit read the draft epistle for our PYM session. The draft will be posted for comment.

4. Nominating Committee
Sue Torrey, Nominating Committee Clerk, presented first a proposed minute established a new policy for transition of the Presiding Clerk. We approved the following minute:

Minute AS 2019-6: Transition Policy for Presiding Clerks
Aware of the need for continuity and support for the incoming Presiding Clerk we approve the following policy to serve that need:

1. Nominating Committee will bring forward the name of a proposed Presiding Clerk to the Annual Session the year before that person will take office.
2. Once approved at AS, that nominee will be invited to shadow the current Presiding Clerk, attend all meetings, receive all communications, and be in contact and conversation with the current Presiding Clerk for as much of that year as the incoming Clerk desires.
3. The purpose of this overlap is to familiarize the incoming Clerk with the variety of connections necessary to the work of the Clerk, not to diminish or curtail innovation or creativity.
4. This change does mean that the Presiding Clerk will serve the Yearly Meeting for up to four years: up to one year of introduction and exposure as Rising Clerk, and three years (approved one at a time) as Presiding Clerk.

Sue told us the Unity with Nature Committee discernment process continues, so they have no nominations for that committee to offer at this time. An energized group of Friends attended interest groups and offered good recommendations. Nominating committee will develop a
process building on these. The committee will also bring nominations for Quaker Earthcare Witness, in the absence of an active Unity with Nature Committee.

Sue presented additional names to add to the slate to be brought to us tomorrow to consider for approval.

5. Naming Committee
Liz Baker, Naming Committee Clerk, brought names read for a second time, for our consideration. We approved the following:

**Minute AS 2019-7: Nominations**
We name the following Friends for service on the Nominating Committee for terms ending in the years indicated:
- Gail Thomas [Santa Monica] 2020
- Trudy Friedel [Inland Valley] 2022
- Cody Lowry [Orange Grove] 2022

6. Ministry and Oversight Committee
Shan Cretin, Co-clerk of the committee, brought one action item for us. She proposes that this body endorse a travel minute for Stephen Matchett of San Francisco Monthly Meeting, serving in a ministry for Bible reading for Friends. Shan read a description of Stephen’s work, including reference to the travel minute written for him by his meeting in 2015. It is Friends custom to have a Friend’s yearly meeting approve an endorsement of a travel minute if the Friend is to travel outside of the yearly meeting. We approved the following minute:

**Minute AS 2019-8: Travel Minute for Stephen Matchett**
Pacific Yearly Meeting is united in endorsing Stephen Matchett’s ministry arising from his concern for Bible reading among Friends and authorizes the Clerk to provide a travel minute from PYM commending Stephen to the care of Friends outside the Yearly Meeting. We ask that Stephen provide an annual report on his ministry to our Ministry & Oversight Committee.

Shan introduced members of Ministry and Oversight, noting that the full report is on our website. She noted, with appreciation for his long service, that Shayne Lightner is stepping off of the committee, and, pending approval by this body, that Jorge Morales has agreed to step on. The past year of work has been a joyful one, and the year ahead will be full. A part of that work involves attention to the needs of the Casa De Los Amigos, including sending a delegation to the Casa in the Fall. A special responsibility of M&O is to the meetings who are in our yearly meeting but not a part of either quarterly meeting. The question of whether the name of the M&O committee should be changed is an issue that was set aside this year but will be taken up in the next. A number of text resources will be developed to support our process and the work of our committees in the future. [Attachment 19]

7. Ad Hoc Committee on the Children’s Program Coordinator Position
Chamba Cook, Ad hoc committee member, reported that an earlier presentation was a much-abbreviated version of a full proposal. He offered for us a revised proposal, including a set of recommendations to the Children’s program. This set of recommendations replaces a proposal,
including a proposed minute, that was previously presented to this body. We accepted the report as read and posted. [Attachment 20]

8. Statistical Report
DJ Bloom, Co-statistical clerk, reviewed the statistical report. DJ shared some of the statistics included in the posted report, and told of plans to develop a database and spoke of its uses. We accepted the report as posted. [Attachment 21]

9. Registrars Report
Joe Magruder and Lawrence Alderson, Co-registrars, presented their report. They shared some of the numbers describing our session this year: 289 attended this year, about the same as last year. Joe and Lawrence reflected on the adequacy of their on-line process of registration, its challenges and possible improvements. Regarding work here at Walker Creek, on-site registration faced some technical problems upon arrival, there was need for a finer and more detailed awareness of the site as well. A number of detailed areas of needed improvement were mentioned. A Pay As Led model may remedy some difficulties. We accepted their report as posted. In light of some of these limitations faced, questions have arisen about the long-term use of this site. [Attachment 22]

Minutes were read and approved and we closed our session in worship.

Announcements
Plenary IX: Closing Plenary

Seventh Month 17, 2019
The session began with worship

1. Clerk’s opening
Clerk Sandy Kewman introduced those serving at the clerk’s table, and then read David and Trish Johnson’s travel minute from Queensland Regional Meeting. The minute, dated March 18, 2019, introduces David and Trish, members of Queensland Regional Meeting and Australian Yearly Meeting, and describes their good work and travel in ministry. The Clerk has endorsed the minute on our behalf.

2. Naming committee
Liz Baker, Clerk of Naming Committee, brought the names of Sue Torrey [Central Coast] and Julie Harlow [Davis] to serve as Co-clerks of Nominating Committee. Because this is the first reading, our interim appointment process will consider them for interim appointments, to be brought for confirmation to RepCom 2020. The names will also be posted on the website.

3. Nominating Committee
Sue Torrey, Clerk, read for the first time additions to the slate of committee members and clerks. Because this is the first reading of these names, the interim appointment process will consider them for interim appointments, to be brought for confirmation to RepCom 2020.

Arrangements Committee: Peni Hall [Strawberry Creek] 2022
Finance Committee Clerk: Martha Hunkins [Humboldt] 2020
Youth Programs Coordinating Committee Co-clerk: Melissa Lovett Adair [Central Coast] 2020
Friends Bulletin Board [Western Friend], Nancy Wilkinson [Strawberry Creek] 2022
Quaker Earthcare Witness: Patricia Constantino [Mexico City] 2020

4. Epistles
The following epistles were presented and joyfully accepted.

Preschool Epistle
The pre-schoolers enjoyed digging in the garden, making new friends, throwing paper airplanes, going to the pond and seeing animals.

Middle School Epistle
The middle-schoolers jointly read their Epistle in which they recorded their day to day activities. They held a business meeting in which they chose a Clerk each day. In their business meeting they settled conflicts. They skipped rocks on the pond and went swimming and canoeing, seeing more turtles than last year. They saw foxes and deer and fawns. On a hike, some saw fairies. They learned about plants and animals, did a service project in the garden. They made and sang songs. They met with David Johnson the keynote speaker, and finally wrote their Epistle.
The Junior Yearly Meeting Epistle was presented through a skit in which they described their meeting as being like a puff pastry preserved with layers of community building, that would be eaten with FRAP-flavored coffee. But still not as good as old fashioned Quaker Oats! Their epistle was accepted and a record of their performed Epistle is attached to these minutes.

The Elementary School Epistle was a multi-media presentation with a poster and they read about their activities. They all helped welcome each other. They planted native plants in the garden. Every afternoon some played with the pre-school kids or went on a hike or to the pond. They played frisbee. They also enjoyed singing “All God’s Critters,” and other songs. They enjoyed family night. They had fun and made new friends.

All these epistles are attached to these minutes. [Attachment 23]

5. Nominating Committee
Sue Torrey, Clerk of Nominating Committee, read the slate of officers for the second time, after which the slate was approved as presented. The full slate is attached.

Minute AS 2019-9: Nominations
We approve the slate of Friends appointed to serve us in the roles and for the terms listed, as presented at this plenary session. [Attachment 24]

6. PYM Epistle
Stanley Chagala, Committee member, thanked all Friends for their enthusiastic feedback and introduced Anthony Chang, Committee member, who read the Epistle. The Epistle was accepted and is attached. [Attachment 23]

7. Junior Yearly Meeting Officers and Committee members.
Callum Standish [Berkeley] presented the newly appointed JYM clerks and committee members:

Co-clerks of JYM - Elinor Steffy [Sacramento], Callum Standish [Berkeley], Robin Johnson [Santa Cruz], Santiago Myers [San Francisco].
For JYM Ministry & Oversight - Serenity Cordova [Santa Cruz], Cassidy George [La Jolla], Adam Kerr [Live Oak], Langston Prince [Santa Monica].

8. Closing
Our Presiding Clerk reminded us that at the close of annual session we begin our 73rd year together. At the core of our Quaker faith is our relationship with divine spirit, are we listening and following? Are we faithful to the light that has been given to us? Are we awake to our tenderness? To our brokenness? Are we willing to be bravely honest with ourselves? And, of course, our relationships with mother earth, the critters and all of our brothers and sisters. What is it behind our illusions that is truly there? The preceding Clerk has pointed out what early Friends were waking up to. He reminded us to lift the veil, take off the crusted opaque lenses, to clean them, to wake up and be guided by the light in our choices every day, when we can be guided by the light, make new choices. We have work to do, together, to see the ways that we have harmed one another. That work, to stop, to lean into the light, whatever discomfort or demands that makes, has begun. Early Friends spoke of standing still in the light and being
ripped open by the light. Jesus was uncomfortable when he asked if the cup might pass from his lips—and then he surrendered to God. Our earth and God’s people all ask us to do as we say. Wake up, walk in the light, stand still in the light, lean into the light. May it be true.

Friends worshipped together and at the rise of meeting the Minutes were read and approved. David Johnson expressed his appreciation for his welcome and all he has learned worshipping with us. He and Trish look forward to worshipping again with us.

After announcements, the Clerk closed the 73rd annual session.

*Committee and Representative reports and some other documents that were submitted to Annual Session 2019 but that did not receive mention in the minutes of the plenary sessions are appended to these minutes as “Supplementary Attachments”.*

Sandy Kewman, Presiding Clerk
Jim Anderson, Recording Clerk
Sharlene Roberts-Caudle, Recording Clerk
George Mills, Secretariat Clerk
THE ATTACHMENTS

A-1 Roll Call 2019
A-2 Notes on FGC Threshing Session
A-3 Youth Programs Coordinating Report
A-3b YPCC Evaluation Report
A-4 Communications Report
A-5 Nominating Report
A-6 Treasurers Report
A-7 Finance Report
A-8 Opening words for plenary V
A-9 Unity with Nature Report
A-10 Peace and Social Order Report
A-11 State of the Society Report
A-12 FCLCA Report
A-13 Personal Data Privacy Policy (4.2) as Approved
A-14 Data Breach Policy (4.1) as Approved
A-15 Budget Augmentations
A-16 General Budget FY 2019-2020 as Approved
A-17 Latin American Concerns Report
A-18 FCNL Report
A-19 Ministry and Oversight Report
A-20 Childrens Prog Coord Position Ad Hoc Com Report
A-21 Statistical Clerk Report.v2
A-22 Registrars Report
A-23 Pacific YM 2019 Epistles
A-24 Nominating Slate Draft 3 as Approved

SUPPLEMENTARY ATTACHMENTS
Documents submitted to Annual Session 2019 but not cited in the minutes.
A-25 AFSC Rep Report
A-26 Annual Session 2018 Evaluations Summary
A-27 Elder to Presiding Clerk Report
A-28 Faith and Practice Revision Report
A-29 FGC Affiliation Issue Summary
A-30 FGC Observer Report
A-31 Friends Peace Teams Rep Report
A-32 FWCC Rep Report
A-33 JYM Committee Report
A-34 Meeting for Memorials List
A-35 PYM Holding Corp Report
A-36 Quaker Earthcare Witness Rep Report
A-37 Secretariat and Website Content Report
A-38 State of the Society Report
A-39 Unity with Nature Report.v4
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Recording Clerks’ Notes on the Threshing Sessions
Regarding the Proposal to Affiliate with Friends General Conference

These notes by the Recording Clerks cover sharing that occurred during the threshing portions of both Plenary III and Plenary V. These are notes, not minutes, as they were not reviewed and approved by the assembled Friends at those threshing sessions.

Sharlene Roberts-Caudle: Notes on FGC Threshing Session, Plenary III

- FGC serves active rural meeting on first days where a table is set with many FGC materials that are provided to visitors and discussed. The books provide discussion groups. Has attended the FGC Gathering and found it incredible. Our testimonies on integrity lead her to not understand how we can continue to do this and not affiliate and support FGC. She had a message unconnected with the FGC issue: it is our responsibility as current Quakers to do everything we can to be connected with other Quakers.

- Last fall in a discussion on affiliation their Monthly Meeting acknowledged all of the resources produced by FGC and strongly concluded it must support affiliation.

- As a summer intern in a program that provides services to inmates she created a course on Quakers and FGC supported her in this. She was young in Quakerism and this experience convinced her to become a member of her Meeting.

- One Friend reminded us of a time years ago when a Quaker from FGC, Vanessa July, came to help us begin our work on racial justice. Vanessa came twice at FGC’s cost, and three times using other means to visit us. We still work to meet these challenges. Her sense of us being “freeloaders” with resources that come from other sources does not match her sense of integrity. She would like to have a reason for Vanessa to return.

- We have benefitted from personal contacts and materials, and his own walk has been benefitted from the work of Vanessa July. More work is needed and this is one way it can be facilitated. Words on paper are about the spirit, but the words on the paper on not the spirit. There are some things that need to change. Some mouths are muffled. The meaning of affiliation is that we might be encouraged to see what we can do also, what a group of organized Friends can do. Inspired by the work another group of Quakers have done, in 1947 Philip H. Wells said, this body formed as an adventure, and we would be confused if we forget that. What does not work can be changed.

- One Friend said his Meeting has concluded that it has benefitted greatly from FGC. The “integrity” argument carries a lot of weight. But he is concerned about the process, hearing those who are reluctant, honoring those in a way that we can reach unity in a larger body. PYM independence is interesting. The original group was very inclusive and encompassed many kinds of Quakers and the idea of a yearly meeting was controversial. It was independent for a reason—a reason that may have been valid at the time but perhaps now we are being less inclusive by not agreeing to affiliate. If we leave our independence behind, we should know we are doing it and know that it is right.

- One Friend said his Meeting explored becoming independently affiliated and agreed to do so, but ended up not doing so for financial reasons—it was a small meeting and could not afford to send a representative. It hopes PYM can find its way forward to affiliating.
Recording Clerks’ Notes on the Threshing Sessions
Regarding the Proposal to Affiliate with Friends General Conference

- One Friend from a Meeting that is one of the 4 or 5 that is independently affiliated with FGC and he is the representative that goes to the FGC Central Committee Meeting. He wants to reiterate that FGC is not a branch of Quakers but a service organization that has members from FUM meetings. FGC specifically states that it does not try to change any affiliate. Affiliation would allow PYM to advocate for programs that benefit it, such as more on-line programs and other items that benefit geographically distributed Meetings. FGC is a vast network of people and ideas and represents Quakers at the World Council of Churches. We use it and need to support it financially and administratively, at least for a trial period. Two people already go, it would be more economical to affiliate and then the independently affiliated Meetings would no longer be compelled to send representatives.

- One Friend has attended the FGC Gathering three times, each time transforming her life in ways difficult to explain. There, the power of God shook her. Listening to the logical reasons why it makes sense to affiliate, she is overflowing with love and gratitude for those experiences. This was what convinced her that she needed to become a member of the Meeting she attended, to let them know how important they were to her—how much she wanted to be a part of that.

- One Friend said the Quaker voice needs to be heard. Our voice is not very strong. Science is being minimized and our political system tribalized. We have something to offer that will strengthen others when they recognize the truth and simplicity of where we stand. What advantage would there be in withholding our support? It would strengthen them, and us, and we have an obligation to do whatever we can to do that.

- One Friend agrees with all that has been said, integrity, spiritual benefit, but wants to add two other issues. First, our Meetings tend to lose our youth during or after college. Emergent leaders are those who have grown up in FGC and that is the hope for the Religious Society of Friends. Second, when a person has an internal identification as Quaker it is appropriate for that person to ask for membership. When a person is in a relationship it is appropriate to name it.

- One Friend said, during her long life as a Quaker she has been active in many different Meetings. In those Meetings there are those with gifts who do not find kindred spirits within those Meetings. They hope to find them in Quarterly or Yearly meetings. Finding kindred spirits en masse can be powerful and also seeing what a large group with resources is able to accomplish. Many of those from PYM who attend FGC are there holding workshops and so PYM is sharing our ministry with them.

- One Friend wanted to give voice to those hesitant about joining FGC, she has been hesitant, but now thinks it might be time to make that change. But we have to acknowledge that it is a major change from our history—that’s just so. She grew up in this Yearly Meeting, and it is history that has been important to her—will not stand in the way in the future as long as this is recognized and our history as an independent meeting is recognized.

- One Friend spoke of putting our light under a bushel basket. PYM is an innovator and has a culture it can contribute to the wider Quaker culture. We are the explorers, i.e. Quaker Earthcare Witness began here.
Recording Clerks’ Notes on the Threshing Sessions
Regarding the Proposal to Affiliate with Friends General Conference

- One Friend mentioned removing more chaff, and encouraged those troubled by affiliation to speak their hearts. Please bring it forth here, and not later when the decision is to be made.
- One Friend spoke of a time when a Meeting no longer meets their needs, and then when that turns around. He believes we will do that at FGC. How is the larger Quaker community going to hear those voices, from Mexico, etc., if not from this Yearly Meeting?
- One Friend loved everything said so far, and expressed deep gratitude toward FGC which opened his heart and mind to the wider community of Quakers in a way it had not been. FGC published the book about two of the founders of PYM, the Brintons. He believes they would be happy that we are open to change and to exploring new testimonies. That’s what they were all about.
- One Friend wanted to reflect on independence and integrity. He has not wanted to spend time on this issue during the AS. Also is concerned about the environmental effects of travel, but to some extent this has been addressed. He is satisfied that the costs would not be consequential to his individual meeting. He believes our Quakerism lives in our Monthly Meetings and that the activities of our Quarterly and Yearly Meeting is to support those week-to-week activities. He now sees how many things at FGC support those activities at Monthly Meetings. He would like to see the 90% of members and attenders that are not at the AS will be the ones that are enriched by such affiliation.
- One Friend expressed gratitude for those who have contributed. His Meeting had a discussion session around the specific issues. Two sentiments came forth: first, all favorable without reservation. Second, that more information is needed about costs, but appears that those have been resolved. Lastly, after listening carefully to Friends’ deeply-felt contributions, he thinks it’s time, remembering our proud tradition of independence, for this Yearly Meeting to move forward and affiliate.
- One Friend says he is one who has moved from agnosticism regarding affiliation; affiliating does not change our history or change who we are. We do need to seriously state that it is a change, but he can live with those possibly contradictory results. But he finds the conflation of the FGC AG and FGC as an organization unfortunate. He can take or leave the Gathering, but as an organization FGC is not a yearly meeting, but is a conference of yearly meetings.
- One Friend spoke of gathering on the island of Hawaii for 13 years. In 2015 her family went to the FGC Gathering, it was her first time really understanding Quakerism, because they are very isolated in Hawaii. She has hope that of all of this talk we will unify. Our mother earth is in great need of us to take care of her. In her opinion, the most important thing is to unify to take care of mother earth.
Jim Anderson: Notes on FGC Threshing Session, Plenary III

Friends spoke out of the silence, as recognized by the Clerk.

- In our meeting there is literature available on first days; book groups on FGC literature. Integrity requires this affiliation of us. We must be connected.
- Santa Monica affiliated to express integrity in light of use of FGC material
- A personal experience of being helped by FGC to develop and distribute a course; this led to being drawn into Quakerism
- Vanessa Julye’s work with us represents an FGC contribution. Our own PYM wrestling with racial justice would be aided by affiliation. It’s an Integrity issue.
- We need change—a hope for spiritual change, more than a particular outcome on affiliation. As PYM we were formed as an “adventure.”

- We derive great benefit from FGC. A concern about process: how do we honor those who are reluctant to affiliate? We have a history of independence. Are we being less inclusive by joining FGC? How about FUM, EFI, Conservative connections?
- Appleseed experience: a decision not to join—too small. The meeting would probably like to see PYM affiliate.
- Grass Valley Meeting affiliated. Send a rep to central committee—FGC is a service org, not a branch of Quakerism. Some pastoral meetings are part of FGC, some YM’s are dually affiliated [with FUM], so this can occur. FGC a vast network; WCC rep, support of African quakers. We already use it—we need to support it. At least 2 to Central comm and one to exec comm—two people already go. Carbon footprint issue is real.
- Santa Cruz experience: FGC gatherings are transformative.
- Our Quaker voice needs to be stronger.
- We need to work for youth; an obligation to affirm publicly a relationship—we are in that relationship with FGC.
- Large scale of FGC gathering is an opportunity for much. Already many PYM folk lead workshops at this gathering.
- Affiliation would be a major change from our history, but it is time for it.
- PYM is an innovator and can contribute to a wider conversation. We need to carry our ways forward.
- Are there resisters to affiliation among us?
- We have something to bring to FGC.
- Experienced many personal benefits. FGC book publishing an important contribution.
- Through FGC we can work for monthly meetings and use integrity in how we engage.
- San Jose discussion did not take a position. Favorable views developed through FGC gathering attendance.
- Gathering and FGC organization are different. FGC as an organization is an association of YMs that work for MMs.
- Hawaii contribution: attended FGC gathering and gained a fuller understanding of Quakerism, since Hawaii is isolated. We need to unify, for ourselves and mother earth.
Sharlene Roberts-Caudle: Notes on Continuation of FGC Threshing Session into Plenary V (Section 3 in the minutes of Plenary V)

- One Friend had deferred speaking in Plenary III of the benefit to himself and his family from attending the FGC Gathering over 15 odd years, and serving as an observer, and on a committee for FGC, and dealings with FGC bookstore and its publications system, which is not now in good health. From all of this and his experiences, he still does not see that it is appropriate for us as an independent yearly meeting to affiliate with FGC at this time.
- The Clerk spoke to the issue of independence of PYM and that if we move forward that independent nature must be recognized.
- Another Friend spoke of attending FGC Gathering for the first time this year, and it was an overwhelming experience of joy, finding networking and resources. She was disappointed to learn that PYM was not an affiliate and wishes to understand the history and why this is the case.
- The Clerk invited someone to answer that Friend.
- A Friend spoke of having differences but being united in the heart. Affiliation does not change our history and affiliation does not require anything to change. A minute honoring our independence can find unity in affiliating with an organization that provides us services.
- Another Friend did not understand the first Friend’s concern, who was asked to speak more fully if there is a concern. The first Friend responded by saying that visiting cousins is wonderful, but you don’t feel at home. It’s an identity, a marriage, creating an identity. Affiliating with AFSC doesn’t change our identity, but affiliating with FGC feels like the kind of identity change of a marriage - an experience of identity.
- The clerk encouraged further dialogue during listening time and said the issue will return.
SUMMARY

- Welcoming and Introducing our new YPC and Interest Group
- Farewell to Alyssa Nelson, past YPC
- State of the YPC Committee
- Program Evaluation from Winter 2018/2019
- Financial Notes:
  - Budget action item -- request for augmentation for current FY
  - Budget notes -- request for next year, submitted to Finance
  - Youth Programs Fund (interest from the Bob Vogel Endowment) Usage Report
  - Budget action item -- proposal to change the administration of PYM budget lines 5288 and 2742 for young Friends travel into a contribution to the principal of the Bob Vogel Endowment
- Program items that the YPC and YPCC have been supporting
- Requests to Monthly Meeting Reps and PYM Committee Clerks
- Appendix

Welcoming and Introducing our new YPC, and Interest Group at Annual Session
We warmly welcome Javaughn Fernanders as our new Youth Programs coordinator. Learn more about Javaughn on the PYM webpage here Announcement of new Youth Programs Coordinator. Please come to the YPCC Interest group to meet Javaughn and share your thoughts about our youth programs.

The revised and updated YPC job description is posted at pacificyearlymeeting.org/job-descriptions/.

Farewell to Alyssa Nelson, past YPC
We bid a fond farewell to our friend Alyssa Nelson as she leaves the YPC role. Alyssa has been involved in the YPCC since 2008 when she helped create the YPC position, clerked the YPC Committee as it hired the first YPC Sarah Beutel, then became the YPC herself in 2011. Her years of service to the yearly meeting and youth will have a lasting impression. We are deeply grateful for all the ways Alyssa has impacted our community and wish her well in her next endeavors. Alyssa’s final epistle and farewell can be read at pacificyearlymeeting.org/committee-newsletters-and-reports/youth-programs-coordinating-committee/.

State of the YPC Committee
Last year we reported, “We realize that for the sustainability of this ministry we must work over the next year to improve our HR and employment practices and structures.” We cannot continue to sweep under the rug the fact that Alyssa, as YPC, carried out many tasks that should have been committee members’ work to do, and that as a committee we need to be better about doing our work and in a timely manner, especially as we take on supporting, supervising, and training a new YPC. We hope that we have the capacity to carry out our vision and PYM’s mandate.
Youth Programs Coordinating Committee  
Report to Annual Session 2019

The hiring process was challenging and time consuming beyond expectations. We revised and updated the YPC job description and personnel policies for the new hire. We still need to review and revise the committee’s job description. See pacificyearlymeeting.org/job-descriptions/.

Program Evaluation from Winter 2018/2019
Our survey this winter provided resounding support for the YPC as well as suggestions for improvement. We will have a full report available at Annual Session and posted to the PYM website soon.

Financial Notes

**Budget Action Item 1 -- request for augmentation for current FY**
We have requested an augmentation for the current fiscal year of $6,820. These expenses are related to paying out earned vacation, car lease and healthcare benefits to the outgoing YPC and are needed for the transition to a new employee.

**Budget notes -- request for next year, submitted to Finance**
The budget for next year is essentially unchanged from the current year.

Youth Programs Fund (interest from the Bob Vogel Endowment) Usage Report
This year we have provided funds for travel and/or registration to a variety of workshops, conferences, meetings, and camps (for example, two PYM youth and one adult traveled to DC to testify at hearings about the Selective Service and conscription for US military service, and a group of 12 youth and elders from PYM participated in the School of the Americas Watch event at the border in Nogales with the Tohono O'odham Nation), along with some funds for project implementation (continued annual subsidy for the YAF pre-Annual Session Retreat, the Quaker Oaks Farm Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp, and the Visalia Youth Peace Garden & Video Production Day Camp at QOF). We also authorized funds from the PYM Young Friends Travel line in the general budget to support a YAF to attend the Friends of Color Retreat organized by Vanessa Julye of FGC, held at Ben Lomond Quaker Center in April 2019. 
See Appendix A for a review of the history of the fund and all the projects it has supported since inception in 2014.

**Budget Action Item 2-- request to change the administration of PYM budget lines 5288 and 2742 for young Friends travel**
See Appendix B.

Program items that the YPC and YPCC have been supporting

**Annual Session Support:**
- **JYM and Children’s Program:** planning, including background checks for Youth Workers
- **Children’s Program troubleshooting:** Lack of clerk through Spring -- YPCC and the Presiding Clerk helped convene and problem solve. Alyssa worked with Sandy Kewman to create a contract for the CP Coordinator, with advice from a lawyer.
- **Registration Project for Annual Session:** provided requested feedback to the Registrars to ensure youth, family, and youth worker needs were properly reflected in registration.
Youth Programs Coordinating Committee
Report to Annual Session 2019

- **Communications:** Alyssa worked with Communications Comm. to update website.
- **Monthly Meetings:** When Alyssa (and before her, Sarah) were new to the YPC role, they visited many MMs and WGs. We intend for the new YPC to do so as well, and we welcome requests to ‘get in line’ for a visit!
- We believe that we could use the PYM website more fully as a resource hub for MMs and WGs. Please send us suggestions and requests for how to make the ‘Youth’ section of the website more helpful.
- **Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp at Quaker Oaks Farm in Visalia, CA:** YPCC continues to co-sponsor the Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp with Quaker Oaks Farm and the Wukchumni Tribe. See 2019 report on the website.

Requests to Monthly Meeting Reps and PYM Committee Clerks: Please share this report with your meetings and committees. In particular, the information directly below:

- **Funding available and deadlines for the Youth Programs Fund of the Bob Vogel Endowment:** See funding guidelines and application at pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/resources-funding/
- **Programs & Calendar Highlights:** Youth & Intergenerational Calendar: pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/calendar/. Please let the YPC know if there are events that could be added. The 2019-2020 Calendar will be published soon after Annual Session, and it can be updated throughout the year.
- For more information, see our YPCC Webpage (and links there to our Reports, Goals & Objectives, Youth Pages, and Calendar): pacificyearlymeeting.org/committee-newsletters-and-reports/youth-programs-coordinating-committee/

LIST OF YPCC MEMBERS 2018-2019

One-year "Youth" terms: Julian Garrett, (Redwood Forest), Kiernan Colby, (Santa Cruz / Silver Springs MD), and two more open slots (Rachel Kempf Resigned)

Three-year at-large terms: Bertha Peña, Co Clerk (Mexico), Melissa Lovett-Adair (Central Coast), Jennifer Carr (Reno / Sacramento), Stephen Myers (Sacramento), Barbara Babin, Supervisor (Redwood Forest), Rebekah Percy, Co Clerk (La Jolla / Orange Grove)

Volunteer Children's Program Member: Bitsy Carr (Sacramento)

M&O Liaison, ex officio: Gail Eastwood, (Southern Humboldt)

Former Youth Programs Coordinator (employee), ex officio: Alyssa Nelson (Davis) (Aug 2011- May 2019)

New Youth Programs Coordinator (employee), starting Annual Session 2019: Javaughn Fernanders

Submitted by Bertha Peña and Rebekah Percy, Co-Clerks, with input from Alyssa Nelson, Past Youth Programs Coordinator, June 14, 2019
Appendix A:
Youth Programs Fund (interest from the Bob Vogel Endowment)
Usage Report

We have posted a link to a summary spreadsheet of income and expenses on our Resources & Funding page in the Youth section of the PYM website: https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/resources-funding/

Interest from the Bob Vogel Endowment continues to fill our “Youth Programs Fund” with approximately $8,000 twice a year, giving us financial resources to support a variety of ministries and leadings. This year we have provided funds for travel and/or registration to a variety of workshops, conferences, meetings, and camps (for example, two PYM youth and one adult traveled to DC to testify at hearings about the Selective Service and conscription for US military service, and a group of 12 youth and elders from PYM participated in the School of the Americas Watch event at the border in Nogales with the Tohono O’odham Nation), along with some funds for project implementation (continued annual subsidy for the YAF pre-Annual Session Retreat, the Quaker Oaks Farm Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp, and the Visalia Youth Peace Garden & Video Production Day Camp at QOF).

We also authorized funds from the PYM Young Friends Travel line in the general budget to support a YAF to attend the Friends of Color Retreat organized by Vanessa Julye of FGC, held at Ben Lomond Quaker Center in April 2019. There was another application that we wanted to fund but that needed some support and contingencies that we did not have the capacity to fully address while we were occupied with the search process for the new YPC; we hope to renew our discussions with that applicant. With the new YPC in place, we intend to put additional effort into fostering new proposals from throughout the PYM community and its related Quaker organizations.

Since inception in 2014, the Youth Programs Fund of the Bob Vogel Endowment has awarded over $73,000 for youth and adult allies to attend events (e.g., camps, Quaker Center workshops, Pendle Hill workshops, White Privilege Conference, Western Young Friends New Year's Gathering, California Indian Conference, El Salvador Service Learning Trip, Quaker Earthcare Witness, Mystics Retreat); for intervisitation between Quarterly Meetings and Yearly Meetings (including CPQM, SCQM, Intermountain YM, Australia YM, Pacific YM, and Reunion General de los Amigos en Mexico); for young adults to organize retreats and workshops (e.g., clerking, leadership, AVP, couple enrichment); as seed funding for the Quaker Oaks Farm Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp and Summer Peace Garden & Documentary Film workshop, both with the Wukchumni Tribe; and to take action (FCNL Youth Lobby Day, School of the Americas Watch in Nogales, Selective Service hearings testimony, racial justice trainings for Pacific YM Friends, including the "Right Relationships with Native Americans" workshop); and to provide resources for spiritual accompaniment (eldering) of youth and the Youth Programs Coordinator.
The Vogel Endowment investment is managed by PYM's Finance Committee and has done well in the Friends Fiduciary "Green Fund", earning over $80,000 between 2014 and 2018 on an initial principal of approximately $460,000. Interest from the Vogel Endowment is transferred twice a year (approximately $16,000 per year in recent years) into the Youth Programs Fund that is administered solely at the discretion of the Youth Programs Coordinating Committee. We're grateful for a recent donation of $5,000 to the endowment from Davis Meeting this past Spring to honor Alyssa Nelson's nearly eight years of service to PYM as the Youth Programs Coordinator. In adding to the endowment, gifts like this increase the interest generated from the investment into the indefinite future and thereby the number of projects and activities the YPCC can fund.

A brief history of this fund and endowment: in 2013, PYM and the YPCC accepted this large gift of money from Pacific Friends Outreach Society (PFOS) when it laid itself down and offered its holdings to be known as the "Bob Vogel Endowment" to be used at the discretion of the YPCC. Thus the "Youth Programs Fund" was born, receiving interest from the Bob Vogel Endowment. The YPCC uses this to fund internal initiatives and selected proposals from external (non-committee) applicants. PFOS asked that the endowment be named after Bob Vogel in honor of his lifelong work for peace and justice, commitment to young people, and service to PYM and Friends everywhere.

The next application deadlines for the Youth Programs Fund are June 20th, September 20th, December 20th, and March 20th: pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/resources-funding/

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<td>SQQM/CPQM youth intervisitation</td>
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<td>Travel and registration at PYM Annual Session for Quaker Oaks Farm/ Wukchumni presentation on Spring Camp; 2 teens travel to Spring Camp 2015</td>
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<td>Racial Justice Subcommittee: Cracking the Code Video</td>
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### Racial Justice Subcommittee: Paula Palmer Visit to PYM Annual Session and "Right Relationships with Native Americans" workshop 2015 $1,500.00

### YAF Retreat 2015: Paula Palmer Workshop "Right Relationships with Native Americans" @ Berkeley 2015 $450.00

### Misc Youth Travel/Reg (e.g., intervisitation, Quaker events) 2015: Travel to YAFCon at Pendle Hill; IMYM Intervisitation - 2 YAFs; Teens to Eldering Workshop at BLQC 2015 $2,105.01

### YAF Leadership Training (FELI) 2015 $500.00

### YAF Work project, Aug 2015 2015 $526.75

### YPCC QM Intervisitation: SCQM Fall Fellowship 2015 2015 $715.00

### Western Young Friends New Year's Gathering 2015-2016 2015-16 $1,000.00

#### 2015 total $10,865.76

### Elder for YPC @PYM AS 2016 2016 $959.50

### Australia Trip - Elder Accompaniment 2016 $733.56

### Australia Trip - Misc 2016 $811.60

### Australia Trip - Young Adult Accompaniment 2016 $2,798.55

### Quaker Oaks Farm Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp 2016 2016 $3,000.00

### Mystics Retreat - Contribution to YAF financial assistance 2016 $400.00

### FCNL Spring Lobby Day - 4 YAFs travel 2016 $1,200.00

### YAF Couple Enrichment - Berkeley, CA, subsidy 2016 $400.00

### YAF Pre-AS Retreat Subsidy 2016 @ Redwood Forest 2016 $189.39

### JYM Registrations for teens not covered by usual sources 2016 $380.00

### Conference on Quakers & American Indians in Philadelphia- 4 adults & 4 youth 2016 $5,430.67

#### 2016 total $16,303.27

### Quaker Oaks Farm Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp 2017 2017 $3,000.80

### YPCC QM Intervisitation and Childcare: CPQM Winter 2017 @ Berkeley 2017 $1,391.03

### Misc Youth Travel/Reg (e.g., intervisitation, Quaker events) 2016-2017: DC Women's March; Quaker Camp Counselor Travel; AS registration and travel outside of usual sources; membership exploration 2016-17 $1,046.51

### YAF Clerking Workshop @ Sierra Friends Center 2017 $713.06

### YAF Pre-Annual Session Retreat Subsidy 2017 @ Redwood Forest 2017 $110.10

### El Salvador Service Learning Trip - Seed Funding for Youth Scholarship Fundraising 2017 $1,000.00

### Elder for YPC at AS 2017 2017 $1,070.80

### Misc Youth Travel/Reg (e.g., intervisitation, Quaker events) - 2017-2018: BLQC Workshops (George Lakey's, Dianne Randall's), White Privilege Conference 2017-18 $1,447.96

#### Appendix A: Page 3 of 4
### Youth Programs Coordinating Committee

#### Report to Annual Session 2019 Appendices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017 total</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quaker Oaks Farm Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp 2018</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
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<td>PYM Registration for FWCC Travelling Minister: Yulieed Avila Iturbe from Friends Church in Ciudad Victoria, MX</td>
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<td>$266.40</td>
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<td>Visalia Youth Peace Garden &amp; Video Production Day Camp @ Quaker Oaks Farm</td>
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<td>YAF Pre-Annual Session Retreat Subsidy 2018 @ Redwood Forest</td>
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<td>2018 total</td>
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<td>2019 sub-total (in progress)</td>
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<td>ACTUAL FUNDING AVAILABLE, accounting for cashflow/earmarked</td>
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Appendix A: Page 4 of 4
Appendix B: Budget Action Item ## to change the administration of PYM budget lines 5288 and 2742 for Young Friends travel.

PYM has for a number of years budgeted $500 of the General Budget to go into item “5288 Young Friends Travel” (2742), which has a related reserve with a $2,500 cap, “2742 — Young Friends Travel (5288) Reserve.” See: Treasurer’s Report to RepCom 2019 (or to AS 2019 once available):


Previously, the Young Adult Friends (YAF) clerks administered budget lines 5288 and 2742, although at least since 2008 it has been widely unknown and underused except at the discretion of the YPC. At some point during Alyssa’s tenure as YPC, the YAF clerks at the time asked the YPC to take over administering these lines. Thus there is now this small overlap between the YP Fund which has approximately $16,000 per year added to it and the PYM “Young Friends Travel” Fund and Reserve (lines 5288 and 2742) which has $500 per year added to it with a cap of $2,500. Rather than eliminating the small Young Friends Travel fund and reserve, we request partnering it with the Bob Vogel Endowment to make the small amount that PYM contributes go further. While PYM could eliminate the small Young Friends Travel fund, the sense within YPCC is that, on principle, PYM should continue to make annual contributions toward this purpose, which is both pragmatic and symbolic of its commitment to supporting youth and building a vibrant intergenerational community, and that doing so via the Bob Vogel Endowment makes sense and simplifies its administration.

YPCC proposes that PYM approve the following draft minute:

Draft Minute: PYM approves replacing “5288 · Young Friends Travel (2742)” and “2742- Young Friends Travel (5288) Reserve” with an annual budgeted contribution to the principal of the Bob Vogel Endowment in order to increase the interest from the endowment that is transferred into the Youth Programs Fund, with the understanding that the Youth Programs Coordinating Committee will continue to use a portion of the Youth Programs Fund each year to support young Friends travel (children, teens, young adults). This revised item will remain on the budget as line 5288, renamed “5288 · Young Friends Travel Transfer to Bob Vogel Endowment.” For FY 2019-2020, the amount shall be $500, and we ask the Finance Committee to consider the possibility of increasing that amount in the following year’s budget.
PYM Youth Programs Coordinating Committee
Program Evaluation Report 2019

See also the summary of responses in appendix, separate document linked at YPCC web page:
www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/committee-newsletters-and-reports/youth-programs-coordinating-committee/

Summary
Responses to an online survey, sent to meetings and individuals in December 2018, provided clear support of the Youth Programs Coordinator (YPC) and offered suggestions and critiques of the efforts of the YPC and the Youth Programs Coordinating Committee (YPCC). Respondents who have been active in regional events such as Annual Session and Quarterly Meetings were more knowledgeable regarding impacts on the youth programs and listed many positive changes observed since the program began. A desire for support of the children’s program and youth programs in monthly meetings was expressed. A concern that youth programs were not developing a spiritual foundation and that we address issues of racism, classism, sexism and ageism were also expressed. Respondents were divided regarding the question of hiring an administrative support person and focusing the YPC role on youth activities. A majority of respondents support the cost of the YPC as money well spent, with some expressing concern regarding the impact of the cost on meeting budgets and limited impact seen at the monthly meeting level.

Survey description
The Youth Programs Coordinating Committee created an online survey with 15 questions designed to assess the Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) community’s perspective of the effectiveness of the Youth Programs Coordinating Committee (YPCC) programs. The survey was emailed to all PYM monthly meetings and worship groups to complete as a group or forward to meeting participants to complete as individuals in December of 2018. It was also sent directly to many individuals via listservs for Young Adult Friends (YAF), Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) and adults who have been involved in youth services. We received 31 responses from individuals and 2 responses from meetings or groups. Though we didn’t receive as many responses from this survey as we hoped, the feedback is valuable and will inform our revised goals and direction for our new Youth Programs Coordinator (YPC). Demographics of respondents can be found in the Appendix.

Impact of the YPC and YPCC on youth programs in Pacific Yearly Meeting
The responses to the survey were strongly positive (74-93% depending on the question) regarding positive impact seen in the youth programs. Increases in intergenerational activities, increases in safety and professionalism, increases in Young Adult participation on committees were all noted frequently. Many respondents appreciated the shift in our community culture to
expect intergenerational activities and youth involvement in some plenary sessions and on PYM level committees.

There was appreciation of the improved communication across different committees and programs and ease of accessing information using the YPC as a point person to contact. The YPCs big picture view of yearly meeting programs and institutional memory supported committee work with ever-changing committee members. The availability of funds to support youth activities through the Youth Programs Fund of the Bob Vogel Endowment was also regarded positively.

**Challenges**

The YPCC, focused primarily on teen and young adults both at regional gatherings and through funding of attendance at events, has worked toward supporting Quaker youth involvement in wider Friends circles and beyond, into international social justice movements.

There were requests for more support for youth programs at the monthly meeting level. This is a compelling and challenging desire as many monthly meetings report few young people attend regularly and meetings are geographically distant. Larger regional gatherings offer an opportunity for youth to gather in greater numbers and form a “critical mass” for faith based activities, while the monthly meetings remain the foundation of our spiritual community.

Several Friends expressed concern that our youth programs do not adequately support the spiritual development of young people. How can we expect to keep youth engaged if we do not offer meaningful experiences for them on the Monthly, Quarterly, and Yearly Meeting level? What is a meaningful experience? People come to the Society of Friends for different reasons: spiritual hunger for some, while social activism is the driving force for others. A strong sense of community and acceptance in the larger gatherings is also a powerful attraction. How can the interconnection of these drives be developed into a powerful program for youth at all levels of our faith community?

As the younger generation grows increasingly diverse racially and in their expression of gender identity, our youth programs must also reflect these changes and find ways to nurture each attender. The YPCC is challenged to confront our own inculturation in the systemic institutional bias in our society of race, age, sex and gender as we seek ways to build safe and welcoming programs for all. How do we continue to work together as a community while we challenge each other to live up to Friends testimonies? How do we create a welcoming space for a diverse population of adults and youth?

Our YPC was unable to accomplish the youth focused work without strengthening the communication infrastructure of the entire yearly meeting. This meant that she worked extensively with the Communications Committee to make our website easier to navigate and to keep it up to date. She also helped to create listservs for various committees and groups to streamline communication and increase the availability of information for youth in a format they
would access, and with various other administrative tasks. These tasks were seen as an essential prerequisite to the youth based work. Because our YPC’s responsibilities have been composed so highly of administrative work, the possibility of hiring an administrative person for the whole of PYM was raised, so that the YPC may focus more narrowly on work involving youth. Responses to this proposal were divided, with 42% favoring two positions, 38% believing the YPC should do this administrative work, and the remainder left undecided. The primary reason respondents were opposed to two positions is the cost.

The value of the YPC position was overwhelmingly supported, with 71% of respondents stating the money is well spent and we need to pay a living wage. The YPCC has not taken a position on the issue of adding a second employee to do administrative work, but encourages the yearly meeting to continue exploring ways to meet both needs, including two part time positions, or some other configuration.

An additional challenge the committee faces is serving as Human Resources and Supervisor to our sole employee. The knowledge and skills needed to develop and implement policies which are both fair to the employee and take adequate care to the financial implications for the Yearly meeting, such as managing the budget, including paid time off and employee taxes, is specialized and time consuming. Since its inception, this committee has depended heavily on the knowledge, skills and research of the YPC to address such personnel issues. We are currently working to increase our skill and knowledge as a committee, but recognize that this will be an ongoing challenge for Nominating. One idea is to have a Personnel committee that addresses employment issues not only for the YPC, but also the Children's Program Coordinator and other people who are paid to work in the Children's Program and Junior Yearly Meeting, with the intention to develop best practices that are consistent across PYM. This would be especially important if a second position is developed.

It is evident that our communications as a committee to the yearly meeting community can continue to be improved, especially in terms of advertising events and opportunities. From this the YPCC takes the following:

- YPCC and Communications Committee need to continue to publicize how to access information on the PYM website and social media
- YPCC needs to periodically check to see whether information is being received and/or accessed by Friends throughout PYM
- YPCC needs to consider additional methods of communicating information

Many issues that the YPCC has endeavored to resolve remain relevant. The children’s and teen programs have for a long time been relatively invisible and separate from the adults and under-resourced. There is a strong need for sufficient communication between and among groups. The Children’s Programs (YM, QM, local) must be recognised and supported, and so too must the parents of the children in these programs be supported and included.
In particular, the YPC has noted that while the Adult Allies workshop is one important way for adults with a variety of interests, skills, and fear/enthusiasm levels to explore participating in a vibrant intergenerational Friends community, the Friendly Responsible Adult Presence (FRAP) and teacher orientations held on the first afternoon of Annual Session have a stronger direct impact on program quality. We recommend continuing both.

The YPCC plans to meet in August with the new YPC to review the Goals and Objectives and set a focus and direction for the work of the new YPC, taking the survey results into consideration. She will begin visiting meetings and listening further to the needs of the meetings in the coming year.

For the full list of responses (redacted for anonymity), see the appendix.

APPENDIX:

1. **2019 YPCC Program Evaluation Survey Responses** *(also posted as a link from the main YPCC page):*
   

2. **2019 YPC Job Description** *(linked from main Job Descriptions page):*
   
   www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/job-descriptions/

3. **YPCC Goals & Objectives document** *(2014, to be updated soon, also posted as a link from the main YPCC page):*
   

4. **Committee Webpage and Links to Youth Section of the PYM Website:**
   
   www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/committee-newsletters-and-reports/youth-programs-coordinating-committee/

5. **YP Fund Information** *(aka Youth Programs Fund of the Bob Vogel Endowment):*
   
   www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/resources-funding/
SUMMARY
The Communications Committee has worked throughout the year since last Annual Session to complete the following goals and projects in support of Pacific Yearly Meeting:

- Developed and approved a new privacy policy for the Yearly Meeting, with an associated data breach policy (action item)
- Experimented with a prototype online directory to support the Yearly Meeting and our constituent Quarterly and Monthly meetings
- Provided technical and process support to the 2019 RepCom Registration and the 2019 Annual Session Registration efforts
- Supported efforts to make video conferencing readily accessible to PYM committees

The Secretariat and Website Content Team have submitted a separate report of their activities (see link below).

Privacy and Data Breach Policies

- **Action Item**: The committee has approved a new Personal Data Privacy Policy (see link below). This has been developed to inform all visitors to and users of our website and the committees and staff of PYM of our policy on the use and management of personally identifiable information (PII) such as phone numbers and email addresses. Communications Committee requests PYM approval of this policy at Annual Session 2019.

- **Action Item**: The committee has approved a new Data Breach Policy (see link below). This policy will extend to all Pacific Yearly Meeting committee and staff members and volunteers with access to PII data, in addition to the website and related technology overseen by the Communications Committee. It has been developed in conjunction with the Personal Data Privacy Policy to inform and guide our actions in the event of a data breach, such as the unauthorized access to and retrieval of the personal data of PYM members and member records. Communications Committee requests PYM acceptance of this policy at Annual Session 2019.

- The committee seeks comments and feedback on the two new policies, links to which are at the end of the report.

Online directory

- The committee has performed initial testing on a prototype online directory, based on the system in place for North Pacific Yearly Meeting. This has helped us to discern the specific needs for directory management and structure and consider implementation of this or a similar solution.

- The intent in the coming year is to use what we learn from prototyping to begin planning for a real implementation that would serve the YM, Quarterly and Monthly meetings as well, eventually replacing the myriad of solutions in place today. This work is guided by the draft requirements completed and circulated for comment and review in 2018.

Secretariat – The online Minutes and Archives for the Yearly Meeting have been brought up to date for 2013-2018. Minutes are now available on the website for the years 1947-1957 and 2001-present.
Communications Committee
Report to PYM Annual Session 2019

Upcoming Website Projects

- Contact forms and a unified approach to role-based PYM email addresses.

The Committee consists of George Mills, Palo Alto (Website Editor and Secretariat Clerk); Lawrence Alderson, Orange County (Clerk); Mary Klein, Palo Alto; Arthur Kegerreis, Orange Grove (Website Editor)

Our ex-officio members are: Alyssa Nelson, Davis (Website Editor; Former Youth Programs Coordinator); Roger Price, Davis (IT Administrator); Sharon Gates, Orange Grove (Assistant to the Clerk).

Comments to the Communications Committee may be directed to pym.website@gmail.com.

The following documents are submitted for review, comment and approval:

Privacy Policy: https://drive.google.com/open?id=11YNXZ7Uf00FAojOMWVYU_jp9tBSsYRxG

Data Breach Policy: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1HZWB8oUs6jozU1-e_3CeCJYC-DpadK

SUMMARY: We have one minute of action to bring to you in this, our narrative report. There are requests for a few changes in committee size which we will bring to you with the slate.

Report:

The following words began and set the tone of two of our committee retreats this past year. They are excerpted from Principle and Testimonies - Why Do We Do Nominations the Way We Do? from Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre in Birmingham, England

"Quakers have been called a ‘peculiar people’ and there is perhaps nothing more peculiar than the way we go about pairing up people and jobs. We see our organization, not as a body of people in a hierarchy whose aim is to do a task efficiently, but as a community which is driven by a common set of values which stem from a basic belief, which we have called ‘that of God in everyone’.

Nominating someone for a role using the discernment process goes deep and requires careful and prayerful consideration. Underlying all this is the idea of creating and sustaining our community: of nominations being a practical application of faith rather than simply a matter of finding people to do jobs. If we keep in our minds the idea of finding people who will help the community to grow in spirit, then we will be working in a way that is true to our faith."

Our committee sees service as a form of ministry. We ground our work in worshipful discernment, both as committee members speaking names from worship and as Friends contacting Friends to discern together where they may be called and when. We are committed to our mission of helping to create the container for our community by finding persons who may have gifts of which they are not aware or who may grow spiritually by developing new skills and understanding. This means that we do not see our work as ‘filling slots’ and, sometimes that may mean an empty position on the slate. At such times, we return to worship again and again to seek the guidance of spirit.

There are open spaces on the slate. Is there a tension between committee work and a life of simplicity that is grounded in the spirit? Some Friends feel so busy that adding committee work can feel it takes away rather than strengthens spirit. It can be hard to find people who are willing to commit to work that is crucial to the operations of PYM and the holding of Annual Session.

Can PYM be a year-round container without a Treasurer? Can we hold an Annual Session without a children’s program or a registrar? Can we have a Youth Programs Coordinator without the support and supervision of a Coordinator Committee? We are being called to look at how we take care of our community, and what part we each play in that care. We are asked to envision new ways that have not yet been revealed, letting go of the security of the old ways, and moving forward in faithfulness. What form of support, or what changes, would make it possible for a Friend to have a confident “Yes” rise in response to the call to serve?

It is important to support those newly appointed to positions, especially newly appointed committee clerks. We are grateful that Ministry and Oversight Committee will address this concern with ongoing clerking support conference calls. We are hoping that committee clerks will also take advantage of the clerking workshop at Ben Lomond Quaker Center at the end of August, an opportunity to learn new
skills, refresh old ones and be steeped in the spirit underlying the peculiar process we call “finding the sense of the meeting”.

Discernment around the evolving role of the Unity with Nature Committee will continue with two Interest Groups available at this annual session. We encourage your participation in understanding the history of this committee, its challenges today, and how it might be more effective and better connected to the YM by interaction with monthly meetings and other groups interested in environmental concerns and climate change.

To do our work it is important to have clear descriptions of all positions and committees, -- ones which clearly state precisely what the job is. This has been a goal of Nominating Committee for years, but it often takes a backseat to other work. It is a critical component and will be the focus of our fall retreat in 2019. In preparation for this, we ask committees and officers to review their Job Descriptions for accuracy and clarity and send us confirmation or suggested changes.

After examining the transition between presiding Clerks, last year we proposed a change in policy. We now bring to you the following minute for action.

Minute: PYM approves the new Policy on Transition of Presiding Clerks as presented. (attached. Also, see the cost projected in the proposed budget.)

We hope that all Friends will pick up and fill out a two-sided Service Survey (Pink sheet) and indicate those types of service to which you feel called or drawn either now or at some time in the future, or which you would like to discuss with a committee member.

Members of the committee are Julie Harlow, Heather Levien, Joe Magruder, Jorge Morales, Winnie Sunshine, Kate Watkins and Sue Torrey (Clerk). We look forward to hearing from you.

For the Nominating Committee, Sue Torrey, Clerk.
# General Account Budget vs. Actual

## FY 2017-2018 (ending 9/30/2018)

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<td>4101 — Contributions from Member Meetings</td>
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<td>5203 — Expenses of Officers</td>
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<td>5204 — Website Hosting</td>
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<td>5206 — Young Friends PYM Attendance Assistance</td>
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<td>5208 — Travel - RepCom &amp; Ann. Sess.</td>
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<td>5210 — Audit Account R2723</td>
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<td>5212 — Latin America Concerns Outreach R2749</td>
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<td>5213 — PYM Attendance Assistance Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
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<td>5215 — Western Friend</td>
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<td>5216 — Misc. Operating Expenses</td>
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<td>5254 — FWCC</td>
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<td>5260 — AFSC</td>
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<td>5261 — Friends House Moscow Support Ass’n</td>
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<td>5262 — Casa de los Amigos</td>
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<tr>
<td>5264 — Friends General Conference</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5266 — Quaker Earthcare Witness</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGS</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,750</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,750</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## FY 2018-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Transfer to Reserves</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4100 — Miscellaneous Contributions to PYM</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4101 — Contributions from Member Meetings</td>
<td>134,556</td>
<td>143,508</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4102 — Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>168</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4104 — Return on Invested Capital</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>136,556</strong></td>
<td><strong>147,508</strong></td>
<td><strong>136,782</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Expected contribution (aka assessment) per member (Calif. and Nev., Hawaii, México City) | $113, $451, $32 |

**General Account Budget vs. Actual**

- **FY 2017-2018 (ending 9/30/2018):**
  - Revenue: $113, $451, $32
  - Expenses: $122, $52, $30

- **FY 2018-2019:**
  - Revenue: $122, $52, $30
  - Expenses: $113, $451, $32

---

**General Account Budget vs. Actual**

- **Revenue:**
  - Miscellaneous Contributions to PYM: $2,000
  - Contributions from Member Meetings: $134,556
  - Miscellaneous Income: $0
  - Return on Invested Capital: $0

- **Total Revenue:** $136,556

- **Expected contribution (aka assessment) per member (Calif. and Nev., Hawaii, México City):** $113, $451, $32

- **General Expenses:**
  - Clerk’s Travel & Discretionary: $500
  - Expenses of Officers: $750
  - Website Hosting: $600
  - Young Friends PYM Attendance Assistance: $2,000
  - Travel - RepCom & Ann. Sess.: $14,000
  - Young Friends Officers’ Expense: $200
  - Audit Account: $0
  - Latin America Concerns Outreach: $500
  - PYM Attendance Assistance Fund (M&O): $9,000
  - Holding Corporation Expenses: $20
  - Latin America Concerns Outreach: $500

- **Committee Expenses:**
  - Ad Hoc Committees: $50
  - Children’s Program: $300
  - Fath and Practice Revision: $3,000
  - Finance: $2,450
  - Junior Yearly Meeting: $3,000
  - Ministry & Oversight: $5,000
  - Nominating: $2,000
  - Peace & Social Order: $500
  - Secretariat: $60
  - Sites: $25
  - Unity with Nature: $1,000
  - Committee Supplemental Expense: $1,300
  - Latin American Concerns: $360
  - Communications: $0

- **Total General Expenses:** $40,620

---

**Committee Expenses:**

- **Subtotal General Expenses:** $33,354

---

**Total Committee Expenses:** $259

---

**Total Support of Friends Organizations:**

- **Friends Committee on National Legislation:** $500
- **Friends Committee on Legislation of California:** $500
- **FWCC:** $500
- **Quaker United Nations Office NY:** $500
- **William Penn House, Washington:** $250
- **AFSC:** $500
- **Friends House Moscow Support Ass’n:** $500
- **Casa de los Amigos:** $500
- **Friends General Conference:** $500
- **Quaker Earthcare Witness:** $500

- **Subtotal Support of Friends Orgs:** $4,750

---

**Conclusion:**

The General Account Budget vs. Actual for the fiscal years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 shows a comparison of budgeted and actual spending across various categories, including revenue, general expenses, committee expenses, and support of friends organizations. The financial overview highlights key areas where funds were allocated and the actual expenditures, providing insights into the operational and administrative costs of the organization. This detailed analysis helps in understanding the financial health and efficiency of the organization.
## General Account Budget vs. Actual

### FY 2017-2018 (ending 9/30/2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Transfer to Reserves</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONFERENCE TRAVEL/PYM DELEGATES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5271 — Western Friend Board R2748 (3)</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5275 — AFSC (2)</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5277 — FCNL (2) &amp; William Penn House (1)</td>
<td>3,400</td>
<td>1,525</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5278 — FGC Central Committee R2744 (1)</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5279 — FWCC, Section of the Americas R2743 (2)</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5280 — Friends United Mtg. (Triennial) R2745 (1)</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5281 — Gen. Reunion of Friends Mexico R2746 (1)</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5283 — Evangelical Friends Church Southwest (1)</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5286 — Quaker Earthcare Witness (2737) (2)</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5287 — FWCC World Plenary R2747</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5288 — Young Friends Travel R2742</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1,275</td>
<td>-775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5289 — Friends Peace Team Board (1)</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBTOTAL CONFERENCE TRAVEL/PYM DEL.</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>6,507</td>
<td>436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUTH PROGRAM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6105 — Youth Program Supervisory Committee</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>844</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6110 — Personnel Costs</td>
<td>64,656</td>
<td>63,263</td>
<td>71,253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6140 — Insurance</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6150 — Professional Development</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6160 — Office</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>2,593</td>
<td>2,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6170 — Events</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6190 — Administration &amp; Travel</td>
<td>10,350</td>
<td>11,718</td>
<td>7,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBTOTAL PROGRAMS</td>
<td>80,416</td>
<td>79,224</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>158,856</td>
<td>135,003</td>
<td>1,527</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Transfer to Reserves</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TRANSFER TO (FROM) GENERAL RESERVES</td>
<td>-22,300</td>
<td>5,275</td>
<td>-10,975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expense accounts with a bold face R27xx following the account name have that associated reserve fund (see Balance Sheet). Transfers from these special reserves are negative (enclosed in parentheses) 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 to cover over-budget expense. In Conference Travel account names, (n) is the number of representative or delegate trips funded, effective with FY 2016-2017.

### COMMENTS ON ACCOUNT LINES HIGHLIGHTED ABOVE

5213 - Attendance Assistance Fund

The actual total of attendance assistance grants for AS 2018 was $8,614. Contributions by Annual Session attendees paid $1,714.50 towards these grants.

5279, 5280, 5281, 5287

For less-than-annual events, we budget a portion of anticipated expenses each year.
## General Account Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number and Title</th>
<th>9/30/2017</th>
<th>9/30/2018</th>
<th>5/31/19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1701.1 — General Acct checking (WF-&gt;Redwood Credit Union)</td>
<td>13,478</td>
<td>24,672</td>
<td>18,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1701.2 — General Acct savings - Redwood Credit Union</td>
<td>22,099</td>
<td>60,504</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1704.01 — Invested Capital (Friends Fiduciary)</td>
<td>85,516</td>
<td>100,447</td>
<td>97,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1704.7 — Vogel Endowment (Friends Fiduciary)</td>
<td>472,074</td>
<td>516,884</td>
<td>496,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1706 — Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>0</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>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>583,341</td>
<td>666,171</td>
<td>674,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reserve Caps</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reserve Caps</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reserve Caps</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2400 — Payroll Withholdings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,617</td>
<td>8,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2500 — Payroll Taxes Payable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2701 — Accounts Payable</td>
<td>2,395</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2704 — Credit Cards</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2712 — Student Conscience Fund</td>
<td>17,843</td>
<td>17,843</td>
<td>17,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2713 — Clerk's Travel &amp; Discretionary (5202) Reserve</td>
<td>1,261</td>
<td>1,803</td>
<td>1,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2714 — Committee Supplemental (5237) Reserve</td>
<td>1,071</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2721.1 — Pre-Publishing Reserve (F&amp;P)</td>
<td>4,318</td>
<td>4,318</td>
<td>4,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2722 — Equipment Purchase (5207) Reserve</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2723 — Account Audit (5210) Reserve</td>
<td>3,590</td>
<td>3,590</td>
<td>3,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2732 — PYM Traveling Friend Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>3,450</td>
<td>2,321</td>
<td>2,321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2733 — Fund for Concerns (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>4,237</td>
<td>5,561</td>
<td>5,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2734 — Sharing Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>1,981</td>
<td>2,236</td>
<td>2,236</td>
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<tr>
<td>2735 — FGC Scholarship</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2736 — Unity with Nature Project Fund</td>
<td>1,058</td>
<td>3,403</td>
<td>3,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2737 — QEW Travel (5288) Reserve</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2742 — Young Friends Travel (5288) Reserve</td>
<td>1,230</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2743 — FWCC, Sect of Amer Travel (5279) Reserve</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2744 — FGC Travel (5278) Reserve</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2745 — FUM Travel (5280) Reserve</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>1,789</td>
<td>1,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2746 — Gen. Reunion Fr. Mex. Travel (5281) Reserve</td>
<td>908</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2747 — FWCC World Plenary Travel (5287) Reserve</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2748 — Western Friend Board Travel (5271) Reserve</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2749 — Latin Amer. Concerns Outreach (5212) Reserve</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2780 — Youth Program Coordinator Reserve</td>
<td>5,383</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2781 — Bob Vogel Endowment</td>
<td>432,229</td>
<td>516,884</td>
<td>496,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2782 — Vogel Youth Work Reserve</td>
<td>9,565</td>
<td>13,572</td>
<td>8,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncommitted General Reserves</td>
<td>85,122</td>
<td>79,564</td>
<td>107,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</strong></td>
<td><strong>583,341</strong></td>
<td><strong>666,171</strong></td>
<td><strong>674,674</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 2018 Annual Session Budget vs. Actual

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018 Budget</th>
<th>2018 Actual</th>
<th>2019 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8210 — Miscellaneous session income</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8220 — Fees from Attenders</td>
<td>104,000</td>
<td>104,065</td>
<td>96,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8230 — Fees paid from Session Accts.</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>12,829</td>
<td>12,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8240 — Fees paid from PYM General Funds</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>10,726</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8250 — Interest on PYM Sessions Accts</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8271 — Carbon Offset donations received</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8272 — Carbon Offset donations pd to UWN Project Fund</td>
<td>-520</td>
<td>-520</td>
<td>-520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8280 — Donations received for Annual Session</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1,843</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income:</strong></td>
<td><strong>125,600</strong></td>
<td><strong>129,576</strong></td>
<td><strong>120,600</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expense</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8410 — Registrar's Expenses</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>914</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8420 — Secretariat Expenses</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8430 — Arrangements Expenses</td>
<td>2,390</td>
<td>2,394</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8440 — Children's Program</td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>7,106</td>
<td>9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8450 — Cost of Facilities</td>
<td>97,000</td>
<td>92,683</td>
<td>95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8460 — Junior Yearly Meeting</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>3,996</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8470 — Young Adult Friends</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8480 — Breakage and Equipment</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8490 — PYM Clerk's Invited Guests</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,135</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8500 — Insurance</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>1,051</td>
<td>1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8520 — Registration discounts - long-distance travel</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,675</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8530 — Bank fees</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8531 — Online payment service fees</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>800</td>
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<tr>
<td>8540 — Miscellaneous expense</td>
<td>2,350</td>
<td>325</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8550 — Fee for registration services</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense:</strong></td>
<td><strong>127,290</strong></td>
<td><strong>113,129</strong></td>
<td><strong>121,550</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS (DEFICIT):</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>16,447</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>-950</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Session Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>9/30/2017</th>
<th>9/30/2018</th>
<th>5/31/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8001 — Checking account - Wells Fargo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8002 — Checking account - Redwood Credit Union</td>
<td>36,202</td>
<td>51,462</td>
<td>25,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8003 — Friends Fiduciary investment account</td>
<td>38,460</td>
<td>41,461</td>
<td>64,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8020 — Accounts Receivable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8025 — Loan Receivable from General Acct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8035 — Deposits on Future Sessions</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>74,662</strong></td>
<td><strong>92,923</strong></td>
<td><strong>89,794</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities and Reserve</th>
<th>9/30/2017</th>
<th>9/30/2018</th>
<th>5/31/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8040 — Accounts Payable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8050 — Loan Payable to General Acct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8900 — PYM Session Reserve</strong></td>
<td><strong>74,662</strong></td>
<td><strong>92,923</strong></td>
<td><strong>89,794</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Reserve</strong></td>
<td><strong>74,662</strong></td>
<td><strong>92,923</strong></td>
<td><strong>89,794</strong></td>
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Overview of the Finance Committee’s work:
The Finance Committee prepares the two budgets for Pacific Yearly Meeting: The Annual Sessions Budget which is prepared in advance of Representative Committee for its approval, and the General Fund Budget for Pacific Yearly Meeting which is prepared in advance of Annual Session for its approval. It is up to the Yearly Meeting or its Representative Committee to discern what the expenditures should be and Finance Committee arranges to meet our obligations. This committee sometimes offers advice on how to handle some situations where financial experience seems needed.

Augmentation to current budget requests:
We received two requests for augmentation From the Youth Programs Coordinating Committee.
- They need $500 augmentation to their budget, for committee expenses. Line item 6105.
- $6320 is requested to cover costs that were under budgeted for, related to accrued time off, healthcare costs, and payroll taxes. These expenses have already been paid. Line item 6110.

Clerk’s Guests – an augmentation was requested as costs surpass the $2500 budgeted in line item 8490 (session’s budget). However, we recommend that the additional $690 augmentation requested, be taken from the Clerk’s discretionary funds line item 5202, (with her approval) and so no augmentation to 8490 is required. Approved.

Draft budget for 2019-2020
Incoming Presiding Clerk- A new line item will be needed, to cover the expenses of an incoming clerk. The intention is that our next incoming clerk will spend a year shadowing the Presiding Clerk, during that Clerk’s final year. We suggest that the instructions for the use of line item 5203 be changed to include covering the travel costs of the Incoming Presiding Clerk and that a reserve fund be established to accrue these funds annually over the three years prior to appointment of the Incoming Presiding Clerk (similar to how we budget for our representatives to the periodic FWCC gatherings).

Representative Committee – We received a note from Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk, that there is concern over the stresses of holding Rep. Com. annually in Southern California. She has sent us estimates of costs involved if we go to a location other than a Friends’ Meeting in SCQM. After a long discussion, we became sensitive to the stressors, financial and otherwise for SCQM hosting Rep. Com. annually, while we are having Annual Session in the north at Walker Creek for the foreseeable future. We have suggested to our presiding clerk that we consider a set rotation through the larger Meetings in both Quarters that are nearby transportation hubs. Having a set rotation would allow the hosting meeting to network with smaller nearby meetings to assist in hospitality. We would think that SF, PA, RF, SC, BE and perhaps even SA could work well in CPQM, especially with nearby Meetings to assist in hospitality and that similarly in the south, OG, SM and LJ could be similarly situated Meetings. Further, VI at the far southern end of CPQM might be part of that rotation. This would give a total of 9 (perhaps 10) MM, and would have Rep. Com. rotate to a SCQM MM every 3rd year, instead of annually.

We wonder if perhaps budgeting for a small fund of up to $2000 to assist a hosting Meeting with
their costs might be a better option.

**Action Minute** - We will set up a budget line item with a budget of up to $2000 for this next year to assist a host MM with costs [such as equipment rentals] of hosting Rep Com. **Approved.**

**Faith and Practice Revisions Committee** - They are recommending a decrease in their annual budget to $900 given what their own financial costs have been over the past 2 years.

**Suggested Annual Assessment** –
For Meetings on the US mainland. $122/person [includes YPC participation]  
For Friends in the Hawaiʻian Meetings $52/person  
For Mexico City $30/year  
These rates are unchanged from last year.

We went through the budget line by line and approved it.

**Coming Soon**  
**Budget Software** - The Quick Books Online that we have been using will be changing in cost. Their price structure is going up, but we are eligible to join them as a non-profit at $150/year. This will happen before Annual Sessions.

There will be a **Pay-as-Led interest group** at this upcoming annual session. This is a model that some other Yearly Meetings have successfully adopted. We note that we are in a reasonable financial shape with our Annual Session reserve fund, so that if we experiment with this model, next year would be one where we would be able to sustain a financial loss in the event this model does not work for us.

**Finance Committee**  
Emma Castanedo (unaffiliated), Robert Levering (SC), Sharon Shen (BE), Sherri Sisson (OC, Statistical Co-Clerk), DJ Bloom (AS/LCWG, Statistical Co-Clerk, ex-officio), Roy Allen (BE, Treasurer), Sandy Farley (PA/SMWG, Clerk). DJ served as recording clerk for this meeting.
Opening Words for Plenary V

PYM Annual Session July 2019

As we endeavor to live into The Great Invitation of Jesus together, we practice a Friendly 4-fold way of **loving God, self & others with all your mind, all your heart, all your soul and all your strength.**

Place fingertips in the center of your forehead, just above eyebrows  
What’s ON your mind? *Old memories. Strong opinions. New ideas?*  
Breathe deep, inhaling through nostrils & exhaling through mouth, letting go, whispering **STILL and COOL**  
Place one or both hands on your chest, right over your heart. 
Breathe deep, inhaling through nostrils & exhaling through mouth. 
Name whatever you find in your "heart space" ... then let it go...  
Whisper inwardly **OPEN and WARM**  
Place one or both palms on your belly, right over your navel.  
What’s rising to awareness from your gut? *A nudge. A clear sense of yes. A firm NO. A leading to reach out?*  
Affirm your willingness to wait upon the Spirit for guidance. 
Inwardly whisper **HOLDING IN LIGHT**  
Shift attention to the soles of your feet resting on solid ground.  
Notice the good earth supporting you, undergirding us in this place.  
Let emotions, thoughts and images sink deep into the fertile soil.  
Let earth absorb seed-thoughts, trusting good ideas to sprout later. 
Renew conscious connection with Sacred Presence in & around us.  
Inwardly breathe **GROUNDING IN LOVE**  
Breathe in deeply, breathe out slowly, until words dissolve into the shared stillness of expectant waiting worship, gathering us more closely together here in Love, Light and Power ....
Questions abound:
Discernment of the mission and future of the PYM Unity with Nature committee

Examination of the present state and purpose of PYM UwN began last year and is expected to continue until we have clarity — or at least the beginnings of clarity — on the many questions that have arisen in the process of discernment. Our status review revealed gaps in basic Quaker committee practices like clerking, inclusivity and communication, as well as institutional memory, perspective and unifying sense of mission.

The central question seems simple enough. Committees exist to perform work that PYM has decided needs to be done.

What do we want the Unity with Nature Committee to do?
Rather, since wants are many, What absolutely needs to be done?

The corollary question is also simple: Who will do this work?

This is not the first time the central question has been asked. The following is from a report to UwN’s monthly meeting liaisons in 2006:

“In his Announcement of Representative Committee, 2006, Jim Anderson, clerk of PYM, advised us to: ‘...enter in 2006-2007 a “jubilee” year, a time to “deepen our spiritual foundations, to reconsider our structure.”’...

“At the PYM evening plenary session on Tuesday, August 1, [UwN clerk] Kristina Perry presented the Unity with Nature Committee as an example of re-examining the work to be done by a committee and whether the structure as it exists is adequate to the task. If it is not, then a sabbatical is in order: stop what you are doing and think about what you need to do. While Kristina proposed that if no real use for the committee remains, it should be laid down, she made it clear that Quakers will continue to seek actions to mitigate the harm modern civilization does to the Earth. The Yearly Meeting agreed, approving a 5-member committee (plus 4 vacancies), with new member Joe Morris acting as convenor ...”

The charter of the UwN Committee has since its founding in 1985 (Minute 85-17) allowed latitude in the Committee’s work based on leadings of its members:

“We recommend that part of the charge of this committee be ... to define its own specific tasks and develop its charge as way opens ...”

However, the leeway to “define its own specific tasks” was secondary to a primary mandate:

“The care and preservation of the environment, which sustains all life (including all future generations of plants, animals and humankind), is a religious concern. ... We, the Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, intend to pursue our leading on this question, of which Marshall Massey has so forcefully reminded us. We say to him as we say to ourselves, ‘Go forth into the world, lecturing, teaching, writing, publishing, and walking humbly with God.’”

With the creation of EarthLight Magazine, the UwN Committee chose to concentrate on the “publishing” component of its primary charge. BeFriending Creation continues as a publication of
Unity with Nature Committee
Report to Annual Session 2019

Quaker Earthcare Witness aimed toward a Friendly audience, while the ecumenical EarthLight Magazine is no more.

In consequence of the ending of its primary charge comes the third of the many questions:

*What guidance does the Yearly Meeting offer for finding a new primary mission?*

The first of two UwN interest groups at this PYM Annual Session explored the historical charge given to the Committee. From this, attenders generated a list of possible tasks and directions for future work (appended).

The second group was intended to place PYM’s UwN Committee in the context of other religious-based environmental organizations, including Quaker Earthcare Witness, equivalent bodies in other religious denominations, and interfaith collaborations. Attendees of this group prioritized the list of actions from the first group according to their sense of need and benefit to PYM. They were also asked to volunteer to serve on a temporary working group to continue working on clarifying the mission of UwN.

Among the broader questions that the second group only started to address are:

*To what extent should UwN confine its work to Quakers and Quaker-led action compared to joining with non-Friends who share our concern for care for Creation?*

*Is there a role for Friends in the global search for sustainable living that stems from our unique beliefs and practices?*

Among the many questions for further deliberation are:

*Are the mandates of UwN and Peace and Social Order Committees so similar that they should merge?* Clearly, there are overlapping roles: promoting environmental justice and aiding refugees escaping ecological collapse, among others.

*Has the climate crisis progressed to the point that UwN should take on relief work after fires and floods in the PYM geographic region?*

*How can UwN restore or create new collaborations with younger generations, with interfaith allies, with indigenous people who relate to Nature differently from the European model.*

*Does the crisis of climate change seem so urgent than the voices of those who envision a less-reactive and more experiential role for UwN are unheard?*

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1 A reviewer of this report asked for clarification of this question, which was added as a response to the second interest group, filled with statements about how Quakers should react to the climate crisis. Reactive decision-making could lead to the Committee basing its decisions only on numbers (e.g.: the action that yields the greatest CO2 reduction). While this is a valid decision-making criterion, it is not necessarily the conclusion of Friends’ decision process.

“Experiential” is intended to point to a mission for UwN that might not directly address environmental remediation, but rather provide Friends with experience that they would not otherwise have. An example is the inter-racial summer camps that Josephine Duveneck began at Hidden Villa in the 1940s, when urban children had their first experience of sleeping overnight in a forest. Or witnessing first hand...
All of these questions and more remain after the close of this Annual Session. Two first steps toward a revived UwN Committee are being considered: (1) sending a survey to every PYM Annual Session attender and Monthly Meeting, asking that these questions be considered – ideally, in an attitude of worship, so that the greater common good rises over one’s personal preferences – and (2) convening an in-person workshop at Sierra Friends Center in the next few months to winnow the many suggestions and begin to converge – again, in worship – on a new mission for Unity with Nature.  

In conclusion, it is worth noting that all PYM committees – indeed, all Friends’ work – teach and practice right living and right relationship. But all the other committees confine their teaching and practice to the realm of human relations. Only Unity with Nature teaches and works for right relationship to the non-human members of our family of life on Earth.

* * * * *

Anyone moved to comment, critique, or contribute to our continued discernment should contact Eric Sabelman at eesabelman@gmail.com to be added to the circle of communications on this matter.

Contributors to this report were: Julie Harlow
                               Martha Hunkins
                               Eric Sabelman
                               Shelley Tanenbaum

July 20, 2019

(and working for restoration of) the sites of climate disaster (wildfires being a close-to-home example) and hearing those whose lives have been changed by it. Or sitting in worship and hearing the inner voice speak to us until our direction is clear.

The word “mission” as used in this report represents the reason the Unity with Nature Committee exists, separate (at least at this time) from projects it undertakes. Writing mission statements has been rightly criticized as futile - we have lots of well-written testimonies and minutes going back to the start of the UwN movement, so one more would have little impact. Maybe “criterion” is a better word, describing how we will decide what action to take and how we will measure its success or failure.
UNITY WITH NATURE – FUTURE POSSIBILITIES

SCORE on  
7/15/2019

1. Plenary ... invite speaking from the floor on witness, action, challenge  
   ___ Diagram relationships: spirit, action, communication  
   ___ Promote ecological integrity in natural and disturbed systems  
   1. Balance between abstract goals and work on the ground  
   2. Practice salvage ecology (rescue threatened survivors)  
10. Reforestation/restoration – be Johnny Appleseed - Afforestation and non-arboreal restoration  
   (meadow, coast, desert)  
___ Urban and neighborhood sustainability  
1. Environmental justice – people’s suffering matters  
13. Collaborate with indigenous people who understand nature differently; restore indigenous lands  
7. Participate in local projects, both religious & secular  
___ Support people [activists, thinkers] who understand small things  
2. Merge/overlap with P&SO [merge only if no way forward to an independent UwN Committee]  
___ Encourage spiritual connections with Nature  
___ Be a bridge between science and activists  
___ Promote moral commitment within secular activism  
5. Take up/publicize “issue of the month”. Or one focus each year.  
20. Leverage our energy for maximum effect; Work with other effective organizations  
4. Create communications network with/for support of Monthly Meetings  
10. Lobby Congress (with FNCL) and local/regional government  
5. Support candidates for office  
10. Support youth action  
6. Fall in love with Nature. Worship in Nature [variation in practice for each Meeting]  
11. Get rid of (recycle) fossil fuel vehicles  
3. Reduce meat consumption  
2. Change our individual behavior  

___ ______________________________________


Peace and Social Order Committee
Report to Annual Session 2019

Summary

- Please send up to date contact sheets from your monthly meeting to the assistant of the clerk to facilitate better communication.
- Please network and utilize resources available through AFSC, FCNL and FCLCA to have Friends be a more cohesive and prominent voice amplifying social justice messages.
- We encourage meetings to initiate education about our own miseducation that omitted embedded white supremacy.
- We hope that meetings will reflect on their own structures to realign how power and resources are configured.
- Engage requests from Friends Organizations to fund the future of Friends as a voice of conscience in our state, nation and political sphere by networking with others outside of our faith.
- Focus on building sustainability and resiliency through being more cohesive and inclusive.
- Please distribute the 2019 infographic which was based on direct communications with Monthly meetings and through reading the State of the Meeting reports. Available on the website.

We continue to be aware that there are multiple pressures on Friends within PYM internally and externally
- Capacity struggles
- A need to continually spiritually deepen, understanding religious education as preparation for social justice activism or at least as a companion, while also acknowledging the spiritual formation that occurs while doing social justice.
- Fostering multicultural awareness and sensitivity to other ways of worshipping and doing activism to augment our understanding of God’s voice and witness in the world.
- Many monthly meetings are grappling with how to best support the unsheltered in their neighborhoods while maintaining good relationships and safety issues with neighbors.

How is Spirit moving among us?
Thematically Spirit is asking us to address economic injustice, housing needs, immigration and displacement through community centered approaches and accompaniment. We want to thank the many Friends following the leadings of Spirit providing social witness on these issues.

Friends, whether AFSC, FCLCA or PYM, we as a whole are at a crossroads. We are an aging out, white majority population in a larger white majority population projected to be white minority by 2046- in about another 25 years. Tremendous track records of success and continual advocacy work do not make up for the need for increasing and diversified donor base as well as clear decision making underpinned by anti-racism/anti-oppression work.

We need to launch an all-out effort to reeducate ourselves to meet the needs of our times deepening in our own faith while also being open to learning values systems of those bearing the brunt of systemic oppression to enhance our social witness.

The Committee consists of Linnea Hanson, Graciela Martinez, Ann Baier, Zae Illo, Stephen McNeil, Brian Johnson and Shannon Frediani (Clerk).
“[They] not busy being born is busy dying.”
--Bob Dylan

A senescent tree, while slowly dying—rotting from the inside, harboring disease, branches dying off and falling—may still be leafing out in the spring, putting on some new growth, even flowering and fruiting in season, feeding critters and sheltering tender new growth in its shade. Once fallen, it may continue to foster new life in its shade. An older forest may have senescent trees alongside some healthy ancient trees and some standing dead trees (snags, providing habitat for other creatures). There may or may not be saplings to take the place of the trees that are dying.

This could be a metaphor for Pacific Yearly Meeting. Is the old Pacific Yearly Meeting is on its way out? You have only to look at the numbers in attendance at annual sessions: half what it was not so many years ago at Mount Madonna. JYM is a third what it was at its peak; the Children’s Program similarly shrunken. Many of the constituent monthly meetings in their state of the meeting reports talk about an aging membership, shrinking numbers, not enough people to fill the roles to do the work of the meeting. Fewer than half the reporting meetings talk in their reports about a children’s program. If spoken of, the program may sometimes consist of a plan in the case of a child or children showing up. In the words of one passionate young Friend, “This is a crisis! PYM is dying.”

And yet there is regrowth. We see it in the younger Friends who now fill positions in our most essential yearly meeting committees. We see it in the handful of meetings who chronicle increasing numbers of younger people or a flourishing children’s program. Not surprisingly, those meetings that have developed outreach strategies are more likely to see increases in attendance than others. It is not clear to what extent the yearly meeting as a whole or its constituent monthly meetings will be successful in passing on their treasures, after years of hiding them under the bushel basket.

We see most meetings faithfully involved in social issues and community service: common areas of corporate concern show up, for example, as involvement in feeding and sheltering the homeless and in immigration issues. Often, meetings support individuals in their leadings and take pride in this work.

Many meetings report the spiritual sustenance of worship, with or without vocal ministry. Many meetings support this sustenance with religious education of one sort or another—meeting retreats, worship sharing, “seekers” gatherings before or after meeting for exploration and discussion, and so forth. Likewise important to people of many meetings is the community and fellowship aspect of Quaker life. Meetings support this community life in various ways. Activities designed to deepen spiritual life and those designed to promote community overlap. What we don’t hear often in the state of the meeting reports is accounts of how Spirit is moving amongst us, shaking us and changing us. We, our meetings, our country, our world stand in dire need of transformation; we seem to be still waiting in the dark, not yet recognizing the transformation that is being asked of us.

In counterpoint to this appreciation of community and fellowship, a number of meetings and some committees report struggling with conflict and discord, sometimes with the corroding effects of longstanding personal rancor. Meetings have been torn apart when domestic violence or sexual abuse of children is unmasked in the meeting community. More subtly, micro-aggressions against women, people of color, women, or elders may disturb the community even if not brought to light. Occasionally, it is reported that moving through conflict and discord has strengthened the meeting; yet often meetings continue to struggle, sometimes diminished in the effort.
Anti-racism work not just in the world but in our own meetings is an emerging area of concern, expressed by yearly meeting committees—Ministry and Oversight, Peace and Social Order, and Youth Program Coordinator Committee—as well as a monthly meeting here or there. This concern goes beyond our long established commitment to racial justice (as witnessed in our equality testimony) to the challenge of confronting and dismantling embedded unconscious racism in ourselves and in our dominantly white meetings. There is an emerging yearning for more diversity in our midst, a growing awareness of the riches we’ve been unconsciously excluding. This yearning is prompted into action by the People of Color affinity group and by individuals amongst us. We are reminded that historical racism is still embedded in hurtful behaviors. The fulfillment of this yearning to break loose from the chains of our embodied hurts and hurtfulness is messy work with many individual and corporate challenges to be opened and faced. There will continue to be failures and woundings. Much humility plus tenderness towards one another will be needed in order to faithfully put into practice the core mandate: “Love ye one another.”

Notably absent from most of our state of the meeting reports is activity around climate change. Our yearly meeting’s Unity With Nature committee is in total disarray. This critical issue of the decade, so in need of action grounded in spirit, an issue which draws the energy of so many young people globally, is in the foreground of the work of other Quaker organizations worldwide. Take a look at the sustainability resources of the Friends World Committee on consultation (www.fwcc.world) and the webpage of Quakers and Climate Change Worldwide (https://quakersandclimatechange.com) for starters. This is a multi-cultural, multi-racial, multi-generational concern for survival of life on our planet, including ourselves; an issue that already affects most strongly the dispossessed of the world, mostly people of color. It’s an issue of great urgency; scientists say we’re entering a make-it-or-break-it decade. Our testimonies offer us guidance. And yet, with a few exceptions, our Pacific Yearly Meeting voices appear to be largely missing. PYM has a long history of earthcare witness—are we fading at this critical time? The injunction to “love your neighbor”—does it apply to all the neighbors we share this planet with, all human beings as well as all our relatives, the other animals and the plants? If we took this commandment seriously, if we took it a step deeper, what might we be called to do?

This report was prepared by the Ministry and Oversight Committee
SUMMARY

FCLCA needs volunteers, activists and champions to continue making an impact:
• Friends Interested in serving on FCLCA’s General Committee or Board please contact Vicki Carroll, Clerk, vickicar@gmail.com
• Friends Meetings in California are urged to ensure that they have at least one representative to FCLCA’s General Committee, please contact Vicki to confirm
• Friends are encouraged to become grassroots activists with FCLCA by
  o signing up for FCLCA action alerts at www.fclca.org
  o following FCLCA on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/fclca.org/
  o Twitter @KevanInsko and our websites: http://www.fclca.org/ and Action Center https://cqrcengage.com/fclca/home
  o meeting with their legislators in district or in Sacramento. For more information, contact Kevan Insko, co-director, kevan@fclca.org
• Friends and Meetings are encouraged to participate in the Champion Campaign to keep FCLCA strong and active by:
  o Holding a Meeting Fundraiser
  o Hosting a house party or small get-together to introduce people from their community to FCLCA
  o Sharing information on FCLCA through networks and social media
  o Making a Meeting or Individual Donation
    ➡️ FCLCA 1225 8th Street, #220, Sacramento, CA 95814 or www.fclca.org
    ➡️ Contact: kevan@fclca.org

Current Activities - 2019

Thanks to the support of Pacific Yearly Meeting, California Friends Meetings and individual Friends, FCLCA and the FCL Education Fund continue to bring a voice of conscience based on Quaker principles to California’s legislative process.

Your support has allowed FCLCA to co-sponsor two bills this year, to advocate for measures to end child poverty through the budget and related bills, and to lobby for dozens of bills in the areas of economic justice, environmental justice, criminal justice reform and immigrant rights.

Our co-sponsored bills include:

SB 136 (Wiener), which eliminates the one-year sentencing enhancement that is served consecutively for each prior felony conviction that required prison or jail time. This is one of the most commonly applied and therefore most costly enhancements and typically snags persons convicted of lower-level felony offenses. SB 555 (Mitchell), which regulates the cost of jail telephone calls and commissary items and places restrictions on expending so-called “Inmate Welfare Funds.”

One of FCLCA’s major efforts this year is in the area of reducing, and eventually ending, child poverty in California. We have the highest child poverty rate in the nation - almost 23% of our children. FCLCA is a leader and convenor working with other faith-based groups in the End Child Poverty Campaign - through bills and the budget we seek to increase assistance through CalWORKs and establish a Targeted Child Tax Credit so that no family has to live in deep poverty (less than 50% of the federal poverty level). We are also supporting a major expansion
Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCLCA)
Report to Annual Session 2019

of the California Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to more low-income workers, including immigrants and “Dreamers” who work with Individual Taxpayer numbers rather than Social Security numbers. EITC is one of the most effective anti-poverty measures there is.

FCLCA is also advocating for more investment for the elderly and homeless. We recently appeared at a Senate hearing in support of a new task force to develop more affordable housing for seniors and the disabled, to forestall homelessness and allow those who wish to age in their homes. We are also lobbying for expanded family leave and an increase in childcare slots and facilities so that low and middle-income families no longer have to feel torn between caring for their families and making a living.

Over the last few years – with your support and encouragement - we have significantly expanded FCLCA’s voice in the environment/climate change arena. We are advocating extensively to provide safe and affordable drinking water to the over 1 million Californians who lack access, and in support of groundbreaking plastic pollution bills that would require regulations to reduce and recycle 75% of single-use packaging and products sold or distributed in California by 2030.

FCLCA Lobby Day and Grassroots Advocacy

In June 2019, FCLCA held a successful Lobby Day – 40 attendees came together in Sacramento and made 30 visits to legislators, advocating for bills to address sentencing reform, plastic pollution and child poverty. Since last summer, close to 900 activists have sent 2,600 messages through our online Action Network to the governor and their legislators.

Challenges and Champions

FCLCA faces a significant challenge in raising enough funds each year to participate in an increasingly complex and technologically sophisticated environment. FCLCA has launched the Champion Campaign to engage more supporters at all levels and to accomplish the goal of raising $400,000.

California has always been a bellwether state, but in the current national climate, California’s progress is critical to moving our country forward. It’s now more urgent than ever to keep our voices strong.

FCLCA can help make sure that strategic and effective advocacy continues. To do that, we need partners – we need Champions.

Our goal with the Champion Campaign is to build a community of partners who together will provide $400,000 in contributions each year. That’s what it will take to sustain our impact and build for the future. We invite all Friends Meetings and individuals to give generously so that FCLCA may sustain its impact on California public policy and its work with the Quaker community. More information at www.fclca.org or by contacting Kevan Insko, co-director, 916 443-3734.

The FCLCA and FCL Education Fund boards consist of Steve Birdlebough, George Gastil, James Alexander, Ellen Eggers, George Millikan, Peggy Craik, Shannon Frediani, Stephen Myers, Vicki Carroll (Clerk)
Pacific Yearly Meeting Personal Data Privacy Policy


Overview
This policy pertains primarily to the website of Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. You can read more about Pacific Yearly Meeting here, and our main website is http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org. As of the publication date, this is the current working policy of the Communications Committee. It was approved by Pacific Yearly Meeting at its Annual Session 2019.

What Personal Data we collect, and why we collect it
Personal data collection principally occurs and is managed through the website. Personal data that is extracted from the website, such as event registration records, are also governed by this policy.

Comments
When you leave comments on the PYM website, we collect the data shown in the comments form, and also your IP address and browser user agent string to help with spam detection.

Media
We try to avoid uploading location data (EXIF / GPS) that might be embedded in images published on our website. We encourage visitors to avoid this as well. Such location data can be extracted by other website visitors, which might be against the wishes of the people depicted in the images.

Documents
Documents and other website content with personally identifiable information (PII) -- like email addresses, street addresses, and phone numbers -- should be explicitly approved for posting on the website by anyone with PII reflected in those documents. PII in website content presents an exposure of this information to anyone visiting our website (manually or programmatically).

Contact forms
We have various contact forms throughout the website. In addition to sending an email to the appropriate contact person for the information you have submitted, the submitted information will be stored, along with your IP address (references the device from which the form was submitted) and browser user agent string to help with spam detection.

Cookies
This site uses cookies as a default capability of our platform (WordPress). Cookies are small files placed on the user’s computer. Among other things, these allow us to see the IP addresses of visitors and give us information about who is using the website. These cookies can be removed manually by the user using standard browser functions.
When you log in, we may set up cookies to save your login information and your screen display choices. Login cookies last for two days, and screen options cookies last for a year. If you select "Remember Me", your login will persist for two weeks. If you log out of your account, the login cookies will be removed. If you edit or publish an article on the website, an additional cookie will be saved in your browser. This cookie includes no Personal Data and simply indicates the post ID of the article. It expires after 1 day.

**Embedded content from other websites**

Articles on this site may include embedded content (e.g. videos, images, articles, etc.). Embedded content from other websites behaves in the exact same way as if you had visited the other website.

These websites may collect data about you, use cookies, embed additional third-party tracking, and monitor your interaction with that embedded content.

Pacific Yearly Meeting does not collect usage or other information about user interaction with those third-party sites.

**Registration for Yearly Meeting programs and events**

The website houses the registration system for the Annual Session of Pacific Yearly Meeting. These data are retained throughout the registration and post-registration period to aid the committees of the Yearly Meeting involved in planning, coordinating and evaluating the Annual Session. This information includes Personal Data like names, home and email addresses, and phone numbers entered by registrants. Access to this data is restricted to select people directly involved in coordinating the Annual Session event and limited to the information required for each purpose. These select people include the Registrar, members of the Arrangements and Ministry and Oversight committees, the Statistical Clerk, the appointed technical individual(s) who support the site and other individuals delegated by the yearly meeting to coordinate youth programs.

Registration data is also used to produce the Annual Session attenders list, which is printed and distributed to program participants and PYM committee members. There will also be an option to exclude specific people from this listing, upon request.

**Membership data and online directory**

The Yearly Meeting has plans to implement an online directory, which would house all of the relevant information found in monthly and quarterly meeting directories, plus information on yearly meeting committee members, officers, representatives and liaisons. Data within the directory will be restricted for access by authorized users. Authorized users for each monthly meeting would have access to all of the directory information for their own meeting, plus more limited information on the Quarterly and Yearly meeting clerks, committees and so on. Authorized monthly, quarterly and yearly meeting delegates would be able to maintain and distribute directory information for their respective constituencies.

The data gathered and managed for the PYM directory will only be used for publishing the directory, and individual contact information in the directory will only be shared with approved recipients within PYM and its affiliated organizations.

**How we protect Personal Data**
Pacific Yearly Meeting Personal Data Privacy Policy

We maintain appropriate data collection, storage and processing practices and security measures to protect against unauthorized access, alteration, disclosure or destruction of your Personal Data, including usernames, passwords, transaction information and other data stored on our sites. We will delete or de-identify your online Personal Data when it is no longer needed for its original stated purpose.

Your privacy rights
As an individual you may:

- Ask us to provide you with information regarding the Personal Data housed on the site pertaining specifically to you.
- Provide information to rectify, update or complement inaccurate or incomplete Personal Data concerning you.
- Request that we delete all online Personal Data identifiable pertaining specifically to you.
- Notify the Pacific Yearly Meeting Clerk or Ministry and Oversight Committee if you are unhappy with the way we have treated your Personal Data or any related privacy request you have made of us (see https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/contact-us/).

Analytics
In order to better serve the users of our site, we use analytics software to see what browsers, operating systems, and devices our users are logging in with. Analytics also track geographical location of users; however, your specific IP address is anonymized so your personal location is not tracked.

Who we share your data with
We do not share any information about our site visitors with outside non-affiliated organizations. All information collected is explicitly for the use of Pacific Yearly Meeting and its constituent Quarterly Meetings, Monthly Meetings, and Worship Groups, as well as Quaker organizations formally affiliated with PYM when this includes an approved sharing of PYM directory information.

How long we retain your data
We do our best to maintain accurate records of all our site activity. Most of this information is retained indefinitely. However, registration information collected via forms or surveys is retained up to three years online, then only retained offline as needed for PYM planning purposes.

Currently we do not offer commenting or discussion on our sites. Should we enable this capability in the future, it will offer standard WordPress functionality: If you leave a comment, the comment and its metadata will be retained indefinitely. This will allow us to maintain a history of any public conversations among PYM Friends that occur on the PYM website. For users who register on our website, we also indefinitely store personal information provided in their user profiles. All logged-in users can see, edit, or delete their personal information at any time (except they cannot change their username). Website administrators can also see and edit that information.

What rights you have over your data
If you have an account on this site, or have left comments, you can request to receive an exported file of the Personal Data we hold about you, including any data you have provided to us. You can also request that we erase any Personal Data we hold about you, and we will do our best to erase it. However, we will not erase any data we are obliged to keep for legal or security purposes or for necessary administrative functions like financial record-keeping. We collect registration and survey information
Pacific Yearly Meeting Personal Data Privacy Policy

through our site. This data is not shared publicly online, though aggregated summaries of such data may be shared. We will remove any records with your personal information from our website, if you request in writing that we do so. This information may be retained offline indefinitely for planning and administrative purposes.

Where we send your data
All data we collect is explicitly for use by Pacific Yearly Meeting and its constituent members, meetings, worship groups, quarterly meetings and affiliated organizations. We do not share any information about our site visitors with outside and non-affiliated organizations.

Visitor comments may be checked through an automated spam detection service.

Your contact information
Visitors submitting comments or creating user accounts on our site will share their IP and email addresses with us. Access to IP and email addresses submitted in this way is restricted to site administrators.

Contact information submitted through registration and survey forms is only used internally by our planning committees and is not shared online or publicly.

In the future, personal information may be included in an online member directory, available only to members of PYM. Contact information will be excluded or removed from this directory if you request in writing that we exclude it.

Additional information

How we protect your data
The PYM Communications Committee and web hosting providers do their best to protect our online resources from malicious usage or unauthorized intrusion. Our hosting company follows best accepted security procedures, and we do our best to keep abreast of current security concerns and to install defenses against hackers, spam, and other efforts to compromise our site(s).

Data breach procedures we have in place
If we discover that our site(s) or data have been compromised, we will notify all potentially affected users of the site immediately by email of that attack. We will also publicly notify site visitors of the situation through a post on the site(s) within a week of the discovery of any data breach. Please review our Data Breach Policy for more details.

Third parties we receive data from
We do not collect or utilize data from outside organizations on our site(s), except anonymous analytics data. As a courtesy, we offer links to other sites (mainly Quaker organizations), though no data is exchanged with those sites.

Automated decision making and/or profiling
We do not utilize any automated decision making or advertisement suggestion software.
Pacific Yearly Meeting Data Breach Policy and Plan


This “Policy and Plan” aims to help Pacific Yearly Meeting manage Personal Data breaches effectively. PYM holds a limited amount of Personal Data about individuals who use services supported by PYM. This Policy and Plan were approved by Pacific Yearly Meeting at its Annual Session 2019.

PYM places a high premium on the correct, lawful, and fair handling of all Personal Data, respecting the legal rights, privacy and trust of all individuals with whom it deals.

A data breach generally refers to the unauthorized access to and retrieval of information, which may include corporate and / or Personal Data. Data breaches are generally recognized as one of the more costly security failures of organizations. They could lead to financial losses, and cause Friends to lose trust in PYM.

Scope
This policy applies to all Friends who are responsible for managing data held by PYM. Such Friends must be familiar with this policy and comply with its terms. We may supplement or amend this policy by additional policies and guidelines from time to time. Any new or modified policy will be approved by the PYM Communications Committee (PYM ComCom). The committee’s Data Breach Team (a subcommittee of ComCom) is charged to fulfill this policy and directly manage any data breach incident responses.

Training
All Friends who manage data held by PYM will receive training on this policy. New members of PYM committees and offices will be offered training within the first month of their new service terms. While some committees and offices such as ComCom, Ministry and Oversight, Youth Programs, Presiding Clerk, Assistant Clerk, and Registrar are likely to manage applicable data, all committees and officers will be offered training on this policy prior to accessing PYM data.

Training will be provided at least once a year and whenever there is a substantial change in the law or our policy and procedure.

Training is provided through one-on-one or small-group review of the policy and applicable laws relating to data protection.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything in this policy, do not hesitate to contact the Clerk of PYM ComCom at pym.website@gmail.com.

Personal Data
Personal Data is any information relating to an individual, whether it relates to his or her private, professional or public life. It includes such things as a name, a home address, a photo,
an email address, bank details, posts on social networking websites, medical information, or a computer’s IP address.

Any use of Personal Data is to be strictly controlled in accordance with this policy.

While some data will always relate to an individual, other data may not, on its own, relate to an individual. Such data would not constitute Personal Data unless it is associated with, or made to relate to, a particular individual. Generic information that does not relate to a particular individual may also form part of an individual’s Personal Data when combined with Personal Data or other information to enable an individual to be identified.

PYM gathers Personal Data for two purposes: for Annual Session registration and to disseminate contact information among members of the PYM community who need to contact each other. Such Personal Data may include in user profiles:

- Information such as Full name, Mailing address, Email address, and phone numbers
- Information on housing placements and support needs at annual session, such as age, allergies and mobility limitations
- Preferences for participation in aspects of annual session, such as meal preferences, and workshop preferences
- Information to facilitate payment of fees for annual session, such as family members, payment methods, and amounts paid
- User profile information to fulfill insurance or other due diligence requirements, such as results of background checks for adults working with minors in youth programs at annual session or at any other PYM events or activities.

Personal Data that PYM committees gather for internal operational purposes (such as information on job applicants or surveys of participants in PYM-sponsored events) is not stored on the PYM website, but may be stored on devices or online accounts of individual committee members.

Causes of Data Breaches
Data breaches may be caused by Friends responsible for PYM data sets, parties external to the organization, or computer system errors.

Human Error
Human Error causes include:
- Loss of computing devices (portable or otherwise), data storage devices, or paper records containing Personal Data
- Disclosing data to a wrong recipient
- Handling data in an unauthorized way (e.g., downloading a local copy of Personal Data)
- Unauthorized access or disclosure of Personal Data by volunteers or staff (e.g., sharing a login)
Pacific Yearly Meeting Data Breach Policy and Plan

- Improper disposal of Personal Data (e.g., hard disk, storage media, or paper documents containing Personal Data sold or discarded before data is properly deleted)

Malicious Activities
Malicious causes include:
- Hacking incidents / Illegal access to databases containing Personal Data
- Theft of computing devices (portable or otherwise), data storage devices, or paper records containing Personal Data
- Scams that trick Friends in PYM into releasing the Personal Data of individuals

Computer System Error
Computer System Error causes include:
- Errors or bugs in applications supporting PYM’s website or other software used by PYM or Friends
- Failure of cloud services, cloud computing or cloud storage security / authentication / authorization systems

Reporting Breaches
PYM ComCom has an obligation to report actual or potential data protection compliance failures. This allows us to:
- Investigate the failure and take remedial steps if necessary
- Maintain a register of compliance failures
- Notify PYM’s Ministry and Oversight Committee of data breaches
- Notify law enforcement of any data breach failures that are material either in their own right or as part of a pattern of failures

If a data breach occurs, PYM ComCom will notify any affected individuals without undue delay after becoming aware of a Personal Data breach. However, PYM does not have to notify the data subjects if only anonymized data is breached. That is, the notice to data subjects is not required if the data affected by the data breach has been previously processed to remove any personally identifiable information.

Notifications include the following information, where available:
- Extent of the data breach
- Type and volume of Personal Data involved
- Cause or suspected cause of the breach
- Whether the breach has been rectified
- Information on how individuals affected by the data breach are being notified
- Contact details of PYM ComCom members from whom affected individuals receive further information or clarification

When specific information of a known data breach is not yet available, PYM ComCom will send an interim notification, comprising a brief description of the incident.
Pacific Yearly Meeting Data Breach Policy and Plan

Data Breach Team

The Data Breach Team (DBT) is a subcommittee of PYM ComCom and shall include the Clerk of PYM ComCom.

Data Breach Management Overview

Upon being notified of a (suspected or confirmed) data breach, the Data Breach Team will immediately initiate the data breach management & response plan.

PYM ComCom’s data breach management and response plan is:

1. Confirm the Breach
2. Contain the Breach
3. Assess Risks and Impact
4. Report the Incident
5. Evaluate the Response & Recovery to Prevent Future Breaches

Confirm the Breach

The DBT will act as soon as it is aware of a data breach. When possible, it should first confirm that the data breach has occurred. It may make sense for the DBT to proceed to contain the breach on the basis of an unconfirmed reported data breach, depending on the likelihood of the severity of risk.

Contain the Breach

The DBT should consider the following measures to contain the breach, where applicable:

- Shut down the compromised system that led to the data breach.
- Establish whether steps can be taken to recover lost data and limit any damage caused by the breach. (e.g., remotely disabling / wiping a lost notebook containing Personal Data of individuals.)
- Prevent further unauthorized access to the system.
- Reset passwords if accounts and / or passwords have been compromised.
- Isolate the causes of the data breach in the system, and where applicable, change the access rights to the compromised system and/or remove external connections to the system.

Assess Risks and Impact

Knowing the risks and impact of data breaches will help PYM ComCom determine whether there could be serious consequences to affected individuals, as well as the steps necessary to notify the individuals affected.

Risk and Impact on Individuals
- How many people were affected?
Pacific Yearly Meeting Data Breach Policy and Plan

A higher number may not mean a higher risk, but assessing this helps overall risk assessment.

- Whose Personal Data had been breached?
  Does the Personal Data belong to committee members, website visitors, or minors?
  Different people will face varying levels of risk as a result of a loss of Personal Data.

- What types of Personal Data were involved?
  This will help to ascertain if there are risks to reputation, identity theft, safety and/or financial loss of affected individuals.

- Any additional measures in place to minimize the impact of a data breach?
  Eg., a lost device protected by a strong password or encryption could reduce the impact of a data breach.

Risk and Impact on organizations

- What caused the data breach?
- Determining how the breach occurred (through theft, accident, unauthorized access, etc.) will help identify immediate steps to take to contain the breach and restore public confidence in the management of Personal Data by PYM.
- When and how often did the breach occur?
  Examining this will help PYM ComCom better understand the nature of the breach (e.g., malicious or accidental).
- Who might gain access to the compromised Personal Data?
  This will ascertain how the compromised data could be used. In particular, affected individuals must be notified if Personal Data is acquired by an unauthorized person.
- Will compromised data affect transactions with any other third parties?
  Determining this will help identify if other organizations need to be notified.

Report the Incident

By notifying affected individuals if their Personal Data has been breached, PYM ComCom will encourage individuals to take preventive measures to reduce the impact of the data breach, which will also help rebuild community trust in PYM and PYM ComCom.

Whom to Notify:

- Notify individuals whose Personal Data has been compromised.
- Notify other third parties such as banks, credit card companies or law enforcement, where relevant.
- Law enforcement should be notified if criminal activity is suspected (e.g., hacking, theft or unauthorized system access by an employee).

When to Notify:

- Notify affected individuals immediately if a data breach involves sensitive Personal Data so they may take the necessary actions early to avoid potential abuse of the compromised data.
- Notify affected individuals when the data breach is resolved or if any material new information is learned.
Notification overview:
- The Data Breach Team will reach out via email and telephone to affected individuals, taking into consideration the urgency of the situation and number of individuals affected.
- Notifications will be specific, in plain language and provide clear instructions on what individuals can do to protect themselves, including:
  - How and when the data breach occurred, and the types of Personal Data involved in the data breach.
  - What PYM ComCom has done or will be doing in response to the risks brought about by the data breach.
  - Specific facts on the data breach, where applicable, and actions individuals can take to prevent that data from being misused or abused.
  - Contact details and how affected individuals can reach members of the DBT and PYM ComCom for further information or assistance (e.g., phone numbers, e-mail addresses, webpage links).

Evaluate the Response and Recovery to Prevent Further Breaches
After steps have been taken to resolve the data breach, PYM ComCom will review the cause(s) of the breach and evaluate whether existing protection and prevention measures and processes are sufficient to prevent similar breaches from occurring again. Wherever possible, PYM ComCom will put a stop to practices that led to the data breach. This will encompass operational and policy-related issues, resource concerns and issues concerning the internal procedures of PYM ComCom.

A brief report on any data breach incident and the corrective actions taken by PYM ComCom will be posted on our website. A full post-incident analysis will be made available to anyone who requests it.

 Monitoring
- All Pacific Yearly Meeting committee and staff members and volunteers with access to PII data on PYM members must observe this policy.
- PYM ComCom has overall responsibility for this policy.
- PYM ComCom will review and monitor this policy in response to changes in technology, regulatory or legal changes or new concerns or data breach incidents.
Pacific Yearly Meeting - General Operations
Proposed Augmentations to 2018-2019 Budget - July 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2018-19</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>145,508</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per-Member Expected Contribution:</td>
<td>122/52/30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expense</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 520 · General Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total 522 · Committee Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total 525 · Support of Friends Orgs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total 527 · Conf. Travel/PYM Delegates</td>
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<td>SUBTOTAL - Non-Youth-Programs Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td>6100 · Youth Programs</td>
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<td>6105 · YPC Supervisory Committee</td>
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<td>6110 · Total Personnel Costs</td>
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<td>6140 · Insurance</td>
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<td>6150 · Professional Development</td>
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<td>6160 · Office</td>
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<td>6170 · Events</td>
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<td>6190 · Administration &amp; Travel</td>
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<td>Total 6100 · Youth Programs</td>
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<td>Total Expense</td>
<td>158,483</td>
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<td>Net addition to (draw on) reserves</td>
<td>(12,975)</td>
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## Pacific Yearly Meeting - General Operations

### Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>Actual</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4000 · Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>4100 · Contributions-Misc Unrestricted</td>
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<td>4101 · Assessed MemberMtg</td>
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<td>4102 · Miscellaneous income</td>
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<tr>
<td>4104 · Interest on Bank Accounts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>136,556</td>
<td>141,718</td>
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**Per-Member Expected Contribution:**

113/51/32 (US mainland/Hawaii/México meetings)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>520 · General Expenses</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5202 · Clerk’s Travel &amp; Discr. (2713)</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>5203 · Expenses of Officers</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>750</td>
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<tr>
<td>5204 · Website Hosting</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>709</td>
<td>840</td>
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<td>5206 · YAF PYM Attendance Assistance</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>1,908</td>
<td>2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>5208 · Travel - RepCom &amp; Ann. Session</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>10,028</td>
<td>14,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>5209 · Young Friends Officers’ Expense</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td>5212 · Latin Amer. Conc. Out. (2749)</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>5213 · PYM Attendance Assistance (M&amp;O)</td>
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<td>6,900</td>
<td>9,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>5214 · Holding Corp Expenses</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>5215 · Western Friend</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>12,500</td>
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<td>5216 · Misc. Operating Expenses</td>
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<td>200</td>
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<td>5217 · Insurance - Sexual Misconduct</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total 520 · General Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>33,354</td>
<td>40,510</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>522 · Committee Expenses</th>
<th>FY 2017-2018</th>
<th>FY 2018-19</th>
<th>Proposed FY 2019-20</th>
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<tr>
<td>5221 · Ad Hoc Committees</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>5222 · Children’s Program</td>
<td>300</td>
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<td>300</td>
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<td>5224 · Faith &amp; Practice Revision</td>
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<td>5225 · Finance</td>
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<td>5227 · Junior Yearly Meeting</td>
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<td>5228 · Ministry &amp; Oversight</td>
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<td>5229 · Nominating</td>
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<td>3,239</td>
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<td>5230 · Peace &amp; Social Order</td>
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<td>800</td>
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<td>5232 · Secretariat</td>
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<td>5233 · Site</td>
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<td>5235 · Unity with Nature</td>
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<td>5237 · Committee Suppl. Exp. (2714)</td>
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<td>5238 · Latin American Concerns</td>
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<td>5239 · Communications</td>
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<td><strong>Total 522 · Committee Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>11,168</td>
<td>16,010</td>
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## Support of Friends Orgs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Org Name</th>
<th>Amount 1</th>
<th>Amount 2</th>
<th>Amount 3</th>
<th>Amount 4</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Quaker Office at the UN</td>
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<td>AFSC</td>
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<td>Friends House Moscow Support Assoc</td>
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<td>Casa de los Amigos</td>
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<td>Friends General Conference</td>
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<td>Quaker Earcare Witness</td>
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Total Support of Friends Orgs.: 4,750

## Conference Travel/PYM Delegates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Org Name</th>
<th>Amount 1</th>
<th>Amount 2</th>
<th>Amount 3</th>
<th>Amount 4</th>
<th>Amount 5</th>
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<td>Western Friend Bd. (2748)</td>
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Total Conference Travel/PYM Delegates: 13,500

## Non-Youth-Programs Expense

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Net addition to (draw on) reserves: (22,275)
Latin American Concerns Committee
Report to Annual Session 2019

SUMMARY

The Latin American Concerns Committee continues to gather and disseminate information to Pacific and other Yearly Meetings regarding Friends groups and Service projects in Latin America. These spirit-led projects are supported by Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups and individual Friends.

COMMITTEE WORK

Two Interest Groups have been planned and organized for the 2019 Annual Session of Pacific Yearly Meeting.

1. Latin American Immigration: Those with experience from the School of the America’s Watch will speak of their experiences at the border.
2. El Salvador Project: Director, Robert Broz, will speak about the Projects, the differences they make and their impact on the root causes of migration in El Salvador.

UPDATES FROM LACC PROGRAMS

1. The Undocumented Student Scholarship Project of Sacramento Friends Meeting is adding financial support to more continuing students attending California State University Sacramento. Several students are making donations to the program.
2. La Casa de los Amigos, Mexico City, continues to serve as a social-justice oriented guesthouse hosting activists, students, refugees and families in search of a more just world. It is also home to the Mexico City Friends Meeting.
3. Progresa Guatemala Friends Scholarship Project has added more students, who are acquiring professional skills, opening paths and inspiring others. They are changing their lives and that of their communities.
4. El Salvador Project has increased support for the village of El Barrio and their public education program. University students continue their social work projects.

You will find more details and most inspiring stories about these projects in LACC page on the PYM website
https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/committee-newsletters-and-reports/latin-american-concerns/

OPPORTUNITY

The Teaching English Experience in Guatemala from Jan. 3-11, 2020, can be found at

The Committee consists of Patricia Portillo, Betty Guthrie, Nate Secrest, Patricia Constantino, Margaret Bean, Linda Rowell (Co-Clerk), and Donna Smith (Co-Clerk).
PYM Friends have been increasingly active in Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) over the past few years.

The greatest growth has been in the emergence of local Advocacy Teams, an initiative FCNL launched in early 2016. Advocacy Teams are composed of local groups, typically led by Friends and hosted in local Friends Meetings. These teams meet regularly with their local Congressional Representatives and Senators on specific issues identified by FCNL as having bipartisan support and have some possibility of passage. Last year, for instance, the Advocacy Teams focused on legislation related to preventing war with North Korea. This year, the teams lobby their Congressional Representatives and Senators on a bill introduced by Rep. Barbara Lee of Oakland (HR 1274) that would repeal the AUMF, which was passed shortly after 9/11 in 2001, which successive administrations has used to justify the use of military force in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and other countries in the Middle East and Africa.

Santa Cruz Meeting was first PYM meeting to create an Advocacy Team in early 2016. As of this year, there are nine teams with Friends from 8 different meetings: Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Sacramento, San Jose, and Santa Cruz. In addition, there is an advocacy team in Morgan Hill. This growth reflects what is happening nationally. Since its inception in 2016, the number of FCNL Advocacy Teams has grown annually: by the end of 2016, there were 34 teams; 2017, 80; 2018, 97. Currently there are 107 FCNL Advocacy throughout the country. All teams participate in monthly teleconference calls with FCNL staff and policy experts to get updates, reports from other Advocacy Teams, and strategize about future lobbying efforts.

PYM Friends have also got involved in FCNL’s work by attending the organization’s four-day Annual Meeting, held in November in Washington, DC. Last year some 40 PYM Friends attended. Those of us who go have found that the organization takes its relationship with the Society of Friends quite seriously and always closes with a powerful meeting for worship on the last day. In addition to lobbying on Capitol Hill, Friends invariably find it inspirational to hear from the new Young Fellows, who spend 11 months working along with FCNL’s lobbyists on issues of concerns to Friends.

Submitted by Robert Levering, PYM Representative to FCNL
SUMMARY
Ministry and Oversight Committee has experienced the joy of worshipping and working together with each other and with our Presiding clerk. We have also felt the weight of its responsibility to support the spiritual vitality of Pacific Yearly Meeting and help our community live up to its Testimonies. The sustainability and future prosperity of our Yearly Meeting will require changes in ourselves, our structure, and our processes. At our Spring meeting, we expressed our hopes and expectations for Pacific Yearly Meeting:

- To break down the walls of Quaker culture that unintentionally prevent others from feeling fully included;
- To embrace the need to grieve when letting go or laying something down, even when we are moving toward something we love;
- To address conflict as it arises.

Our opportunity—and challenge—is to speak to the frightened child within each of us.

Areas of Concern
Events at the 2018 Annual Session, the hiring process for the Youth Program Coordinator, and our Winter Meeting with Hawai’i Friends made it clear that PYM continues to struggle with racial justice and inclusion. Friends’ intentions are good, but those raised with white privilege can have difficulty in seeing implicit biases and the barriers created by systemic racism in our practices.

At its Fall meeting, M&O renewed our commitment to reach out to meetings-at-a-distance, particularly those that are not part of a Quarterly Meeting. Following our Winter meeting in Honolulu, a number of committee members visited with Friends on Big Island at Hilo and Kona. The isolation Hawai’ian Friends feel goes deep. Moving forward, M&O will continue to look for ways to support and bring together Hawai’i Friends and ensure that Friends on the islands have opportunities to interact with PYM in multiple ways. Ongoing concerns from Mexico City Friends about events at the Casa de los Amigos underscore the continuing need for M&O to reach out to meetings-at-a-distance.

PYM is also struggling with support for our children and youth. Concerns surfacing in Junior Yearly Meeting, difficulties in staffing the Children’s Program, and the unrealistic demands we had come to place on our retiring Youth Program Coordinator all speak to this problem. As the only paid staff person in the Yearly Meeting, the Youth Program Coordinator took on many administrative and support tasks that were needed but clearly beyond the immediate Youth Program, including support for PYM communications and the Children’s Program.

We observed that our Nominating Committee has struggled with finding members and especially clerks for a number of PYM committees. Clerking should be a joyful task and Yearly Meeting Committee Clerks should feel prepared and supported to take on the job. M&O is concerned that Friends who have reluctantly stepped up to serve or felt ill-prepared to do so are being placed in untenable positions, to the detriment of the Friends serving and the smooth functioning of the committees.

Many Friends in key positions with PYM feel overcommitted. PYM has been reluctant to hire paid staff to support the ongoing functions of the yearly meeting, leaving much to the volunteers who serve as officers and on committees. Given the difficulties we are seeing in filling positions and supporting our functioning throughout the year, is it time to consider reducing the number of committees, laying down...
some functions, or hiring additional paid staff? Within M&O, for example, we found it useful to do away with two subgroups and operate as simply one committee.

Areas for Celebration
PYM is blessed with many young leaders, well-grounded in their faith and practice. The yearly meeting will be continually enriched by their energy and talents as older Friends move into roles of support, making way for new leadership.

The Eldering Subcommittee helped the Yearly Meeting stay grounded in the Spirit by offering Wednesday night worship throughout the year and providing accompaniment to officers and clerks. We look to those who received this support to share their experiences as we seek to strengthen and improve the work of our elders. We have also begun to explore the best way to acknowledge ministers in the Yearly Meeting.

In these troubled times, Friends are again embracing the wholeness of our Quaker faith calling us to an inward journey and an outward witness. We see a growing awareness of the opportunities that await us as we joyfully take up the task of dismantling racism and oppression in our own Religious Society of Friends as well as in the world. The growing connections between PYM and the Wukchumni tribe at the Spring Service Learning Camp at Quaker Oaks farm have enriched our understanding of eldering and spurred us to deeper examination of the role of Friends in the ongoing trauma faced by Native people.

There is hunger for continuing religious education and renewal around our decision-making processes. We are exploring new modalities such as QuakerSpeak videos and on-line educational resources at Western Friend web site, videoconference meetings for committee business and even for worship. Some are being led to reach beyond those who are already part of Quaker meetings to bring our Light to those who are hungry for spiritual nourishment. Others are reaching out to engage in interfaith witness to build a world that truly embraces the dignity and worth of every person.

Finally, we will again be considering affiliation with Friends General Conference. A summary of the issues around affiliation can be found under the heading FGC Affiliation at the following link:


Thanks to all in the Yearly Meeting who have supported our work, especially La Jolla, Honolulu, Big Island, and San Francisco Meetings for hosting us this year. We look forward to gathering in worship and fellowship at our annual session.

The Committee consists of Elena Anderson-Williams, Redwood Forest; Gail Eastwood, Humboldt; Shayne Lightner, Santa Monica; Valerie Nuttman, Santa Cruz; Kylin Navarro Burger, Berkeley; Eric Sabelman, Palo Alto; Thistle West, Strawberry Creek; Shan Cretin, Santa Monica, Co-Clerk; Jim Summers, La Jolla, Co-Clerk.

Faithfully submitted,
Shan Cretin & Jim Summers, Co-Clerks
Report from Pacific Yearly Meeting’s
Ad Hoc Committee on the Children’s Program Coordinator Position
Monday, July 15, 2019

The full proposal was posted at Rep Com but it was not in the advanced packet for the Annual Session. It was developed at a time when the Children’s Program Committee was not functioning. What was presented to the plenary Monday was greatly abbreviated from the full proposal because of the shortness of time. Since its reading, several Friends have come to us with serious questions about how our recommendation would be implemented. Therefore, we propose the following:

Minute: The Children’s Program Committee (CPC) continues to carry overall management responsibility for the children’s program at PYM Annual Sessions, including the program design, staffing, pre-session planning, program execution, and program evaluation. The committee will discern and implement the parts of the following which they find appropriate process and practice for the PYM Children’s Program and the Committee:

The Committee will

1. appoint an Administrative Coordinator to assist with pre-session tasks related to teaching staff, and the supervision of the onsite coordinators,
2. appoint two On Site Coordinators who will split the work formerly done by the one coordinator,
3. arrange for the waiver of registration and housing fees for the three coordinators and the teachers as their full compensation,
4. develop curriculum, possibly forming an ad hoc curriculum committee that brings in the M&O Subcommittee on Religious Education of Children or other Friends with skills or expertise that would assist the CPC,
5. work with the Youth Program Coordinator incorporating her new duties related to the staffing and support of the children’s program
6. take into consideration other details of the Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Children’s Program Coordinator Job.

Respectfully submitted,

Ad hoc Committee on the Children’s Program Coordinator Position:

Roy Allen
Chamba Cooke
Julie Harlow
Sally Kingsland
SUMMARY

The good news, Friends, is that our numbers for this past year have stayed basically stable. We ended our last annual census with a total membership of 1,233. This year, we end with 1,230 members for all of PYM as of 5/31/2019.

Details

We are now at a total of 35 Monthly Meetings; 23 are in College Park (CPQM), with a total of 805 members (down 4 from last year), 9 are in Southern California (SCQM), where the total membership was 326 (up 2 from last year) & there are now 3 Monthly Meetings outside of the two Quarters (Guatemala having been laid down last year), where there are 98 members (down 2 from last year).

College Park Quarter

CPQM Meetings reported 7 new members by transfer, and 11 by convincement for a total of 18 new members. In the same period, 19 Friends passed on in College Park, 5 transferred to out to new Meetings, and another 6 were released for a total of 30. An adjustment was made this year for one MM that was underreported on last year’s census by 8. Again total change for CPQM was a net loss of 4.

Southern California Quarter

SCQM Meetings reported 1 transfer in and 11 new members by convincement for a total of 18, while 8 members passed away. An adjustment was made this year for one MM that was over reported on last year’s census by 5. Again the change for SCQM is a net gain of 2.

Hawaiian & Mexican Meetings

For the 3 MM outside of the Quarters, Guatemala MM having been laid down last year, there were reports of 2 members that transferred in, 4 newly convinced Friends, 2 deaths, 4 Friends that transferred to new Meetings and another 2 released for a net loss of 2.

Transfers

With regard to transfers, I had wondered in years past, how many transfers represented Friends transferring in or out of PYM altogether, as opposed to within our Yearly Meeting. This year all transfers in and out were between PYM and non-PYM MMs. There were no inter-PYM transfers of membership, so every transfer represents a true change in our overall membership and not a moving about within PYM itself.

New Database to come

Last, we are in the process of gathering other data on our Monthly Meetings to share with the Yearly Meeting. Over the next year we will be questioning the constituent Monthlies on topics such as:

- Are there children in the Meeting?
- Is there a 1st Day program?
- Has the Meeting taken any marriages under its care in the last year?
- Age Range of the membership.
- Does the meeting have any support groups (Men’s or Women’s group/ LGBT/Friends of color/12 step)
• Is the Meeting taking part in:
  o Community outreach?
  o AVP?
  o Ecumenical Councils or interfaith programs?
  o Local Foodbanks
  o Scholarship programs (ie Sac’to MM scholarship fund for undocumented college students, or Appleseed’s EOP Scholarship for SSU).

We intend to produce a spread sheet for Meetings to be able to reference, so if they are considering an activity & wish to network or brainstorm with another Meeting that has already done this, they will be able to know whom to speak with.

DJ Bloom & Sherri Sisson, Statistical Co-Clerks for PYM
(revised 7/8/2019)
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<td>-GUATEMALA*</td>
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<td>MEXICO CITY*</td>
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Adjustments: Apparently last year there was an over-reporting from Santa Monica of 5 and an under-reporting from Str. Creek of 8, so these are reflected in the adjustments.
Registrars Report to PYM Annual Session 2019

SUMMARY
This report provides the key statistics and summary of the registration process for Annual Session.

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<table>
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<td>Semi-private</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>32%</td>
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Total first-time attenders: 30 (10.4%).

The total attenders under 18: 48 (17%).

Registration process
There have been a several challenges this year for the Registrars and Annual Session registration process, and the learnings will be carried forward to make improvements for the 2020 gathering:

- The management of the registration process is too complex relative to our size. Much of this complexity arises from the many registration options and detailed information needed to support the work of the many friends who work on the Annual Session planning and support. Progress was made towards simplification this year and other issues arose adding more complexity. This is a continuing challenge and we need to concentrate on the design of a more manageable and efficient process in the coming year.

- The check-in and welcome activities need better planning and support. We could do a better, less stressful, job with nametags, linens, payments...

- Our dependency on an online process creates challenges that need attention:
  - The use of a web-based registration system presents a barrier to some for registration, and we need to work to remove those barriers. Perhaps we could enlist our monthly meeting representatives in providing assistance for friends in their meetings and worship groups who may need a little help with the online process.
  - This year our registration website was blocked for the first 24 hours or so on the Walker Creek Ranch WiFi network, markedly slowing our ability to handle late registrations and registration changes. We need to have a back-up plan for such an eventuality and more communication in advance with the facility to prevent issues.

- The room assignment process was problematic for two significant reasons this year.
  - First, we did not always have adequate information about attenders’ needs and the ability to support them with the available housing space.
Registrars Report to PYM Annual Session 2019

- The second major challenge was the significantly higher demand this year for rooms classified as ‘semi-private’. We used all ‘semi-private’ space this year, reducing our flexibility in meeting Friends’ needs. We also need to be more explicit about the limitations of the site, including the ability to support differing gender-based preferences and needs, privacy and proximity requests.

- The linkage and navigation between the registration and attendance assistance process presented difficulties which we will need to address.
- Multiple friends reported difficulty finding children’s program forms, so attention will be needed to make it easier to find important forms.
- Information about fees and the payment process needs to be more effectively communicated.
- There are other numerous less visible and disruptive issues that need attention as well, part of the ongoing process improvements needed for Annual Session support.

The prospect of a ‘pay-as-led’ model in the future holds the promise of simplification and improving the registration process, in addition to the most important benefits, and we will be participating in the ongoing dialogue and work towards this possibility that has arisen from the interest group discussion this week.

Submitted by your Registrars, Joe Magruder and Lawrence Alderson.
To dear Friends everywhere,

Receive warm greetings from the annual session of Pacific Yearly Meeting, held this year at Walker Creek Ranch, near Petaluma, California from 12-17 July, 2019. Our circle of Friends gathered from many places (from Kenya and Finland, Hawaii and Australia, Mexico and El Salvador, District of Columbia, Nevada and California) to join together in reflection and worship, amid trees, grassy hills, and valleys, wild animals and birds. Out of 289 attenders this year, 25 were children and 24 members of Junior Yearly Meeting. (And we note that among our numbers were 58 vegetarians and 21 vegans.) This year's theme--"Dwelling in Truth and Trusting Divine Spirit"--echoed throughout our thoughts and conversations. The world is changing, and our Yearly Meeting is changing, and these transformations will demand courage, love, and trust from all of us.

Sky Road Webb, of the Tomales Bay Miwok, welcomed us on Friday afternoon and reminded us that the place where we gather has a long history and holds many stories and traditions to celebrate. Joined by young and old friends on stage, he led us in singing a tune he described as a "pressing-on song" (good for hard times!) and in singing—in Miwok, English, and Spanish—our hopes for our children to be protected and nurtured.

The keynote address was delivered by David Johnson, of Queensland Regional Monthly Meeting, in Australia. He spoke to us about the "offices of Christ," showing us that the Spirit of God operates within us in many different roles or "offices." Out of the following silence, it emerged in spoken ministry that each of these offices demands meaningful transformation.

Indeed, the need for transformation was a truth in our hearts and on our minds and in our words all this week. Whether in the Early Quaker Writings group or in Bible Study or in the many worship-sharing groups convened under the tossing branches of shade trees, we all wrestled with the call to change ourselves, our Meetings, Pacific Yearly Meeting, and the broader world around us. Every day, dwelling in truth and trusting Divine Spirit, various groups gathered to look truthfully at the hurdles our Meetings must overcome to undo the harm worked in our hearts by our life-denying culture and our lack of racial justice. We are laboring to build beloved communities enriched by the diversity of the world. With nearly daily workshops on immigration, inequality, and questions of right relationship, Yearly Meeting demonstrated a desire to focus more intently on diversity in our meetings and in becoming a more nurturing space for Friends of Color, who were joined this week by young Friends of color in meeting. Friends recognize the need for active outreach to persons of color within and out of Meeting.

After five years of laboring with the question, careful and loving consideration has led us to a decision to seek affiliation with Friends General Conference. We heard a report on the discernment process underway about the future of the Unity with Nature committee, and we grappled together with how to act in the face of the current environmental crisis.

Ministry and Oversight asked us to consider one of the hardest questions of all: are we dying? Our numbers are half what they were some years ago when we met at Mount Madonna, and in our Monthly Meeting epistles, many Meetings do not say anything about children's programs at all. The speaker from Ministry and Oversight gave us a powerful image of great trees, rotting from the inside in their late years, but still putting out new growth each spring and still nurturing the world around them. We mourned thirty Friends at our Meeting for Memorials, but were reminded that we also gained twenty-
six new members this year. The hard and yet hopeful truth is that Spirit is moving among us and transforming us.

Our children reminded us all week, in their lively, playful, laughing presence—as they danced down the road with shovels to the community gardens or sang songs at the campfire program or delighted in catching sight of the local doe and her fawn—that even if we are a very old tree, we are still living and growing, and that is cause for joy.

This Yearly Meeting was also marked by some lovely instances of intergenerational cooperation, and we would love to encourage more such interaction in the future. The middle school children mentored the elementary and preschool children, and members of Junior Yearly Meeting provided mentorship for the middle school students. This years' teachers (in all age categories) brought a wealth of knowledge and skill to their work with our young people and children. Unprogrammed Young Adult Friends remain active and enjoyed hikes, swimming, worship-sharing, and friendly socializing together, making new friends and renewing bonds with old ones. We welcomed Javaughn Fernanders as the new Youth Program Coordinator.

Within this great circle of both human and non-human Friends, we have shared the blessings of the Spirit with one another and worked to open our hearts to hard truths. Dear Friends, now that we have all been blessed by the spiritual gifts brought to us by this place and this community, what are we going to do with them in the world to which we now return?

Sandy Kewman, Clerk

On behalf of Pacific Yearly Meeting, July 12-17, 2019
Epistles from the 2019 Annual Session of Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Epistle from the Junior Yearly Meeting (Teen Group)

Breaking news: JYM had a week full of activities. Yep, you guessed it: AVP, Respectful Relationships, Worship Sharing, and uh well... no plenaryy?!

Now we go to an exclusive interview with co-clerk Callum Standish:

Interviewer: So describe JYM to someone who's never been there.

Callum: It’s like a puff pastry without the custard in the middle. Instead of custard there’s community building.

Interviewer: Describe more about this puff pastry.

Callum: Hmm, I suppose Elinor can address this concern...

Interviewer: Elinor a concern has been brought up that the puff pastries are not only gone, but were never eaten, care to explain?

Elinor: We wanted to preserve the community by baking with love into a flakey layer of support groups, worship sharing, and a service project.

Interviewer: Hm interesting, interesting. Can you describe what kind of coffee would be paired with this flakey pastry?

Elinor: I’m gonna pass that one over to Charlie.

Charlie: The coffee would be an energizing cup o’ joe with a hint of bitterness and sweetness in the form of FRAPs, adult committee members, and cold potato-filled breakfast meetings.

Interviewer: This seems to be quite the puff pastry. Would you say that this pastry holds you in the light?

Charlie: Heck yea. I could see in the dark with this pastry. In fact, I could even use it as the lighting in the boogie barn.

Interviewer: tell me more about the community building custard.

Callum: well it included egg yolks from the YAF’s and fresh milk from the middle school group’s snack budget.

Interviewer: this sounds like quite the breakfast spread, how did you feel after consuming it?

All: we felt fulfilled after our meal of friends, support and spiritual exploration.

Callum: ok that’s all the time we have, JYM puff pastries still aren’t as good old fashion Quaker oats.
Epistles from the 2019 Annual Session of
Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Epistle from the Middle School Group

On the first day we had a business meeting to plan for the day and week. We decided who would be clerk each day. Some of us made beady animals while others did yoga.

Gaga ball was a big deal. Then we began to fight about the rules. We had a business meeting to settle conflicts about the rules of gaga ball. We shared these rules with everyone in our skit on family night.

Dale braided Ezra’s hair. “It was cringy”, says Ezra.

We skipped rocks in the creek on the way to the pond. We crossed the creek on the new wobbly bridge. We had to pass a swim test to go swimming without life jackets. At the pond we went canoeing, where we had to wear life jackets.

This year we saw more turtles than last year, at least 3 and maybe 4 or 5. They were about as big as a shoe.

On the second day, we saw foxes in the garden and a deer and her two fawns.

We went on a long hike; some of us said “we saw fairies” but not everyone believes this. On nature walks we learned about plants and animals.

We went to the garden with the little kids. We did a service project in the garden. We harvested weird mutant potatoes and also native plant seeds to plant next year. We pulled out old plants and planted new ones in the “pizza garden,” which is a circle divided into slices like a pizza.

For snacks we had watermelon and figs besides the usual chips and gorgonzola crackers.

We sang songs with the little kids and at family night. Nate’s song about nudibranchs and anenomes was fun, awesome and educational.

We met with David Johnson, the keynote speaker. We went to the last part of Meeting for Memorials.

We wrote letters in support of Allejendra with JYM. She came seeking asylum but was detained by ICE.

On the last day, we saw a fox run right by our room.

And finally we wrote this epistle.

Written and approved by:

Levi, Zoe, Jesse, Dale, Ezra, Beorn, Charlotte, Gavilan
Epistle from the Elementary Group

On the first day some of us thought we would be nervous, but we weren’t nervous at all. We all helped welcome each other.

One project we did was origami balloons and paper boxes.

We went to the garden and planted native plants. We cleared out the pizza garden and saved seeds for next year.

Every afternoon some of us played with the preschool kids. Or we went on hikes in the afternoon; it was steep like climbing a mountain.

Some of went to the pond. The water was freezing.

We played Frisbee. The Frisbee was really big, “the biggest I’ve ever seen.”

We made sculptures out of cornstarch packing puffs.

Singing was one of the things we liked to do. “All God’s Critters” was one of the best songs. We learned the “compost pile” song and brought it to Family Night.

We posted James’ reading from Pablo Casals in the Daily Mira.

We talked about being resilient. This means “I am a bounce back kid.”

We made a big poster with our names on it. There were five of us then.

At PYM we had fun and made new friends.

Written and approved by Elvin and James, with help by Rolene, Molly and Eric

Epistle from the Preschool Group

We had fun in our class! Some things we liked were digging in the garden, making new friends, making mud soup, playing with Legos, being princesses, throwing paper airplanes, chasing bubbles, hiking and going to the pond, singing every morning.

We had fun seeing lots of animals – turkey vultures, rabbits, lizards, foxes, deer, fish and bugs!
DRAFT 3, Presented in Plenary VIII, 7/16/19

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

SLATE OF OFFICEHOLDERS FOR 2019-20,

Date to the left of officeholder’s name is the year the 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 initial appointment. Committee clerk and delegation convener appointments are for one year. Vacant positions are indicated by an underscore ________ next to the term-expiration year.

**OFFICERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Term Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presiding Clerk</strong></td>
<td>(1-year term, up to 3 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020 Sandy Kewman, Grass Valley (2018)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant to the Clerk</td>
<td>(1-year term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Sharon Gates, Orange Grove (2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Sharon Gates</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Historian-Archivist</td>
<td>(3-year term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Jan Tappan, Orange Grove (2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022 Jan Tappan, Orange Grove (2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Clerk</td>
<td>(1-year term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Kim Lacey, Central Coast (2019)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recording Clerks</strong></td>
<td>(2 persons, 2-year terms)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Charlene Roberts-Caudle, Visalia (2017 AS)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Jim Anderson, Chico (2016)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2021 Raph Levien, Berkeley (2019)</td>
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<tr>
<td>** Registrars**</td>
<td>(2 persons, 2-year terms)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Joe Magruder, Berkeley (2017)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Lawrence Alderson, Orange County (2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021 Brylie Oxley, Grass Valley (2019)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Statistical Clerk</strong></td>
<td>(1-2 persons, 3-year terms)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 David (DJ) Bloom, Appleseed (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021 Sherri Sisson, Orange County (2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Treasurer</strong></td>
<td>(term through 9/30 of year shown)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Roy Allen, Berkeley (2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022 Roy Allen, Berkeley (2013)</td>
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**COMMITTEES**

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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Term Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arrangements Committee</strong></td>
<td>(6 members, 3-year terms)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Bronwen Hillman, Mexico City (2017), Clerk</td>
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<td>2019 Don Sands, Sacramento (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Kate Connell, Santa Barbara (2018)</td>
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<td>2021 Ann Fuller, Santa Monica (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021 Emily Walden, Central Coast (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022 Bronwen Hillman, Mexico City, (2017) Clerk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022 Ex Officio: Registrars</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children’s Program Committee</strong></td>
<td>(6 members, 3-year terms)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Stanley Chagala, Redwood Forest (2018)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Suellen Lowrey, Humboldt (2019) Clerk</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Vivian Carlson, Honolulu (2017)</td>
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<td>2021 Maia Ostrom, Central Coast (2018)</td>
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<td>2021 Sasha Horowitz, Santa Monica (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022 Amy Blondel, Monterey Pen, (2019)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022 Anita McCormick, Santa Monica (2019)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ex Officio: Children’s Program Coordinator, Youth Programs Coordinator</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Communications Committee
(5 members, 3-year terms)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>George Mills</td>
<td>Palo Alto (2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Mary Klein</td>
<td>Palo Alto (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Lawrence Alderson</td>
<td>Orange County (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Kate Watkins</td>
<td>Santa Monica (2019), Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>George Mills</td>
<td>Palo Alto (2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Allison Kirkegaard</td>
<td>Claremont (2019)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ex Officio: Web Editors, IT Administrator, Assistant to the Clerk, Youth Programs Coordinator
(Website Editors and IT Administrator appointed by Communications Committee)

### Holding Corporation
(6 members, 3-year terms)

Choose their own officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Jeff Kroeber</td>
<td>San Jose (2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Stratton Jaquette</td>
<td>Palo Alto (2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Jennifer Carr</td>
<td>Las Vegas (2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Sharlene Roberts-Caudle</td>
<td>Visalia (2014)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Paul Harris</td>
<td>Redwood Forest (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Margaret Mossman</td>
<td>Berkeley (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Genie Stowers</td>
<td>Berkeley (2019)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Stratton Jaquette</td>
<td>Palo Alto (2016)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Ex Officio: Treasurer, Presiding Clerk

### Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) Adult Committee
(9 members, 3-year terms)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Dan Strickland</td>
<td>Orange Grove (2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Suzanne Doss</td>
<td>Orange Grove (2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Muriel Strand</td>
<td>Sacramento (2015), Co-clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Sarah Armstrong Jones</td>
<td>Big Island (2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Don McCormick</td>
<td>Grass Valley (2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Austin Stanion</td>
<td>Orange Grove (2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>David Ledderman</td>
<td>Orange County (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Dan Strickland</td>
<td>Orange Grove (2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Evan Nelson</td>
<td>La Jolla (2019)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Suzanne Doss</td>
<td>Orange Grove (2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Bertha Pena</td>
<td>Mexico City (2019)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Ex Officio: Youth Programs Coordinator

### Latin American Concerns Committee
(3-6 members, 3-year terms, + named appointments)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Betty Guthrie</td>
<td>Orange County (2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Nate Secrest</td>
<td>Lake County (2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Patricia Portillo</td>
<td>Sacramento (2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Linda Rowell</td>
<td>Chico (2015), Co-clerk</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Graciela Martinez</td>
<td>Visalia, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Linda Rowell</td>
<td>Chico (2015), Co-clerk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Appointed by Casa de los Amigos:
- Appointed by El Salvador Project:
  Nate Secrest, (2019)
- Appointed by Guatemala Scholarship Program
  Donna Smith (Redwood For.) (2014), Co-clerk
**Ministry and Oversight Committee**  
(9 members, 3-year terms)

2019 Shayne Lightner, Santa Monica (2013)  
2019 Valerie Nuttman, Santa Cruz (2016)  
2019 Jim Summers, La Jolla (2016), Co-clerk  
2020 Shan Cretin, Santa Monica (2017), Co-clerk  
2020 Thistle West, Strawberry Creek (2017)  
2020 Gail Eastwood, Humboldt (2018)  
2021 Elena Anderson, Redwood Forest (2018)  
2022 Valerie Nuttman, Santa Cruz (2016)  
2022 Jim Summers, La Jolla, (2016) Co-clerk  
2022 Jorge Morales, San Jose (2019)

**Unity with Nature Committee**  
(6 members, 3-year terms)  
*(Engaged in a discernment process)*

2019 Shelley Tanenbaum, Strawberry Ck. (2013)  
2019 Sharon Shen, Berkeley (2016)  
2020 Andrea Beane, Santa Monica (2017)  
2020 ____________________________  
2021 Lora Powell, Berkeley (2017)  
2022 ____________________________  
2022 ____________________________

**Youth Programs Coordinating Committee**  
(6 members, 3-year terms + 4 Youth members)

2019 Bertha Peña, Mexico City (2016), Co-clerk  
2020 Ann Baier, Live Oak (2019)  
2020 Chamba Cooke, Grass Valley (2019)  
2021 Rebekah Percy, La Jolla (2015) Co-clerk  
2021 Barbara Babin, Redwood Forest (2016)  
2022 Melissa Lovett-Adair, Ctrl Coast (2016)  
2022 Kiernan Colby, Santa Cruz (2019)  
Youth members are nominated by YPCC  
Nate Secrest, Lake County, (2019)  
Ariana Standish, Berkeley (2019)

**Peace and Social Order Committee**  
(5 members currently, 3-year terms)  
*(request to have 6 members)*

2019 Shannon Frediani, Santa Cruz (2016), Clerk  
2019 Zae Illo (David B) San Francisco (2017)  
2020 Betty Guthrie, Orange County (2019)  
2020 Linnea Hanson, Chico (2017)  
2021 Brian Johnson, Santa Monica (2018)  
2022 Shannon Frediani, Santa Cruz (2016) Clerk  
2022 Zae Illo (David B), San Francisco (2017)

**Ex Officio:**  
SCQM Peace and Social Order Committee Clerk,  
one PYM AFSC representative,  
one PYM FCLCA representative,  
one PYM FCNL representative

**Representatives and Delegates**

**American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Corp**  
(4-5 representatives, 3-year terms)

2019 Shannon Frediani, Santa Cruz (2016)  
2020 Nancy Mellor, Sacramento (2012), Convener  
2022 Ramona Hussey, Honolulu (2019)  
2023 ________________

**Friends Bulletin Corp. (Western Friend) Board of Directors**  
(3 representatives from PYM, 3-year terms)

2021 Jim Anderson, Chico (2015), Convener  
2022 ____________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCLCA)</th>
<th>Friends World Cmte. for Consultation (FWCC) Section of the Americas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1 rep, appointed by Peace &amp; Social Order Committee)</td>
<td>(5 representatives, 3-year terms)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2019 Jan Turner, Humboldt (2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2019 Emlyn Buskirk, Live Oak (2016), Convener</td>
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<td>2020 ________________________________</td>
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<td>2022 ________________________________</td>
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<td>2022 ________________________________</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Rep Plenaries every 6-8 years)</td>
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<td>(the next World Conference 2023, in S. Africa)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friends’ Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) Next Annual Meeting, 2019</th>
<th>Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(6 representatives, 3-year terms)</td>
<td>(2 reps, 2-year terms, appointed by UwN Com)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Carolyn Levering, Santa Cruz (2016)</td>
<td>2020 ________________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Julia Thompson, Palo Alto (2017)</td>
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<td>2021 Michelle Shields, Honolulu (2019)</td>
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<td>2021 Allison Kirkegaard, Claremont (2019)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022 Carolyn Levering, Santa Cruz (2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022 Robert Levering, Santa Cruz (2016) Convener</td>
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<tr>
<th>Friends Peace Team Coordinating Council</th>
<th>Reunión General de los Amigos en México</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1 member, 3-year term)</td>
<td>(1 observer, 2-year term)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Gay Howard, Central Coast (2009)</td>
<td>2021 ________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021 Gay Howard, Central Coast (2009)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBSERVERS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evangelical Friends Church SW</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1 observer, 3-year term)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Comm</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1 observer, 3-year term)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Heather Levien, Berkeley (2016)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020 Heather Levien, Berkeley (2016)</td>
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<td>2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friends United Meeting (FUM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1 observer, 3-year term)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The next Triennial is in 2020</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SUMMARY None

American Friends Service Committee Corporation Meeting, April 12 and 13, 2019

AFSC felt welcoming, accessible, and affirming of the corporation members presence. The timeline of the new strategic plan was introduced and outlined. The breadth of collaborative outreach, not just to monthly meetings, but to Quaker organizations was impressive. An extra year was allotted for the strategic plan to accommodate the extensive collaborative process.

AFSC's internal examination has brought up challenges, but also has shown the strength of the organization and its fiscal wellbeing. Many stories were shared about how AFSC has touched the lives and been involved in the formation of many people's social justice awareness and commitment.

Several hours were spent on examining and critiquing the vision and goals of the Friends Relations Committee. Diversity and power are underlying issues facing AFSC and as it restructures and reprioritizes as part of the strategic plan.

Another interactive session integrating the feedback of all the corporation members in live time on the issue of how AFSC might proceed in addressing climate change was an outcome of the responses from monthly meetings.

Workshops were offered on the following topics: Healing Justice, The Great March of Return, Decolonizing the Future, Advocacy Arising from Community Needs, and Migrant Justice.

The intersectionality of climate justice, racial justice, economic justice was raised up. It was noted that AFSC's work in framing narrative change is deeply needed and is being used by other organizations with AFSC's permission. (Such as the We Are Not At Risk posters)

Clearly AFSC is working to collaborate more while focusing on how to be sustainable.

The Committee consists of two representatives, Shannon Frediani and Nancy Mellor, convener.
### Summary of Evaluations of PYM Annual Session 2018

#### How many times have you attended PYM?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row Labels</th>
<th>Sum of Count</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-15 times</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-20 times</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st time</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-5 times</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21+ times</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-10 times</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>82</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Which days you attended

- Friday: 70
- Saturday: 79
- Sunday: 80
- Monday: 77
- Tuesday: 76
- Wednesday: 68
- prefer Fri-Wed: 60
- prefer Mon-Sat: 22

#### All things considered, I'm glad I attended Annual Session this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row Labels</th>
<th>Sum of Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moderately Di2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately A(1)(3)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly A(4)(3)</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(blank)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>82</td>
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</table>

#### What is your age?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row Labels</th>
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<tr>
<td>14-18</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-35</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-60</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>61-79</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81+</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>82</td>
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</table>

#### Plenaries attended

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plen</th>
<th>Sum of Count</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plen I</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plen II</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plen III</td>
<td>59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plen IV</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorials</td>
<td>62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plen V</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plen VI</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plen VII</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plen VIII</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plen IX</td>
<td>62</td>
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</table>

#### I like the way the plenaries were structured

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I like the way</th>
<th>Sum of Count</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Di1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately Di2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately A(1)(3)</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly A(4)(3)</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>(blank)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>82</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### How many interest groups did you attend?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interest groups offered covered topics of interest</th>
<th>Sum of Count</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moderately Di2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately A(1)(3)</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strongly A(4)(3)</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>(blank)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### How many times did you attend worship sharing?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How many times</th>
<th>Sum of Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(blank)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I did not partic</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>82</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### My worship sharing group experience was meaningful and worthwhile.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>My worship sharing experience was meaningful and worthwhile.</th>
<th>Sum of Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly Di1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately Di2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately A(1)(3)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly A(4)(3)</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>(blank)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Felt children’s program/JYM/YAF was positive for participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Felt children’s program/JYM/YAF was positive for participants</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Moderately Disagree</th>
<th>Moderately Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participated in Children’s Prog</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participated in JYM</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participated in YAF</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUMMARY
This is a report from the elder of the Presiding Clerk of Pacific Yearly Meeting. In this report, we offer a description of the Elder-Clerk relationship for the first year of the Clerk’s service, from July 31, 2018 to June 1, 2019.

When Sandy Kewman became the Presiding Clerk of Pacific Yearly Meeting in July 31st of 2018, an effort was made by the Sub-Committee on Eldering of PYM Ministry and Oversight to appoint an Elder for her tenure as Clerk. I was approached by the committee and asked to consider this service. Sandy and I have been close friends for over thirty years, first in Ann Arbor, Michigan and now as neighbors in Nevada City, California where we are both members of Grass Valley Friends Meeting.

In considering the request to serve as Sandy’s Elder, I had to lay our friendship aside and first discern if this was work that I was called to, that God wanted for me. Then I had to ask if I was ready and able to make the commitment, to provide spiritual accompaniment for Sandy’s ministry. As her Elder, I would be asked to hold Sandy in worship and care and to hold the ministry that she was taking on, the clerking of our yearly meeting, in worship and care. Was I able to fully embrace that role?

I did not respond immediately, but sought counsel and guidance from Friends, from God. When I felt I could say yes, it came without any hesitation but certainly with a sense of moving into the unknown.

Sandy and I began meeting weekly sometime in October of 2018. Sandy travels down the path from her house to mine. We meet for about 90 minutes, beginning and ending in worship. Our meetings allow Sandy to speak what is on her mind and heart: questions, struggle, ponderings, new ideas, in a worshipful space.

My work during these times is to be present and to hold Sandy’s work in worship. I offer reflections when led and when requested. We talk over how things went and how they might go. There is a difference in these conversations than those of our friendship. There is a sense that we are being asked to listen beyond our knowing. Over the year, Sandy and I have both perceived an increase in the spiritual depth and openness of our interactions. We are more willing to let truth arise.

In addition to our weekly meetings, Sandy and I traveled together to Representative Committee and participated in the Coordinating Team calls throughout the year. At RepCom, my role expanded to take on caring for Sandy’s rest, nourishment and solitude, with her guidance. We are both finding our way in these efforts as we continue to grow and refine our roles in this partnership.

As our relationship has grown and deepened we have experienced growing pains. It has not always been smooth or trouble free. We come up against ourselves as we walk this path. We are finding our way here as well.

For me, this experience has led to a greater sense of God’s presence in my life. I feel deeply nourished by the practice of sinking down to the seed, holding a worshipful space as an elder, supporting the faithfulness of the minister and the ministry.

For her part, Sandy describes the experience of our work together thusly: “When I enter our meeting, I am not sure what will happen, but it always leads to deeper knowing and then to deep gratitude. It helps me stand still in the light. It is as if we are both being accompanied by Jesus. I often feel that we are meeting in the upper room.”

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Henderson, Elder to the Presiding Clerk
It is with a sense of accomplishment that the Faith and Practice Revision Committee would like to thank you for your participation in our new “rolling revision” process. With the full expectation that further refinements to our process will be needed, we are prepared to declare a qualified success, partly because of the number and quality of responses we got from meetings, but equally because of the richness of the wrestling with our faith tradition that we sense is occurring as Friends consider the proposed texts.

In particular, we would like to recognize responses from the following meetings: Berkeley, Chico, Davis, Grass Valley, Humboldt, Inland Valley, Lake County, Live Oak, Mexico City, Palo Alto, Redwood Forest, Sacramento, San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Santa Monica, and Strawberry Creek.

If your meeting or PYM committee sent us responses, and you do not see that reflected in the list above, please resend your submissions to PYM.FPRevision@gmail.com so that your reflections are not lost. We would like to see more meetings and committees participate in this process, and are somewhat concerned that so few Southern Quarter meetings responded.

We expect to have one or two other drafts each year for you to consider, and hope to be able to bring some final pieces to annual sessions. At the same time, what we are finding, is that as Meetings respond to these drafts they raise new issues that need addressing either in the drafts circulated, or another part of the Faith and Practice. So the revelations continue.

To that end the committee decided to pick topics for Annual Session interest groups this year as a way of deepening the discussions that grew out of the responses we received. Therefore we will be sponsoring one interest group, in partnership with the Racial Justice Subcommittee of Ministry and Oversight, entitled Building the Beloved Community. This is an outgrowth of the draft we circulated on “Reaching Out” which was a small editorial correction, but generated a lot of interest in what a truly inclusive, welcoming community could look like.

The second interest group will be on the subject of eldering: Spiritual Eldering: Nurturing the Life of the Meeting. It will be in partnership with the eldering support group that serves the Yearly Meeting during sessions and further examine some of the comments that came back from the draft on Leadings. Should there be a special section on what it means to accompany people who are following a call? What should it include? We look forward to seeing you at one or both of these sessions.

The Committee this year consists of: Carl Magruder and Laura Magnani, (Strawberry Creek) co-clerks, Patricia Portillo and Jenifer Carr (Sacramento), Sarah Tyrell (Berkeley) and Sue Scott (Inland Valley). We also are joined by Jan Tappan, ex officio as the archivist.
Proposal to Affiliate with Friends General Conference

Pacific Yearly Meeting has been actively considering the possibility of affiliating with Friends General Conference since at least 2014 when this question was already referred to as a “recurrent issue.” (See FGC Affiliation Issue as Recorded in PYM Minutes and Reports 2014-2019.docx.) Over the past three years, monthly meetings have been considering whether we are led to affiliate. At the Annual Session in 2017, Friends asked for additional information. This was provided and the trend among monthly meetings seemed to favor affiliation. However, estimates of the costs of affiliating were not available until just before the Annual Session in 2018. A large volume of information, including estimated costs, is catalogued in the request (link here) made to monthly meetings this year to again consider the question of affiliation in preparation for 2019 Annual Session.

At this point five meetings have independently affiliated with FGC. All meetings reporting back acknowledge that FGC has been a valuable resource. The cost of affiliation was a concern to some Friends at two meetings with suggestions that the number of representatives might be reduced to two and that Zoom or videoconferencing might reduce the costs. One other financially better off meeting suggested that if PYM decides to affiliate their meeting could pay more than their share to underwrite the costs for less financially secure meetings. Most Friends agree that costs are not the overriding factor.

While many meetings and individual Friends continue to favor affiliation, some Friends have expressed reservations. Friends asked about the financial status of FGC. A document on the FGC website (link) summarizes FGC’s journey from 2004 to the present to reach a balance budget. The financial situation does appear to have stabilized. Some Friends have noted that yearly meetings such as Pacific Yearly Meeting that use FGC resources without fully bearing the cost have contributed to that organization’s financial difficulties.

The two primary questions remain:

1. Why are we considering affiliation with FGC?
2. Is affiliation with FGC consistent with the history of Pacific Yearly Meeting as an independent yearly meeting?

Why Affiliate?

The principal force moving Friends to favor affiliation is the recognition that nearly all Pacific Yearly Meeting monthly meetings and many individual Friends make use of Friends General Conference resources and find them valuable. As a matter of integrity, PYM should affiliate and contribute both financially and to the governance of this organization.

Many Friends see FGC resources as very relevant to the issues we are facing as a yearly meeting. As Pacific Yearly Meeting seeks to become more welcoming and inclusive to those
from diverse backgrounds, as we seek to understand systemic racism and oppression within our meetings, the resources offered by FGC will be even more important.

Pacific Yearly Meeting has been shrinking in size. Affiliating with FGC will give PYM officers and committees ready access to a network of other yearly meetings and opportunities to learn from their experiences.

Is Affiliation Consistent with Being an Independent Yearly Meeting?

Some Friends fear that affiliation with FGC will close doors to relationships with Friends from more Christo-centric or conservative meetings and churches. To understand the basis for this concern, it will be useful to have a shared understanding of the foundation of Pacific Yearly Meeting as an independent yearly meeting. Below is a brief summary based on research George Mills conducted on the beginnings of PYM at the *Western Friend* archive.

Pacific Yearly Meeting was formed under the umbrella of Pacific Coast Association of Friends, an independent association founded in 1935 when the larger Society of Friends in the United States was still in the grip of the Hicksite/Orthodox split. Pacific Coast Association of Friends invited membership from meetings, churches, individuals Friends and “friends of Friends” without any formal theological statement that would seem to align with one side or another in the Hicksite/Orthodox split. The conference marking the founding of this independent group was reported in *Friends Bulletin* in October 1935, including the statement by William Lawrence: “The Pacific Coast Association of Friends affords an opportunity to promote the sense of unity throughout all Friends.”

By 1946, West coast meetings were ready to form their own Yearly Meeting. In an article in *Friends Bulletin* in August 1947, Phillip H. Wells noted:

Most of the meetings have reported themselves ready to join in the adventure of a new yearly meeting, so, according to our minute of last year, we will be meeting as the first annual session of the Pacific Yearly Meeting, within, and conjointly with the Pacific Coast Association of Friends. Many details of our organization will need to be worked out through the years ahead. We can develop only as we grow in unity. Whatever we do must be done in seeking and in love. What does not work can be changed.

At its founding Pacific Yearly Meeting declared its intention to remain in contact with all branches of Friends and to remain independent of any bodies associated with any one “branch” of Friends.

The Pacific Yearly Meeting will seek to enter into correspondence with Yearly Meetings in the Society of Friends and humbly hopes to be recognized by these Meetings. It will seek affiliation with the various Friends Councils, and will assist in their work as the way opens.
The Yearly Meeting does not belong to a "branch" of the Society, and therefore is not associated with the Five Year's Meetings, the Friends General Conference, or the Conservative body, although welcoming fellowship with all Friends.

--Taken from the Organization Committee Report
Adopted at First Formal Meeting of PYM, 1947

How should this history affect a decision to affiliate with FGC in 2019? In some ways the splits among Friends are even more profound than they were in 1947. Pacific Yearly Meeting efforts to send liaisons to the annual session of Evangelical Friends International-Southwest were rebuffed because only pastors were invited. Several more conservative yearly meetings are dividing over the acceptance of LGBTQ members or whether a Quaker church could administer sacraments.

Pacific Yearly Meeting remains active with Friends World Committee on Consultation as a way to stay in spiritual communion with Friends from different traditions. At the same time, Pacific Yearly Meeting is actually less diverse theologically than yearly meetings like New England, New York, Baltimore and Canada Yearly Meeting. These yearly meetings all affiliate with both FGC and Friends United Meeting and include semi-programmed, even pastoral meetings. Is that an option for Pacific Yearly Meeting? Do PYM monthly meetings feel drawn to Friends United Meeting gatherings? Do we use FUM resources?

Perhaps our calling is to come to this annual session open to the Spirit, in the same way that Phillip Wells approached the very first annual session of PYM in 1947:

Whatever we do must be done in seeking and in love. What does not work can be changed.

Respectfully submitted,
Shan Cretin, Co-Clerk
Ministry & Oversight.
Friends General Conference offers many different programs to anyone interested in topics related to Quakerism. These include:

**The Annual Gathering:** This year in Grinnell, Iowa, June 30-July 6, 2019, “Peace in Our Hearts, Justice in the World,” Worship, workshops, singing, cafeteria meals, evening speakers, children’s programs and more. [https://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering](https://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering)

**The Quaker Bookstore,** which is available online; their site contains suggestions for Quaker-related books to read in a column called “Our Picks.” They also have book reviews of books on topics related to Quaker themes, and you can write a book review and perhaps have it printed in their column. Another column re-prints the book reviews printed in *Friends Journal.* [https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/bookstore](https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/bookstore)

**Building Intergenerational Communities:** with The Build-It Toolkit, a set of resources, available online from FGC, and designed to help build intergenerational communities. [https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/building-intergenerational-community-0](https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/building-intergenerational-community-0)

**FGC Publications:** FGC publishes primarily through Quaker Press of FGC, whose publications are on topics that address one or more of FGC’s goals. Titles include our own Anthony Manousos’ *Howard and Anna Brinton.* [https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/fgc-publications](https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/fgc-publications)

**Grants for Meetinghouse Repairs and Upgrades:** offers support for meetings seeking help in making repairs and effecting energy efficient upgrades. They list projects that have been supported by their grants. [https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/grants-meeting-house-repairs-and-upgrades](https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/grants-meeting-house-repairs-and-upgrades)

**Help for Meetings to Challenge Racism:** There’s a section of the FGC website that has a number of resources to help us to begin thinking about how to challenge racism in our meetings and what to do if we feel drawn to this work. [https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/help-your-meeting-challenge-racism](https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/help-your-meeting-challenge-racism)

**Loans Through Friends Meeting House Fund:** Quaker meetings can apply for a loan from the Friends Meeting House Fund for renovating, constructing, or purchasing a meeting house. Since 2017, these loans are arranged through Everance. [https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/loans-through-friends-meeting-house-fund](https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/loans-through-friends-meeting-house-fund)

**Resources for Adults interested in Religious Education** are located in the “Resources for Adults” section. Included here is information about the Spiritual Deepening series of workshops that FGC has been developing as an online resource for friends wanting to study various topics more intensely, either in an online or an in-person group. [https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/resources-adults](https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/resources-adults)

The **Resources for Children section** includes a number of different resources to use for religious education of children, including items from the FGC *Faith & Play* Series, and from the *Sparkling Still* series. [https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/resources-children](https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/resources-children)

**Quaker Cloud:** an FGC resource that allows meetings to maintain a website; to archive, search and share meeting minutes with members and, if they choose, with the public; and offers an option to create a directory where members maintain their own information and it’s easy to print a new version. [https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/quaker-cloud](https://www.fgcquaker.org/services/quaker-cloud)

With warm regards,
Heather Levien, PYM’s Observer to FGC Central Committee
CREATING CULTURES OF PEACE

Nadine Hoover has developed a program to help people bring peace, child development, sustainable work, and community decision making into violent, struggling, poor communities. The program is called Creating Cultures of Peace.

Friends Peace Teams in Asia West Pacific plans to pay three people, one in Indonesia, one in the Philippines and one in Nepal to pilot test Creating Cultures of Peace. They will do this online. They will train facilitators using software Learndash. Each will translate it into their own language. Then in 2020 anyone who has taken the training and who wants to become a facilitator can gather a small group of 3-6 people locally and sign up for the online facilitators’ training, thus training more people. We have some money to do this, but we need more. By contributing, hopefully you will be spreading peace and well being.

In Indonesia, the training will go to inter-religious groups of young adults, citizen leaders, teachers and parents of young children (some normal and some deaf). In Nepal, the training will be offered to the National Land Rights Forum, DSRC and citizen leaders. In the Philippines, the training will be offered to Catholic Student Action, a Catholic Worker movement and to environmental and human rights activists and citizen leaders. In addition, in Aotearoa/New Zealand it will be offered to Moari-speakers and students of varied backgrounds. These trainers will join Nadine Hoover in developing online training for facilitators, which, in combination with regular personal and local practice will hone their skills as they develop local training teams.

Gay Howard
Representative to Friends Peace Teams
SUMMARY
None

Gathering of the Friends World Committee for Consultation Section of the Americas
(FWCC ) / Comite Mundial de Consultacion los Amigos, Seccion de Las Americas (CMCA)

PYM's two representatives, Emelyn Buskirk and Jan Turner along with five other women from
PYM attended the section meeting of the Friends World Committee in the gathering held in
March, 2019 in Excelsior Springs Missouri. The Spirit of Love was moving in the gathering.
That was the result of the hard work that was done by the staff and volunteers of the FWCC to
bring together all parts of the Quaker family from all over the Western Hemisphere. That is the
calling of the Friends World Committee/Comite Mundial. According to their literature, we "act on
the testimony of equality as we seek to cross barriers of geographical distance, language,
culture, racism, theology, gender, age, access to power and material wealth." Many of those
barriers were overcome in Missouri as we worshiped together, did business together, learned
together, and got to know each other in small groups. For us, this was spiritually nurturing as
Spirit moved through those broken boundaries.

The language barrier was broken again and again as all presentations were given bilingually,
using the two main languages of the Section of the Americas: Spanish and English. Everyone
was included through the use of translation and interpretation. Often the translation was
consecutive, first a chunk in one language, then in the other. This gave access to those who
spoke little English, and let us English speakers be edified by what our Spanish speaking
brothers and sisters had to share. One of us had the privilege of attending a worship sharing
groups led by a young Bolivian woman. There was joy by the efforts of all us bilinguals as we
searched for the right words as we translated for each other.

Working together across theological divides prepared us to be more effective in our efforts to
heal a suffering world. For example, the presentation on environmental sustainability was given
by two Evangelical Friends and one Liberal Friend. That was our own Shelley Tanenbaum!
Adrian Halverstadt, Director of Evangelical Friends Church of North America, gave us guidance
about how to talk to Evangelical Christians about the environment. Hint: Don't talk about the
science: talk about the Bible. He also gave us a deeper understanding of what the Bible says
about earth care. The most recent issue of Quaker Earthcare Witness' newsletter includes an
article about this workshop.
https://www.quakerearthcare.org/article/awaking-across-friends)

All in all, it was a wonderful experience for those of us who got to attend.

Submitted by Emelyn Buskirk with help from Shelley Tanenbaum
JYM Committee began planning for Representative Committee in January. During their meeting at Representative Committee in La Jolla teens laid out a draft schedule that was almost complete, and populated the usual JYM subcommittees: FRAP selection, Admin & Scheduling, Dance, Service Project, Worship Sharing & Support Groups, and Snacks & Clean-up. Teens also designated liaisons for the Respectful Relationships workshop, and AVP sessions.

Planning continued during Zoom meetings, with appreciation for the meeting space provided by Western Friend’s online Zoom space. Some FRAP recruitment was necessary to achieve a comfortable complement of adults for day and night presences. A dance theme, “Thru the Decades,” was developed that we hope appeals to all ages.

Despite a few bobbles, we expect to be ready to enjoy a well-organized and sociable time of fellowship in July.

Alyssa Nelson’s part-time assistance, above and beyond the call of duty, was greatly appreciated. We look forward to getting acquainted with Pacific Yearly Meeting’s new Youth Program Coordinator this summer.

JYM Leadership
Co-Clerks
Callum Standish
Charlie Shaw
Elinor Steffy
Gabriela Alvarado

JYM M&O
Santiago Myers, Clerk
Aaron Cantu
Alby Penney
Eben Green
Robin Johnson

Adult Committee
Suzanne Doss
David Lederman
Don McCormick
Austin Stanion
Dan Strickland
Sarah Armstrong-Jones (Co-Clerk)
Muriel Strand (Co-Clerk)
Meeting for Memorials was held on Sunday, July 14, 2019, from 3:15 to 5:30 pm. In this meeting for worship we remembered members of PYM Monthly Meetings who passed away since last Annual Session.

Readers:
Carolyn Stephenson
Saima Farrukh
Paul Harris
Mico Sorrel
Anthony Manousos

People Remembered:
Elaine Amoruso (Berkeley)
Jed Appelman (Strawberry Creek)
Harry Bailey (Grass Valley)
John Boles (Redwood Forest)
Yvonne Courtenaye Brown (La Jolla)
Peter Bunting (Delta)
Miriam Bruff Covington (Santa Monica)
Marjorie Cox (Honolulu)
Alice Dean-Daniel (Big Island)
Dorothy Duncan (Redwood Forest)
Annie Schwartz Esposito (John Woolman School)
Charles “Chuck” Freidel (Inland Valley)
Curtis Haugeborg (Sacramento)
Ralene Hearn (Appleseed)
Ann Henry (San Jose)
Burton Housman (La Jolla)
Guy Johnson (San Francisco)
Joyce Kraus (Berkeley)
Elizabeth “Beth” Borton Sanger Lovett (Visalia)
Lois Roberta MacDonald (Palo Alto)
John Mackinney (Berkeley)
Nancy Michelson (Santa Barbara)
Mary Lou Moses (Palo Alto)
Nancy Nelson (Central Coast)
Larry Pettit (San Francisco)
Delbert Reynolds (Grass Valley)
Peter Rothaug (San Francisco)
Ann Herbert Scott (Redwood Forest)
Steve Sharpless (Redding)
James "Jim" Gill Updegraff III (Sacramento)
Anne Brodzky Williams (San Francisco)
Walter George Wilson (Monterey Peninsula)
PYMHC, a 501(c)(2) non-profit corporation incorporated in 1966, was created to hold title (bare legal title) to assets of meetings, worship groups, and other compatible Quaker entities within the area of Pacific Yearly Meeting. PYM’s incorporation is a different category – 501(c)(3) – and not appropriate for the purpose of the Holding Corporation. PYMHC’s primary focus is to support unincorporated Quaker entities, as incorporated meetings’ assets and members are protected by their incorporation. We also hold title to assets from former meetings. In all cases, PYMHC invests and disburses the assets and/or their earnings in accordance with the instructions given PYMHC by the actual owner (or former owner) of the property or asset.

PYMHC has 3 financial accounts in addition to the mortgage on the former meeting house of San Fernando Valley Friends Meeting. We have two TIAA Bank accounts. One of the TIAA accounts holds mortgage receipts; the other TIAA account holds PYMHC’s own moneys, which are available for any extraordinary expenses — legal or otherwise; the third account, with Friends Fiduciary Corporation, holds the residue of Marin Friends Meeting’s money entrusted to PYMHC.

As of June 30, 2019, the latest date of statements, the Friends Fiduciary Corporation account value was $12,606.38; the PYMHC account held $1,100.48; the former San Fernando Valley Friends Meeting mortgage account held $36,628.09. The last of these accounts is available for PYMHC to make grants to meetings which need to improve their facilities in accordance with PYMHC policy.

As noted earlier, the Church of God which owns the former San Fernando Valley Friends meeting house falls behind in payments from time to time; however, they always manage to get up to date. As of the end of June, they were one month behind in payment. If all goes well with them, they should have the mortgage paid off in ninth month 2021. (Lanny Jay holds the original mortgage documents.)

Every year we are expected to elect officers for the coming year. We will soon be in the process of holding a board meeting to elect officers. This year we renewed our registration with California. The 2018-19 officers are:

President        Stratton Jaquette
Treasurer        Roy Allen
Secretary        Jeff Kroeber

with Lanny Jay appointed Agent for Service. Other Corporation members are Jennifer Carr, Sharlene Roberts-Caudle, Paul Harris, Margaret Mossman, and Sandy Kewman (ex officio as PYM Presiding Clerk).

Submitted,
Stratton C. Jaquette
President, PYMHC
4.vii.2019
I am grateful for having had the opportunity to meet with Friends at the Spring 2019 QEW meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota on April 11-14. My journey started on Thursday with an early morning flight cancellation as a result of the late spring blizzard, “Winter Storm Wesley”, that was sweeping the northern midwestern states. After nearly 14 hours in airports, I arrived by Uber to my Quaker hosted destination at 3 am on Friday. Luckily, the city of St. Paul is always prepared for snow, so streets were clear and plowed. Friday brought a lovely white blanket of soft snow, but kept many other Friends from making the journey.

Twin Cities Friends Meeting in St. Paul hosted this QEW meeting. Our accommodations were provided in Friends’ homes, in St. Paul and Minneapolis. Both Barb Adams (from Virginia) and myself were staying at the home of Kristen Becker in St. Paul. I have a growing friendship with both Barb and Kristen as a result of our involvement with QEW and it was such a joy to be able to share and support each other. Our friendships have strengthened through our time we spent together.

In the morning on both Friday and Saturday, we gathered into committee and working group to continue the monthly conference call work in person. I am a part of the Outreach Working Group and the UN working Group. One of the highlights of the Friday Business meeting was a video that Barb Adams produced for the Outreach committee that interviewed Friends in QEW discussing their involvement in QEW. The video is still in draft form, but will soon be available to general viewing.

On each evening, a potluck dinner was shared with Friends from St. Paul and Minneapolis. The Friday night’s evening program was held at the Twin Cities meetinghouse. We enjoyed a presentation from the Middle School students of the Friends School Minnesota. The students presented a video called “Protecting Pollinators” and a Q and A session. They had been working with bees and gardening, learning and teaching others. They created a fantastic video to share their journey.

On Saturday, we traveled to the Minneapolis Friends meetinghouse for a potluck dinner. The presentation that evening was a panel on Transition Towns from local F/friends. Ideas were shared on how to connect and create community while engaging in reducing carbon and finding ways to conserve, reduce and reuse.

On Sunday, our Spring QEW meeting commenced with a short Q and A forum before Worship at the Twin Cities meetinghouse. My trip back home was uneventful, with no cancellations or weather delays!

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve PYM as a representative to QEW.
Many Blessings, Andrea Beane
Santa Monica Monthly Meeting
SECRETARIAT AND WEBSITE CONTENT TEAM REPORT TO ANNUAL SESSION 2019

SUMMARY

- The Secretariat and the Website Content Team operate within Communications Committee. There is much synergy between their tasks and this reporter currently clerks both, hence the joint report.
- There is a new “PYM Minutes page” at https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/pym-minutes where you can access PYM minutes from 2001 to the present and also 1947-1957. There’s also a standalone List of Minutes of Action since 2001. We encourage Friends to make use of this collection for research as well as simply to browse the “bigger picture” of PYM’s evolution over the years.
- The Secretariat will produce the Daily Miracle at Annual Session 2019 as usual but needs committed volunteers to make this possible since Secretariat is no longer a regular PYM committee.
- The PYM website has continued to evolve, though only incrementally. We are always looking for your suggestions to make the site more usable and more useful. Let us know how the website can better serve to communicate “your PYM work.”

Minutes and Friends History

Your Clerks, Recording Clerks, Secretariat Clerk and Website Content Team all worked together in 2018 to complete the collection of PYM minutes back to 2001 and make them easily accessible on a dedicated page on the website (see above). This effort was reported at RepCom 2019 and in a post on the website. When it recently came to our attention that for the first 11 years of PYM’s formal existence the PYM minutes were published in Friends Bulletin (precursor to Western Friend magazine), we added links to those issues of Friends Bulletin from the Western Friend online archive. Quite apart from the minutes, the Western Friend archive (https://westernfriend.org/deep-archive) is an extremely valuable and interesting resource which we commend to Friends as a way to learn about the history of Quakers on the West Coast, and indeed around the whole Pacific Rim, as reported in the pages of Friends Bulletin since 1929.

Secretariat Staffing

Since “the Secretariat” is no longer a regular committee of PYM, Communications Committee has been in conversation with Nominating Committee to find the best way to ensure a stable, committed workforce for the jobs of the Secretariat, both at Annual Session (think “Daily Miracle” and “copy center”) and year-around (think “advance packet” and “minutes”). As it stands now, Communications Committee alone is responsible for staffing and operating the Secretariat using “volunteers” (from inside or outside of ComCom). But use of volunteers is less likely to provide the continuity and institutional memory that regular committee appointments provide. The last regularly nominated Secretariat Clerk (myself) terms out after 2019, and it is currently unclear how that role will be filled for 2020 and beyond.

The Secretariat consists formally only of myself, George Mills (Clerk), though many others have helped in various capacities, especially at Annual Session.

The Website Content Team has been Sharon Gates, Arthur Kegerreis, Alyssa Nelson and George Mills (Clerk).

Both of these groups operate under PYM Communications Committee. All the named individuals happen to be either regular or ex officio members of ComCom and attend all ComCom meetings.
“[They] not busy being born is busy dying.”
--Bob Dylan

A senescent tree, while slowly dying—rotting from the inside, harboring disease, branches dying off and falling—may still be leafing out in the spring, putting on some new growth, even flowering and fruiting in season, feeding critters and sheltering tender new growth in its shade. Once fallen, it may continue to foster new life in its shade. An older forest may have senescent trees alongside some healthy ancient trees and some standing dead trees (snags, providing habitat for other creatures). There may or may not be saplings to take the place of the trees that are dying.

This could be a metaphor for Pacific Yearly Meeting. Is the old Pacific Yearly Meeting is on its way out? You have only to look at the numbers in attendance at annual sessions: half what it was not so many years ago at Mount Madonna. JYM is a third what it was at its peak; the Children’s Program similarly shrunken. Many of the constituent monthly meetings in their state of the meeting reports talk about an aging membership, shrinking numbers, not enough people to fill the roles to do the work of the meeting. Fewer than half the reporting meetings talk in their reports about a children’s program. If spoken of, the program may sometimes consist of a plan in the case of a child or children showing up. In the words of one passionate young Friend, “This is a crisis! PYM is dying.”

And yet there is regrowth. We see it in the younger Friends who now fill positions in our most essential yearly meeting committees. We see it in the handful of meetings who chronicle increasing numbers of younger people or a flourishing children’s program. Not surprisingly, those meetings that have developed outreach strategies are more likely to see increases in attendance than others. It is not clear to what extent the yearly meeting as a whole or its constituent monthly meetings will be successful in passing on their treasures, after years of hiding them under the bushel basket.

We see most meetings faithfully involved in social issues and community service: common areas of corporate concern show up, for example, as involvement in feeding and sheltering the homeless and in immigration issues. Often, meetings support individuals in their leadings and take pride in this work.

Many meetings report the spiritual sustenance of worship, with or without vocal ministry. Many meetings support this sustenance with religious education of one sort or another—meeting retreats, worship sharing, “seekers” gatherings before or after meeting for exploration and discussion, and so forth. Likewise important to people of many meetings is the community and fellowship aspect of Quaker life. Meetings support this community life in various ways. Activities designed to deepen spiritual life and those designed to promote community overlap. What we don’t hear often in the state of the meeting reports is accounts of how Spirit is moving amongst us, shaking us and changing us. We, our meetings, our country, our world stand in dire need of transformation; we seem to be still waiting in the dark, not yet recognizing the transformation that is being asked of us.

In counterpoint to this appreciation of community and fellowship, a number of meetings and some committees report struggling with conflict and discord, sometimes with the corroding effects of longstanding personal rancor. Meetings have been torn apart when domestic violence or sexual abuse of children is unmasked in the meeting community. More subtly, micro-aggressions against women, people of color, women, or elders may disturb the community even if not brought to light. Occasionally, it is reported that moving through conflict and discord has strengthened the meeting; yet often meetings continue to struggle, sometimes diminished in the effort.
Anti-racism work not just in the world but in our own meetings is an emerging area of concern, expressed by yearly meeting committees—Ministry and Oversight, Peace and Social Order, and Youth Program Coordinator Committee—as well as a monthly meeting here or there. This concern goes beyond our long established commitment to racial justice (as witnessed in our equality testimony) to the challenge of confronting and dismantling embedded unconscious racism in ourselves and in our dominantly white meetings. There is an emerging yearning for more diversity in our midst, a growing awareness of the riches we’ve been unconsciously excluding. This yearning is prompted into action by the People of Color affinity group and by individuals amongst us. We are reminded that historical racism is still embedded in hurtful behaviors. The fulfillment of this yearning to break loose from the chains of our embodied hurts and hurtfulness is messy work with many individual and corporate challenges to be opened and faced. There will continue to be failures and woundings. Much humility plus tenderness towards one another will be needed in order to faithfully put into practice the core mandate: “Love ye one another.”

Notably absent from most of our state of the meeting reports is activity around climate change. Our yearly meeting’s Unity With Nature committee is in total disarray. This critical issue of the decade, so in need of action grounded in spirit, an issue which draws the energy of so many young people globally, is in the foreground of the work of other Quaker organizations worldwide. Take a look at the sustainability resources of the Friends World Committee on consultation (www.fwcc.world) and the webpage of Quakers and Climate Change Worldwide (https://quakersandclimatechange.com) for starters. This is a multi-cultural, multi-racial, multi-generational concern for survival of life on our planet, including ourselves; an issue that already affects most strongly the dispossessed of the world, mostly people of color. It’s an issue of great urgency; scientists say we’re entering a make-it-or-break-it decade. Our testimonies offer us guidance. And yet, with a few exceptions, our Pacific Yearly Meeting voices appear to be largely missing. PYM has a long history of earthcare witness—are we fading at this critical time? The injunction to “love your neighbor”—does it apply to all the neighbors we share this planet with, all human beings as well as all our relatives, the other animals and the plants? If we took this commandment seriously, if we took it a step deeper, what might we be called to do?

This report was prepared by the Ministry and Oversight Committee