

The Daily Miracle

Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Monday, July 17, 2017

Monday Schedule

6:20–7:00	Outdoor Worship <i>(In front of Pine Lodge)</i>
7:00–8:00	Breakfast
8:00–9:00	Worship <i>(Plenary tent)</i>
9:15–10:45	Bible Study <i>(Fireside)</i> or Worship Sharing
11:00–12:30	Plenary V <i>(Plenary tent)</i>
12:45–1:30	Lunch
1:30–3:00	Early Quaker Writings <i>(Fireside)</i> or Worship Sharing
3:15–4:45	Interest Groups III
4:45–5:30	Open Committee Meetings
5:30–6:30	Dinner
6:45–8:15	Plenary VI <i>(Plenary tent)</i>
8:30–10:00	RAINBOW Intergenerational Dance <i>hosted by JYM (Boogie Barn)</i>

Interest Groups 3:15 – 4:45 pm

Waging Peace in the Trump Era

David Hartsough and Anthony Manousos, P&SO — Plenary Tent

What are some of the Spirit-led and most effective ways to respond to Trump's militarism and jingoism? We will look at George Lakey's "Ten Steps for Stopping Trump." David Hartsough will also share his thoughts and experiences traveling to Russia in the past year, his seventh trip there since 1961. David is the author of *Waging Peace: Global Adventures of a Lifelong Activist*

Spiritual Accompaniment: Experiences of Eldering and Being Eldered

Panel led by Valerie Nuttman, M&O — Maple

A panel of people will talk about spiritual accompaniment- what it is like from both sides- as a person who has been accompanied or as the person acting as elder in the relationship. There will be an experiential exercise to give everyone a feeling of what it is like to offer and receive that kind of support.

A Friendly Death

Claire Gorfinkel and Carl Magruder, Faith & Practice Revision — Fireside

Historically, Friends viewed death as the culmination of a faithful life—a transition to full communion with Spirit. As Friends grew near to dying, their final testaments were carefully recorded and shared, as having special power and meaning. How do Friends regard death now? What is a Friendly Death to thee? Is physician assisted dying consonant with Friends' belief and tradition? How do we prepare for the inevitable? Come and we will explore these topics together.

How Can Friends Navigate and Counter Islamophobic Rhetoric?

Shannon Frediani, P&SO — Middle Sequoia

Due to the increase in Islamophobic rhetoric and proposed policies that equate Islam as a world religion with terrorism, we will explore the production of phobias in our country in order to counter these imperial imaginary constructs. Productions of evil rely on cultivating fear in civil society, therefore, learning how to delink these social imaginaries is key to countering the fears and injustices of our time.

AFSC: The Next 100 Years

Shan Cretin, AFSC — Garden Room

A conversation with the Outgoing General Secretary. Come be part of envisioning the future. How can we be the prophetic organization we were meant to be? How do we listen authentically to the voices of the most downtrodden among us? What kind of world can we build in which all people thrive? What role can you play?

AFFINITY GROUPS

There will be no Affinity Groups on Monday. Affinity Groups will resume on Tuesday.

MINISTRY & OVERSIGHT

Bible Study

Bible study is on offer every morning of the session in the Fireside Room. It is open to all and is “come as you are.”

Worship Sharing Groups

Please leave a message for Julie Harlow on the message board or at the information desk if you experience some difficulty during the Worship Sharing Group time. Drop-in Worship Sharing groups are available. Sign up at the Info Desk on the Patio.

What is the Secretariat?

A place where selected individuals with enormous dedication and patience work tirelessly to produce *The Daily Miracle* even if it takes till 2 in the morning because of all the interruptions. Don't be one of the interruptions.

As a Yearly Meeting, we are

Could you write a State of the Society Report for PYM? Well, you are going to be asked to do so. If you would like to read some of the State of the Meeting Reports, they are all in binders in the Quiet Room (Quail), at the Info Booth, and in the dining Hall.

Welcoming the Stranger

Some of us have been here for several days and/or have been here before. Others have just arrived or are here for the first time. Newcomers are invited to add a special “First Time Attenders” sticker to your name badge. There is a committee in charge of making sure these new attendees feel welcomed and don't eat alone. The committee has approximately 230 members (at no cost to the YM). Each member is named “Someone.” If you are someone, you are on the committee. Remember what makes you feel welcome and pass it on.

Microphone Manners

PYM's portable mics are very directional and very short-distance sensitive. Please don't be a mic grabber! Our walking mic carriers know how to hold the mic to best pick up your message; please let them. For speakers using the stationary mic stand, get close and make sure the mic is pointed directly at your mouth. For better hearing!

— *Pat Wolff, Sound Tech*

Assisted Hearing at Plenary

Headsets are available in the tent if you would like to try them for improved audio.

Bookstore Hours

The Earthlight Bookstore is located in Carson. The hours on Monday will be: 9:15 – 10:45, 1:30 – 3:00, 6:45 – 9:30. Hours on Tuesday will be the same, but closed for Family Night (6:45 – 8:15). If the bookstore is not staffed, you may select books and leave them in the “reserved bin” to pay for later.

Message Board

The message board is a place to leave a note for someone at the Annual Session:

- “Hey, meet me for lunch at the patio...”
- “May I borrow your air pump?”
- “Thou was faithful to your gift this morning.”
- “Friend, your ministry touched me. Thank you.”

Annual Session Evaluations

The online Annual Session evaluation form is live and will be available until Sunday, August 6 on www.pacificyearlymeeting.org under "Announcements and Quick Links" as well as under "Annual Session 2017." Paper copies of the survey will be available on the Clerk's table in the Plenary tent for those who are unable to use the online form. *Be aware that the Assistant to the Clerk will take the paper forms and enter the information from each into the online survey so that data can be collected and analyzed for all responses. Please spare the Assistant to the Clerk this extra task and use the online survey if you are able.*

— *Pat Wolff, Sound Tech*

The Bible and Care of the Earth

What Does the Bible Say about Our Relationship with God's Creation? Of God to God's Creation? Do you discern an Earthcare Testimony in the Bible?

Friends are invited to bring passages in the Bible relevant to Earthcare and Relationship with God's Creation to share in a special group at Bible Study — *today at 9:45 AM. in the Fireside Room.*

Right Sharing of World Resources

If you would like to learn about or discuss how Right Sharing of World Resources (RSWR) supports women's project in India, Kenya, and Sierra Leone, look for the yellow "sandwich" during lunch Monday & Tuesday.

— *Doug Smith*

The Afghan Girls School Fundraiser

is back in the Bay Room. Shawls this year are used donations, with two exceptions. The exceptions are priced. All others are yours for any donation you are led to give. The coin jewelry is back too!

— *Sue & Peggy (AGS Committee)*

Guatemala Handicrafts

Yes, we are here! We are located in the Madrone room of the Bath House. In addition to many of your favorites, there are new cutting boards made of reclaimed teak and St. Frances statutes this year. Your purchases support university scholarships for Mayan students in Guatemala. Cash or check only. See our website for further program information:

www.guatemalafriends.org/scholarship-program/

— *Donna Smith, Co-Clerk, Guatemala Friends Scholarship Program.*

Awaken Your Creative Juices to the Presence of an Adoring Audience

It's time to prepare for Family Night! Sign up at the Information Tent today to assure your place on the program. Acts should be limited to 3 minutes. If you would like an exception, please see Bronwen or Janet to make your pitch.

— *Questions? See Bronwen.*

Friends General Council

Those who are interested in FGC affiliation and FGC programs should look for the FGC sign on the table inside the dining room where the Daily Miracle is placed. As we are able to, we will provide someone to talk with you and hear your comments at most meals, during the 8:30 pm Affinity Group time, and during the Open Committee on Monday. Those having experience with the various programs of FGC are invited to sign up at the Information Canopy on the patio for a specific time slot at the Table.

— *Julie Harlow, Ministry and Oversight Committee*

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Report to PYM

The AFSC report and links to a variety of interesting AFSC videos are available from the online version of *The Daily Miracle*. See

www.pacificyearlymeeting.org

AFSC Report – Building Peace with Justice: AFSC celebrates its 100th Year:

www.afsc.org/blogs/acting-in-faith/building-peace-justice-afsc-celebrates-its-100th-year

— *Shan Cretin*

Join PYM on the Slack Messaging App!

We're still using the Slack group for PYM. If you used Slack last year, you can sign in at pacificyearlymeeting.slack.com. Any Friend who already has an account can invite others. You can also email pymsecretariat@gmail.com to request an invitation. With Walker Creek's wife, Slack is a great place to get updates about Affinity Groups, see photos Friends are posting, and more!

Quiet Room

Quail is the Quiet Room. It is only for silent reading, meditation, or contemplation. There are State of the Meeting reports, Memorial Minutes, and other reading materials. Do not use it for other activities even if you find it empty.

Special Food Requests

Menu with allergens are at the whiteboards at door, and in back of the room. Special items, dedicated toaster and jam, etc., are available in kitchen.

*Questions? Ask Jan Turner:
yellowgateroad@gmail.com*

Arrangements Help Wanted

Please help set up chairs in the plenary tent. Sign up at the info booth or just show up 20 minutes early to morning worship or plenary.

Golf Cart

If you need assistance in getting from one location to another on the site, you may sign up in advance for a ride in the golf cart. Please sign up at the Information Tent and give us an hour or so advance notice to arrange your ride. The tent will close nightly around 7:00 p.m., so please plan your requests ahead of time. You can also sign up at the tent if you would like to be trained to drive the golf cart for others.

The Bath House

The Bath House is a shared space and the hooks and shelves there are for temporary use. Please ensure that Friends can find places to put their things while showering, etc. by taking all your personal items when you leave.

I Lost My Hat

It's not in the lost & found. It is a print with greens and yellows, with a wired brim inside the edge for shaping. There's a tie in the back. If found, please take to Lost & Found.

—*Thanks Friends, Sue Scott*

A Request: Two Haiku

*[We do not understand this
But we notice the words are haiku
Friend Betz has some information]*

Free quilt style, light weight
with different square in fall colors, see
Betz Miller, Willow room two

Help Needed

Peni Hall, a disabled woman in Willow #4, needs a woman to help apply the electrodes of a TENS machine on her back every morning around 9:00 am; time negotiable. It takes about 20 minutes. Peni and Julia Bazar also need about 2 people on Wednesday morning to help pack up and move sleep gear, bags, and medical stuff and load their van. Time negotiable, but we have to be out by 10:00 am.

— *Thanks. Peni Hall*

Befriend Aurora

Aurora, the child in the pink wheelchair, is in search of new friends of all ages to talk and play games with her and assist her with meals and companionship.

Please talk with her and with her mom Katherine if you'd like to connect with Aurora.

Many Thanks from Julie

My left knee recently developed pain that makes more than a few steps very painful. Until I have an MRI on Wed and can take action for a cure, the wheelchair keeps me relatively free from pain. I have appreciated and been warmed and uplifted by all the help I received this week: helping me get meals, unloading my belongings and schlepping them to my room, carrying materials, finding me a room with better access, more schlepping, being a "gofer" when I need something, more schlepping, and all that pushing me around. And many who have expressed their loving concern. Being a part of this family is such a blessing. This week my request for help is a necessity. Why is it so difficult to ask for help at other times? Friends are so glad to make life easier for others. Let us not hesitate to ask for help - it may bring you both joy.

FEAR NOT. ASK!

— *Julie Harlow*

Request for Light

Jill Lessing, from Strawberry Creek Meeting was taken to the hospital Friday. Her partner Sherrin Lloyd asks us to hold her in the Light and Love.

— *Thanks, Peni Hall*

Request to All Middle School Parents

Please bring your children a little earlier to sign in on Tuesday—by 7:50 am—in order that we may join you in the YAF and JYM hosted worship at 8:00 am.

— *Many thanks, your Friendly, Responsible middle school teachers, Hilary and Anna J*

Officers & Committee Clerks Evaluation Session

If you are a PYM Officer or Clerk of a Committee, please come to the Officers' and Committee Clerks' Evaluation Session on **Wednesday from 1:30 to 3 PM**. While your travel arrangements may prevent you from attending, this is an opportunity to collect thoughts and reflections on the Annual Session while they are still fresh in our minds. This is not a personal reflection of your experience, but a time to speak out of your committee or officer role.

Co-Clerks are asked to collaborate on their committee's response and identify one person to provide their committee's input. Clerks may designate a committee member to bring their input. We will all be anxious to get on the road, so please come on time and prepared.

We will respond to the following queries:

- What helped center our gathering in the Presence?
- What hindered it?
- What worked well this AS?
- What can we do to improve the work of the Coordinating Teams?
- What do you see as the work needing to be done?

— *Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk*

Interest Group on Social Justice Ministry at Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups

Have a sense about a need for shared witness and have no idea how to go about it? Join Linnea Hanson (Chico) and David Breitzmann (San Francisco) for an **Interest Group at 8 AM on Wed, July 19**. The focus is how to care for the ongoing operation of social justice ministry at a Monthly Meeting or Worship Group.

- stewarding social witness under the care of a Monthly committee
- engaging with local institutions (e.g. food banks, prisons, etc)
- budget coordination
- volunteer/operations conflict(s)

Daily Online Meeting for Worship

Quaker Center hosts an online meeting for worship every day from 7:30-8:00 am. Find the link on www.quakercenter.org. During PYM some of the participants will also worship together in person in the tent at 7:30 am.

Survey on Quaker Worship

What do you do during meeting for worship? What are you seeking there? How successful are you in finding it? Take the online survey and let us know. You'll find a link at www.quakercenter.org. After you take the survey, you'll be able to see the results from about three hundred respondents.

— *Bob Runyan*

Visalia Monthly Meeting Green Cemetery

Visalia Meeting is investigating creating a Green Cemetery, meaning where people might be buried in a way that does not impede decomposition, as an alternative to cremation. The cemetery land would be conserved in perpetuity for trees and natural space. They would like to have contact with Friends from any location who might be interested in being buried in such a cemetery.

— *Klara East, Visalia Meeting: at differenteast9@yahoo.com*

March for Nuclear Abolition & Global Survival

Commemorate the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the place in California where nuclear weapons are designed -- new versions still today. Come to Livermore, about 40 miles from San Francisco. We will assemble on **Wednesday, August 9, 8:00 AM**, at the corner of Vasco Road and Patterson Pass Road. We'll have a rally -- Daniel Ellsberg, other speakers, music. After that, we will march (less than a mile) to a gate where those who choose will peaceably risk arrest.

More info: Ask Carl Anderson or David Hartsough, or visit www.trivalleycares.org

Friends House

Friends desiring conversation about Friends House are encouraged to talk to Elizabeth Boardman today and/or Joe Magruder through Wednesday.

— *Margaret Sorrel*

Quaker Oaks Farm (QOF) 10th anniversary
Quaker Oaks Farm (QOF) is celebrating their 10th anniversary! In the Bathhouse, you can pick up the 10th Anniversary Report highlighting current activities including habitat restoration, Wukchumni cultural education, Spring Camp, and Harvest Festival. Or you can donate \$10.00 (or more!) at PYM and get a Quaker Oaks Farm water bottle. You can also donate via Paypal on the website quakeroaksfarm.org. All donations support environmental education on the farm.

— *Want to know more? QOF Board members at PYM include Melissa Lovett-Adair, Steven Lee, Mary Lee and Graciela Martinez.*

PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Update Unity with Nature Contact List

— *posted right of the dining hall main doors.*

Unity with Nature Table

— *literature in the foyer to the bath house.*

Friendly Folk Dancers to California

— *may tour California next March-April. See Sarah Tyrrell.*

AVP/California Bob Barns Scholarship Fund

— *donate via PayPal at AVP/California website, avpcalifornia.org.*

SCQM to Host Ben Pink Dandelion

— *SCQM Fall Fellowship, November 4-5, 2017 at Temescal Canyon State Park in Pacific Palisades. Email sarahrosehouse@hotmail.com*

Friend Women's Association in Burundi

— *On Sunday, October 22, from 12 - 1:30 PM, Pastor Parfaite Ntahuba, the Coordinator of the Ntaseka Clinic of the Friend Women's Association in Burundi, will speak at the Santa Monica Meeting about the expanded services now offered by the clinic and the concomitant needs that such an expansion entails. See Curtis Raynor, Santa Monica*

Casa de los Amigos: A Quaker Center for Peace and International Understanding Presentation.

"We wanted to show our faith in action and show it in a way that would both bring healing and at the same time take us out of self and selfish aims and carry us into the furnace where others were suffering."

— *Rufus Jones (Service of love in War Time)*

Dear Friends, from Mexico I would like to greet you warmly bringing the community of Casa de los Amigos.

The quote by Rufus Jones sums up our experience of the year, showing faith in action and showing it in a way that allows us to get closer to people who suffer, who have pain and needs for support, and thanks to Casa de los Amigos have a place of healing and recovery.

This meeting space allows us to build peace and international understanding, to reflect on our role in the world based on the inspiration and testimonies of simplicity, peace, equality, community, integrity and unity with nature, and has allowed us also share it to the Mexican community that visits la Casa, because now we believe in building more bridges of understanding between Mexico and the USA, and fewer walls that divide people.

We are now starting Quaker volunteers in residence, operated by la Casa, with the moral support of the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Mexico. We seek persons if they are interested in a service experience where they can share all their inner wealth. In this space we seek collaboration with the community of la Casa. Friends and Quakers are invited to a stay in Casa de los Amigos.

Thank you for your support, thanks to all the meetings that make up the Pacific Yearly Meeting, to all friends and friends who continue to support la Casa, thanks to your prayers, good wishes, financial support and light, in this place it is possible to continue to build peace, international understanding and that each person who enters la Casa, finds in his experience his inner light and the truth of his heart.

You can read the full version in the PYM website with the LACC documents at www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/committee-newsletters-and-reports/latin-american-concerns

For more information:

direccion@casadelosamigos.org

— *M. Antonio López, Director*