

## Cover Letter for Emailing

Dear Friends,

Attached to this email message is a document, the "Packet", the 'official' record of the 2005 PYM sessions. It is being sent by email or postal mail to the Clerks of all Monthly Meetings, Preparative Meetings and Worship Groups in PYM (or their designated email recipients), with two exceptions. First are those Meetings, etc, and some individuals, from which I have a request to use postal mail. In addition, I have been unable to find email contacts for some of the Worship Groups; I request that those Meetings which have Worship Groups under their care ensure that copies of the Packet is passed along. The Packet is also being sent to all PYM Officers and Committee Clerks for 2005 and 2006.

The Packet includes:

- Minutes of all of the PYM Plenary meetings,
- A list of the Minutes that were approved at the Plenaries,
- Epistles,
- Reports by Committees and PYM officers that were presented or referred to in the Plenaries,
- ~~A list of the PYM attendees.~~ NOT AVAILABLE ON WEB DUE TO PRIVACY REASONS.

Meetings may use the Packet according to their custom and needs. You may print all or part of it, or forward it to members and attenders of your Meeting. Most of the Packet will also be posted on the PYM Web site, so that will be another way to access it.

Now for some technical information [just a little] to help you display the packet on your computer screen. It is written in the format called '.pdf'. Such documents are meant to be used on any home computer, whether IBM PC style computers or Macintosh and, when displayed or printed, to look the same no matter what computer you have. .pdf documents can be displayed and printed using programs created by the Adobe Corporation. You may already have such a program on your computer, but, if not, you can download a free .pdf reading program, called Adobe Reader, from the Web site:

[www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html](http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html)

Now, what I have described in the previous paragraphs is how things are supposed to work, and how things, very often, actually do work. However, computers sometimes don't do as we expect. In particular, the Packet is quite long, 85 pages in all, or in computer talk, 2.7 megabytes long. I mention this because, with some Internet connection, it may take a while to download the Packet to your computer. If that's the case for you, please be patient. Also, some email programs don't like long files as attachments. If your email program objects to the Packet, or you have other problems with it, let me know and we will work it out.

The information in the Packet represents the work of many Friends, and has been checked many times for errors. Even so, errors may have persisted or crept in. I certainly take responsibility for any errors that I've introduced and will be glad to correct any that are pointed out to me.

In Peace,

Jim Eusebio,

**For the PYM Secretariat.**

## Pacific Yearly Meeting Mt. Madonna Center, Watsonville, California

8<sup>th</sup> Month 1, 2005

### PLENARY I

The 59<sup>th</sup> gathering of Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) opened with worship on 8<sup>th</sup> Month 1, 2005, at 7:30 PM at the Mt. Madonna Center, Watsonville, California.

Clerk Jim Anderson welcomed Friends to the annual session, noting that many Friends have worked to make this an opportunity for each of us to deepen our connections to the spirit and each other and to rise to the work that lies before us. He briefly described the schedule for the week, highlighting business items (e.g., site), the Friday vigil in Santa Cruz and the fact that our children will join us for the first fifteen minutes of our daily worship sessions for a time of programmed children's worship.

### Roll Call

Assistant to the Clerk Bob Runyan read the list of Monthly Meetings, Preparative Meetings and Worship Groups. Friends from the following Meetings and Worship Groups were present. [Also see the Attenders List, *Attachment A*]:

Apple Seed Monthly Meeting	Monterey Peninsula Monthly Meeting
Berkeley Monthly Meeting	Orange County Monthly Meeting
Central Coast Preparative Meeting	Orange Grove Monthly Meeting
Chico Monthly Meeting	Palo Alto Monthly Meeting
Claremont Monthly Meeting	Redwood Forest Monthly Meeting
Davis Monthly Meeting	Reno Monthly Meeting
Delta Monthly Meeting	Sacramento Monthly Meeting
Friends House Worship Group	San Diego Monthly Meeting
Grass Valley Monthly Meeting	San Francisco Monthly Meeting
Honolulu Monthly Meeting	San Jose Monthly Meeting
Humboldt Monthly Meeting	San Luis Obispo Worship Group
Inland Valley Monthly Meeting	Santa Barbara Monthly Meeting
Kauai Worship Group	Santa Cruz Monthly Meeting
La Jolla Monthly Meeting	Santa Monica Monthly Meeting
Lake County Worship Group	Sierra Foothills Worship Group
Las Vegas Worship Group	Southern Humboldt Worship Group
Live Oak Preparative Meeting	Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Marloma/Long Beach Monthly Meeting	Ukiah Worship Group
Mexico City Monthly Meeting	Visalia Monthly Meeting

### Introductions

Visitors from other Yearly Meetings were introduced, including Julie Peyton, Northwest Yearly Meeting and the Friends World Committee; Nancy Yarnall, North Pacific Yearly Meeting and Friends World Committee Field Staff; Lonnie Valentine, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting and Earlham School of Religion; and Andrew Secrest, Berkeley Friends Church and Western Association of Friends.

Brajesh, of Mt. Madonna Center, welcomed us to the Center, a community whose underlying practice is the study of Yoga; the center also includes this conference center and an elementary and secondary school.

### **Logistics**

The Children's Program, the Junior Yearly Meeting program, and Young Friends' activities were described as were arrangements; registration; secretariat services, including the daily newsletter, *The Daily Miracle*; and worship sharing.

### **Nominating Committee**

The Nominating Committee brought the name of Sarah Rose House (Orange Grove) to serve as Reading Clerk as David Lederman is unable to serve.

**PYM 2005-01:** Friends approved the nomination of Sara Rose House as Reading Clerk for this year's session.

### **Epistle Committee**

On behalf of Ministry and Oversight, Aimee Elsbree (Claremont) presented the names of John Holding, Clerk (San Francisco), Robin Durant (Orange Grove) and Evan Nelson (La Jolla) as members of the Epistle Committee.

**PYM 2005-02:** Friends approved John Holding, Clerk, Robin Durant and Evan Nelson as members of the Epistle Committee.

### **Announcements**

Assistant to the Clerk Bob Runyan read announcements.

### **Minutes**

These minutes were corrected and approved.

### **Closing Worship**

The meeting closed at 9:20 PM after a time of shared, quiet worship.

Faithfully submitted,

Joseph Magruder, Recording Clerk  
James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

**Pacific Yearly Meeting**  
**Mt. Madonna Center, Watsonville, California**

8<sup>th</sup> Month 2, 2005

**Plenary II**

Meeting began, following morning worship, at 10:20 AM, with a gathering silence.

Our Reading Clerk, Sara Rose House, shared with us parts of the epistle from “the other PYM,” Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

Clerk Jim Anderson welcomed new arrivals.

Last year we received a Spanish language version of our Faith and Practice translated by Jorge Martinez, who is here this year and we acknowledge his gift to us.

The clerk made a few announcements regarding travel to a vigil, listening devices, and the comfort of participants.

The clerk read a letter received from Humboldt Friends regarding Friends traveling under a leading to visit Guantanamo Bay prison.

**Naming Committee**

Linda Dunn (Inland Valley) spoke for Naming Committee, who are to bring us names proposed for the Nominating Committee on Friday. She urged our cooperation and support of their work.

**Latin American Concerns Committee**

Committee Clerk Rolene Walker spoke about Casa de Los Amigos in Mexico City. She gave a brief history and summarized current developments. They are now “legal” again with a reconstituted board. The future is looking exciting and hopeful. [A report from the committee is attached, *Attachment B*]

**Website**

Ellie Huffman of Ministry and Oversight Committee reported on the work of that committee’s subcommittee on electronic communications. Ministry and Oversight asks that the Yearly Meeting approve the web site that the subcommittee has developed. Clerk Jim Anderson proposed a minute which was not approved, concerns arising over identity privacy and how the policies referred to in the proposed minute were developed and what they are. Those policies will be posted and distributed before the item is reconsidered.

**Ministry and Oversight**

Committee Clerk Joe Franko and other committee members presented the State of the Society report. Joe introduced the concept of community as our business this week. We seek to be in unity with the Spirit that guides us all, through a community discernment process. He shared Thomas Kelly’s words: Eternity is at our hearts, pressing upon our time-worn lives, warming us with intimations of an astounding destiny, calling us home. He called us to join this week in an experiment in living our Quakerism.

Jane Peers offered an invitation to our discernment:

Welcome into a miracle that happens as we gather and form an outpost of The Blessed Community. We realize that our choice of site limits who may attend, yet that miracle occurs. We sprang from a wide-spread Pacific rim collection of Friends. Our annual session is a great time to feel the continuity of Friends and to appreciate the precious gifts that everyone brings. We need to consciously drop some of our worldly ways and become real to each other, seeing the tongues of fire lighting each of us.

Steve Smith introduced a period of worship, to be punctuated by excerpts from our state of the meeting reports as read by Zachary Moon and Ellie Huffman. [A copy of these excerpts is attached to the minutes as *Attachment C*].

Themes reflected in the excerpts were these: The Search for Good Order; Doing Justice, Loving Mercy; Children and Youth; Growing and Dying; Turning to the Light.

**Announcements**

Bob Runyan, assistant to the clerk, read announcements

**Minutes**

The minutes were read and approved as corrected.

The meeting ended with worship

Faithfully submitted,

Sandy Farley, Recording Clerk  
James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

**Pacific Yearly Meeting**  
**Mt. Madonna Center, Watsonville, California**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Month 2, 2005

**Plenary III**

Meeting opened at 7:15 PM, with silence.

Reading Clerk Sarah Rose House read from Epistle of German Yearly Meeting.

Clerk Jim Anderson welcomed us to a working or threshing session.

Jim Anderson laid out the opportunity before us this evening, to engage in discernment around the site issue. We are to receive a proposal that the Yearly Meeting commit to holding its annual sessions at the Visalia site for a period of years. He invited us to search for community through deep listening to one another.

Ellie Huffman, clerk of Pacific Friends Outreach Society Board, gave a brief history of the organization, beginning in 1996. Remarkable changes in the scale and the focus of the Visalia development plan came about as a result of the concerns raised last year that the facilities would be too “corporate.”

Roena Oesting, clerk of the Site committee, offered a report on the Visalia site for our yearly meeting sessions. [The report is attached, *Attachment D*] It raises a series of questions about the site proposal, and offers a comparison of Visalia with two university sites under consideration. In the past three years the committee has looked at over 100 sites for the holding of YM, and the report reviewed the premises the committee works with. They do not have a formal recommendation to offer regarding the Visalia site.

A few specific questions regarding the proposed temporary and permanent facilities were answered.

Ministry and Oversight Clerk Joe Franko clerked the discernment process that followed. He spoke of the work already done by many Friends. “You can’t cook the stew if you don’t gather the ingredients.” He noted that M&O has held listening projects. The Presiding Clerk sent a letter to each meeting asking for input. “We have done a lot of home work”.

Joe reviewed some of the many questions which have arisen in addressing this “Gordian knot:”

- Should we hold property? Other religious groups are having difficulty managing property, including camps.
- Should we really be two Yearly Meetings? Would Visalia be at the farthest edge of each?
- Which is greater environmental impact-- building or traveling from place to place?
- Is a permanent site consistent with our spiritual values? Would it foster the growth of our spiritual lives?
- We spend \$100,000 to \$130,000 to hold our annual session each year. Is this a right use of those resources?
- What is the work of our Yearly Meeting? Will a permanent site foster that work?
- Has right order been followed? Did we act in good faith?
- Is our sense of HOME connected to a place, or deepened by a place?

### **Plenary III**

Joe Franko recognized speakers from the silence as Friends lovingly expressed their hopes and concerns. At the end of our time, we closed in worship, out of which came “Someone’s worrying / dreaming, Lord, kum bay ya.

Faithfully submitted,

Sandy Farley, Recording Clerk  
James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

**Pacific Yearly Meeting**  
**Mount Madonna Conference Center, Watsonville, California**

8<sup>th</sup> Month 3, 2005

**PLENARY IV**

The meeting opened with worship on 8<sup>th</sup> Month 3, 2005, at 10:25 AM at the Mount Madonna Center, Watsonville, California.

Reading Clerk Sarah Rose House read from the 2005 Epistle of the Lake Erie Yearly Meeting.

**Minutes**

The minutes from Session III were read by Recording Clerk Sandra Farley, corrected and approved.

Clerk Jim Anderson then reviewed the agenda for this plenary.

**Friends General Conference**

Bruce Birchard, the General Secretary of Friends General Conference, introduced us to Friends General Conference, an association of Friends Yearly Meetings and several monthly meetings, including Davis and Sacramento of this Yearly Meeting. He described the general work of Friends General Conference, including recently expanded programs such as traveling ministries, religious education, publications, bookstore, Quakerfinder.org web site, the committee on racism and youth ministries. The latter program works to help Friends recognize the ministry of younger Friends and to build an age-integrated society. He then reminded us of the opportunity to attend the first ever West Coast Session of the Friends General Conference Gathering next summer. The 2006 Gathering, *Swimming in Living Waters*, will be held in Tacoma, Washington, from July 1 to 7, giving Friends an opportunity to come together to listen to God's voice. (He noted that eleven Friends from Pacific Yearly Meeting presented workshops at this year's gathering.)

Jim Anderson also introduced Shan Cretin, the Regional Director of the Pacific Southwest office of the American Friends Service Committee.

Jim Anderson reported that the incorporation of Pacific Yearly Meeting has been accomplished. As part of the incorporation process, Friends will be asked to approve the bylaws of the Yearly Meeting, which are posted, later in the week.

**Alternatives to Violence Project Subcommittee of Peace and Social Order**

John Holding and Janet Riley spoke about the Alternatives to Violence Project, reminding Friends of our 2002 minute encouraging Friends to support Alternatives to Violence Projects in prison. As a result of this work, the Alternatives to Violence Project is being asked to develop programs in twenty-three of California's prisons. We now need to expand the number of Friends able to do this work.

**Unity with Nature Committee**

Committee Clerk Kristina Perry reported for the Committee:

As Friends, who is God calling us to be in this time and place? What are the structures and patterns of life that are required to respond to that call? Faith is not separable from how we live. Our faith often requires us to dissent from living as the current social order would have us live.

Kristina Perry described relevant interest and affinity groups as well as the vigil to be held on Friday in Santa Cruz to observe the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. The Committee continues its work in developing an assessment of the ecological footprint of the cost of holding Yearly Meeting. Finally, the Committee brings a pair of minutes regarding the environmental impact of travel to do Quaker business.

In discussion of these proposed minutes, we were reminded of the need to be tender toward Friends whose physical condition requires greater use of resources. Friends spoke of the benefits of face-to face contact among Friends; of the value of letters of introduction explaining the proposed minute to Friends organizations; and of a number of other issues balancing ecological concerns on the one hand, and the benefits of greater interaction among Friends on the other. Some felt the queries contained in the proposed minute should first be addressed by our own meetings. Friends came to unity on the following minute, which was approved:

**PYM 2005-03**: Pacific Yearly Meeting is concerned about the environmental effects of travel to do Quaker business. We urge all Friends to consider the environmental impact of our travel, as we witness in the world, and to conduct our business in ways that minimize environmental damage and that ultimately restore the natural world

The second minute, requesting that representatives to Friends organizations carry this minute and associated queries to these organizations, was held over for further Committee and Yearly Meeting consideration.

### **Nominating Committee**

Committee Clerk Sharon Gates encouraged Friends to make the Committee aware of their interest in serving the Yearly Meeting and their suggestions regarding the abilities of others to serve the Yearly Meeting. There is a form to facilitate this process.

The Nominating Committee's First Report was shared with Friends.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Sherri Sisson, Treasurer, highlighted various items from the financial statement for 2004 and 2005. [See *Attachment E*]. She noted that income from assessments paid by monthly meetings were slightly higher than budgeted because of an increase in membership. Committee expenditures were substantially below budget. As a result, the expected transfer from reserves, to compensate for anticipated loss, did not occur.

**PYM 2005-04**: Friends accepted the Treasurer's report for 2004.

### **Finance Committee**

Stratton Jaquette, Finance Committee Clerk, presented the proposed budget for 2006. Friends were encouraged to meet with the Committee to present concerns about specific items. (*See Attachment E*)

The Committee brought several items for our consideration. The first was a budget augmentation for Young Friends travel to the World Gathering.

**PYM 2005-05:** Friends approved augmenting the budget for Young Friends Travel (5288) for fiscal year 2005 by \$1,000 to \$1,600, this amount to be balanced by increasing the transfer from reserves by \$1,000.

The second item recommended that limitations be established for several reserve funds.

**PYM 2005-06:** Friends approved establishing the following limits to reserve funds:

2743 FWCC Section of the Americas Travel (5279) Reserve	\$500
2744 FGC Central Committee Travel (5278) Reserve	\$500
2745 FUM Travel (5280) Reserve	\$1,500
2746 General Reunion of Friends, Mexico Travel (5281) Reserve	\$500

Stratton Jaquette reported that the proposed budget includes adjustments in allocations for liaison/delegate travel to cover at least sixty percent of the full cost.

The final recommendations, for later consideration, included approval of the budget, a separate proposal for a \$500 contribution to Pacific Friends Outreach Society, and a recommendation that the Fiscal Year 2006 assessment level for member meetings be \$36, keeping that for Mexico City at \$10.

Jim Anderson also introduced Alan Lessik, the Regional Director of the Pacific Mountain office of the American Friends Service Committee.

Bob Runyan read a variety of announcements.

**Minutes**

These minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

Faithfully submitted,

Joseph Magruder, Recording Clerk  
James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

**Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Mt. Madonna Center, Watsonville, California**

8<sup>th</sup> Month 3, 2005

**PLENARY V, Youth Plenary**

Clerk Jim Anderson welcomed everyone to the Youth Plenary session and made a few announcements.

Meeting then settled into silent worship.

Zachary Moon (Strawberry Creek) expressed gratitude to those attending and introduced four Friends, each to share a little piece of themselves, leading us into open worship.

Darcy Stanley (Strawberry Creek): What is up for us? What is burning in our Quaker lives? I feel sad and scattered today, with no time to be open to the Spirit right now. I don't want to be open; I'm scared. I fear I am not enough to hold the Spirit right now. This feeling is not permanent.

I believe in continuing revelation; the truth will be revealed. It is not our choice how or when it is revealed. My concern is that as I attempt to serve Friends in so many ways, how much of the *doing* is getting in the way of *being* a Quaker. Are we too busy for God?

The Spirit is patient for us. How long are we willing to wait?

Faith Eastwood (Southern Humboldt): What does it mean to be a Quaker? Is it coming to meetings and believing in the testimonies? I need to bring the testimonies into my life to live them. Just believing the testimonies is not enough. I'm not willing to give up comfort, let alone die for my beliefs! I must be willing to change myself, if I want to change others.

Chris Cameron (Humboldt): JYM is the heart of Yearly Meeting because we are really trying to find the Spirit. I really need help in learning how to meditate so I can get something out of all the worship sharing, meetings for worship and so on. I need a mentor in the spirituality aspect of Quakerism. I'm still not sure if I believe in God. I'm looking for help in this.

Ramona McCabe (Santa Cruz): Quakerism is the hardest religion to be raised in. There is so much acceptance and not enough guidance. Sometimes I go to a church, but I don't want to be told what to believe. I'm having trouble discerning what I personally believe. I need more information and more guidance before I can decide what being Quaker means to me.

We settled into a rich worship period in which Friends responded with their yearnings and understandings of life as Quakers.

Faithfully submitted,

Sandy Farley, Recording Clerk  
James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

**Pacific Yearly Meeting**  
**Mt. Madonna Center, Watsonville, California**

8<sup>th</sup> Month 4, 2005  
**Plenary Session VI**

Meeting gathered in silence following morning worship.

Reading Clerk Sarah Rose House read from the epistle of Intermountain Yearly Meeting 2004.

Clerk Jim Anderson greeted us, asking us to seek obedience to truth. He reviewed the agenda.

Minutes from Plenary V, the Youth Plenary, were read and approved.

**Friends World Committee for Consultation**

Donna Smith (Redwood Forest) invited us to the annual Section of the Americas meeting that will be in Guatemala in March of 2006. We are invited to attend and visit among Latin American Friends along the way. Nancy Yarnall, FWCC field staff, will be available to answer questions.

The World Gathering of Young Friends happens in 10 days in Lancaster England, on the theme *Let us then see what love can do*. Darcy Stanley and Kate Newlin are our delegates. They are joined by Melina Larkin, Stephen Myers, Sara Wolcott, Alyssa Nelson, and Eleni Richey, who have been accepted as participants. Together they have raised funds for their travel and for the travel of some less wealthy Friends [\$9674 was contributed to World Gathering scholarships for other young friends' travel.]. Seventy countries and ninety-seven yearly meetings will be represented. We are invited to an interest group today so we can help them prepare a presentation on PYM culture and community.

**Finance Committee**

Stratton Jaquette, Committee Clerk, says the committee is seeking a CPA willing to review our books [not a full audit] this year when Sherri Sisson retires as Treasurer. Stratton called attention to some aspects of the budget being proposed for approval. Peace and Social Order Committee has requested a budget increase from \$600 to \$1500 to support the work of the AVP subcommittee, and Finance recommends this increase. Transfer from reserves will be increased in that amount.

Finance Committee proposes a policy change that full travel reimbursement, currently of 16 cents per mile, will be given directly to the meeting representatives who attend Representative Committee (March) and PYM (August). The financial impact is included in the proposed budget [5208]. The matter of reimbursement of representative travel to Annual Session was raised by one Friend but left to future consideration. Recommendations for PFOS and FUM donations are not in the budget, pending future consideration, i.e., no contribution is included.

**PYM 2005-7:** Friends approved establishing a policy of giving the full travel reimbursement, currently 16 cents per mile, directly to the meeting representatives who attend Representative Committee or Annual Session.

**PYM 2005-8:** Friends approved the budget for fiscal year 2005-2006, including the increased budget for Peace & Social Order [Attachment E].

**PYM 2005-9:** Friends approved continuing the per member assessment for FY2006 at the same level as last year: \$36 per member except for Mexico City, which is assessed \$10 per member.

Clerk Jim Anderson then introduced the topic of the permanent site proposal. He shared correspondence from several meetings. Some favored, some opposed the proposal; some were unable to make a recommendation since their discussion revealed substantial divergence of views.

Jim Anderson felt that neither he nor Shan Cretin (immediate past clerk) would appear sufficiently neutral to clerk on this issue. Margaret Mossman (Berkeley), the most recent former YM clerk available, was asked to preside.

Joe Franko, clerk of Ministry and Oversight Committee set the stage for our considerations. He observed that some of the process we have gone through in past years has not reflected good order. Joe thanked PFOS for their faithfulness and courage. He read a minute approved by the PFOS Board. [See Attachment F]. They propose in that minute to continue work to develop a suitable annual meeting site if the Yearly Meeting will commit to meeting at Quaker Oaks in Visalia for 8 consecutive years.

Joe thanked the Site Committee for their labors. He asked us to have the courage to let go of our preconceived notions of what unity will look like. He invited Diego Navarro, Laura Magnani, and Steve Smith of Ministry and Oversight Committee to share perspectives on the conduct of our discernment process.

Steve Smith spoke about being mindful of the choice of language.

Diego Navarro reminded us that the spirit sometimes has a longer timetable for us to discern truth than we think is needed.

Laura Magnani spoke of people among us laboring under profound leadings and concerns which seem to be in conflict. But the Spirit may dwell in paradox.

Margaret Mossman came forward to clerk, as: "we try now to see what love can do." Jane Peers accompanied Margaret in support of her work guiding our discernment.

The Yearly Meeting then entered a worshipful period of sharing in response to the proposal.

Under the clerkship of Margaret Mossman, we held a loving exploration of our hopes, needs, pain, anger, yearnings for home and security, joys, and opportunities for witness around the issue of a permanently available site for the Yearly Meeting. In the time allotted, unity was not reached. Even though we experienced pain as a result of our lack of unity, we recognized a transformation in the nature of our discourse, revealing the clear presence of love among us.

Jim Anderson resumed clerking. Minutes will be read at our next plenary session. We closed in worship.

Faithfully submitted,

Sandy Farley, Recording Clerk  
James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

**Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Mt. Madonna Center, Watsonville, California**

8<sup>th</sup> Month 4, 2004  
PLENARY VII

**Memorials**

Members of our Ministry and Oversight Committee led us in our Plenary for Memorials. Committee members read the names of 37 deceased Friends. Each group of names was introduced with a brief reading, and followed by sharing arising out of worship.

<p>Arabelle Hufbauer, Berkeley John Jory, Berkeley Jean Moffett, Berkeley Otto Heck, Berkeley Vanita Blum, Berkeley</p>	<p>He that hath found some fledged bird's nest may know at first sight if the bird be flown; But what fair well or grove he sings in now, that is to him unknown. They are all gone into the world of light. Henry Vaughan</p>
<p>Mappie Seabury, Berkeley Peter Trier, Berkeley Robert Feeney, Claremont Noel Peattie, Davis Celeste Jones, Inland Valley</p>	<p>These words spoken In a hour of silence Make up a life I don't know  Each person speaking Out of the loss Adds a color, an edge A piece to be found  Those who stay silent Bring a shimmer A shining wholeness To the completed time.  This was a life I saw, A life lived here, A life lived no more I know why I came. John Pixley</p>
<p>Shirley Peacock, Honolulu Sakiko Obuko, Honolulu Paul Tanner, Marin Marjorie Drath, Marin Ignacio Gonzalez, Mexico City</p>	<p>Their work is done, their joys accomplished, but the sharing of their lives continues in the memories of others. Walter Jones</p>
<p>Marjorie Cohen, Marloma – Long Beach Anne Friend, Marloma – Long Beach Joel Ivey, Orange County Ida Frugoli, Palo Alto</p>	<p>Sorrow cannot be fought and overcome; it cannot be evaded or escaped; it must be lived with. Whether it be sorrow for our own loss, or sorrow for the world's pain, we must learn to shoulder the burden of it, to carry it so</p>

**Plenary VII**

<p>Alex MacDonald, Palo Alto</p>	<p>that it does not break our stride or sap the strength of those about us through pity or woe. Somehow we must learn not only to meet it with courage, which is comparatively easy, but to bear it with serenity, which is more difficult, being not a single act but a way of living.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Elizabeth Gray Vining</p>
<p>Red Alexander, Orange Grove Ken Morgan, Orange Grove Ralph Pinney, Orange Grove Hal Nicholas, San Diego Elizabeth Robinson, San Diego</p>	<p>Death is the end of a stage, not the end of the journey. The road stretches beyond our comprehension.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Oliver Lodge</p>
<p>Phyllis Wheeler, Pacific Ackworth Virginia Heck, Redwood Forest Guy Littman, Redwood Forest Connie Lindsay, Redwood Forest Richard Shamis, Sacramento</p>	<p>To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven; A time to be born, and a time to die; A time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; A time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep and a time to laugh; A time to mourn, and a time to dance; ...</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ecclesiastes 3:1-4</p>
<p>Priscilla Moulton, Santa Barbara Kay Harvey, San Francisco Bruce Farley, Grass Valley Robert Baloof, Berkeley John Callendar, La Jolla</p>	<p>Their work is done, their joys accomplished, but the sharing of their lives continues in the memories of others.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Walter Jones</p>
<p>Ralph Victor, Fresno Barbara Caplow, Santa Barbara</p>	<p>If you would indeed behold the spirit of death, open your heart wide unto the body of life. For life and death are one, even as the river and the sea are one.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Kahlil Gibran</p>

The meeting closed with the singing of *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*.

Faithfully submitted,

Joseph Magruder, Recording Clerk  
James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

**Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Mount Madonna Center, Watsonville, California**

8<sup>th</sup> Month 5, 2005  
PLENARY VIII

The meeting opened with worship on 8<sup>th</sup> Month 5, 2005, at 9:20 AM at the Mount Madonna Center, Watsonville, California.

Reading Clerk Sarah Rose House read from the 2004 Epistle of the Senior High Youth of Northwest Yearly Meeting.

Clerk Jim Anderson then reviewed the agenda for this plenary session, which included worship with Friends who are to attend a vigil in Santa Cruz observing the memory of the bombing of Hiroshima.

**Minutes**

The minutes from Session VI were read by Recording Clerk Sandra Farley. Friends raised questions about some sections of the minutes, and these sections will be revised to be heard again at the next session.

Friends approved the minutes of Plenary Session VI, with the exception of those relating to consideration of the site proposal.

**Epistle**

Our Epistle Committee-- John Holding, Clerk, Robin Durant and Evan Nelson-- gave the first reading of our Epistle, asking that Friends provide comments at a later time, especially regarding themes in the Epistle.

**Committee to Name the Nominating Committee**

Linda Dunn, convenor, reported for the Committee, bringing the names of Friends to serve on the Nominating Committee. These names include: Nancy Lynch (Santa Barbara) to serve a one-year term ending in 2006, Darcy Stanley [Berkeley] to serve a two-year term ending in 2007, and Sharon Gates (Orange Grove) and Judith Favor (Claremont) to serve three-year terms ending in 2008. Sharon Gates was proposed to serve as Clerk of the Nominating Committee for a one-year term.

**Nominating Committee**

Sharon Gates presented the Nominating Committee Final Report on behalf of the Committee. There was concern over a specific nomination and further consideration of this report was held over until after our time of worship.

**Worship**

We were then joined by Junior Friends and entered into a time of quiet worship. Many Friends departed from this worship to attend the vigil in Santa Cruz observing the memory of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki sixty years ago.

**Nominating Committee**

We further considered the report of the Nominating Committee, holding over our decision on this report until Session IX.

### Children's Program Committee and Religious Education for Children Committee

Gail Eastwood, Clerk of the Religious Education for Children Committee, reflected on the work of the Committee in the past six years. We have moved into uncharted territory with the increase in the involvement of children in the life of our Yearly Meeting. She sketched a picture of the relationship of our children to our Meetings. At the monthly meeting level, our children seem to drop out at age ten or twelve, about the age that many early Friends had their first mystical experiences. We tend to turn responsibility for religious education over to young parents, who must constantly reinvent their Meeting's religious education programs, and who often have not been raised as Friends themselves. How do we transmit a religion that is one of experience, not dogma?

Chris Mohr, Convener of the Children's Program Committee, began with data collection, asking us to answer a series of questions as a group. Did we have a formal religious education experience as children? Was it a positive experience? Was it in the context of our family? Can we think of an early spiritual experience? Was it joyful or scary, large or small? Was there somebody we could share that experience with? Did those experiences lead us to, or back to, Quakerism? Are we aware of the spiritual awakenings of our children?

We were reminded of our *Faith and Practice* provisions regarding religious education of children. What can we do to be involved in the nurture of our Meeting's children's spiritual lives?

### Friends United Meeting Visitation Subcommittee

Jane Peers and Steve Smith, named to visit Friends United Meeting following minute RepCom 2005-04, reported on their attendance at the Friends United Meeting Triennial, held on July 13 to 17, 2005. [See full written report, *Attachment G*] This visit stemmed from our concern about the Friends United Meeting policy expressed in FUM Board minute 88 GB 52, which effectively excludes members of same-sex couples (as well as other unmarried sexually active persons and people in polygamous marriages) from appointment as Friends United Meeting staff and Quaker Volunteer Witness volunteers. The report included a series of recommendations to Friends United Meeting regarding its hiring policy. There was extensive discussion of the Subcommittee's recommendations.

Friends approved the following minute:

- PYM 2005-10:**
1. Despite differences between Pacific Yearly Meeting and Friends United Meeting—and perhaps especially because of them — we believe that Pacific Yearly Meeting should stay in relationship with Friends United Meeting, so that we may labor in love with them regarding our concerns, while giving spiritual and moral support to those within Friends United Meeting who seek to change the hiring policy stated in FUM Board Minute 88 GB 52.
  2. While the Friends United Meeting hiring policy remains in force, Pacific Yearly Meeting will not send a direct contribution to Friends United Meeting, but will use equivalent funds to defray travel costs of Pacific Yearly Meeting observers to Friends United Meeting gatherings.
  3. For the next Friends United Meeting Triennial (to be held in North Carolina in 2008), a team of two Pacific Yearly Meeting Friends again will be named as observers to Friends United Meeting.

One Friend, Tom Davis (Santa Cruz, asked to be recorded as standing aside from the second point of the minute.

### **Ministry and Oversight Committee**

Committee Clerk Joe Franko reported that the Ministry and Oversight Committee has listened carefully to us, and has sensed yearnings – for more time to do our work, to deepen our spiritual foundations, to reconsider our structure. The Committee proposes that the year following our next Yearly Meeting session be a Jubilee year, the specific structure of which is as yet unclear. There are several models, among them a concentration on relationships among us, a concentration on our spiritual life, a year-long threshing session. Ministry and Oversight would like to function over the next two years as a right holding of Yearly Meeting committee, to create a space for the spirit to enter in new ways, to prepare for a year of Jubilee.

Friends urged the Committee to consider the unfinished business from this year and the need for close work with Junior Yearly Meeting and Young Friends as we plan how we might knit our individual expectations into a shared planning of what is needed in our structures and way of being. There was unease about changing the form and structure of Yearly Meeting annual session without the full involvement of the Yearly Meeting, perhaps in the form of a two-day meeting of Representative Committee in the Spring. Our consideration reflected a need for conversation at all levels on these proposals.

### **Announcements**

Bob Runyan gave a variety of announcements.

### **Minutes**

These minutes were read, corrected and approved.

The session closed with a time of quiet worship at 1:00 p.m.

Faithfully submitted,

Joseph Magruder, Recording Clerk  
James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

**Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Mt. Madonna Center, Watsonville, California**

8<sup>th</sup> Month 6, 2005  
Plenary IX

Meeting gathered in silence at 8:30 AM.

Reading Clerk Sara Rose House read from the Epistle of Netherlands Yearly Meeting 2004.

Clerk Jim Anderson opened the sessions of our last day, and reviewed the agenda

The minutes from session VI that had not yet been approved were read and approved.

**Naming Committee:**

Naming Committee convenor, Linda Dunn, brought for a second time the names of Friends proposed to serve on our Nominating Committee.

**PYM 2005-11:** We approved the names of the following Friends to serve on our Nominating Committee, for the terms ending as indicated: Nancy Lynch(Santa Barbara) 2006; Darcy Stanley(Berkeley) 2007; Judith Favor (Claremont) 2008, Sharon Gates (Orange Grove) 2008, with Sharon Gates named to serve as clerk for one year.

Linda also brought for the first time the names of two Friends recommended to serve on our Nominating Committee: Martha Hunkins (Humbolt) to serve a one year term ending in 2006, and DJ Bloom (Apple Seed) to serve a two year term ending in 2007.

**Nominating Committee,**

Sharon Gates, Clerk, presented the list of nominations for a second time, reviewing changes from the printed version.

**PYM 2005-12:** We approved the Nominating Committee report—Friends named to serve as PYM Officers, Committee members, and representatives to Friends’ organizations—as presented to us this week. [*Attachment H*]

**Friends Bulletin**

Anthony Manousos, Friends Bulletin editor, reported. “As you get closer to God, the people you love become more beautiful.” He spoke of his ministry of encouragement. He thanked many for their contributions to *Friends Bulletin*. He spoke of the books and pamphlets recently published. The Friends Bulletin is moving into more book publishing, sensing a need. He invited donations in support of this work. [The Friends Bulletin report is attached as Attachment I]

**Holding Corporation**

Lanny Jay, Clerk of Holding Corporation, offered copies of the by-laws created as part of our incorporation process. [See *Attachment J*] The only change from the copies distributed earlier in the week was to list the San Francisco Meeting House as the permanent address. We appreciate that the by-laws reflect how we actually do business. He answered a few questions. A few corrections were made.

**PYM 2005-13:** We approved the proposed By-laws of Pacific Yearly Meeting. [*Attachment J*]

**Ministry and Oversight: Web site proposal**

Joe Franko, Clerk of M&O, described to us how Pacific Yearly Meeting might benefit from use of a web site. We will put a version of our current Faith and Practice in unalterable form on our web site. We have been developing the web site for 5 years.

**PYM 2005-14:** Friends approved continuing to use the PYM web site under the care of M&O committee, recognizing that good order was not in evidence in the prior lack of authorization.

**Peace and Social Order Committee:**

Stephen McNeil, incoming clerk, reported on the several interest groups. He brought a minute from the Committee on health care for all. Recommendations arose for modification of this minute, and Robert Marshall (Visalia), Margaret Mossman (Berkeley) and Jane Peers (LaJolla) volunteered to work further on the minute.

Stephen also brought the following minute, which was approved:

**PYM 2005-15:** Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends calls on the US Congress to adopt a Sense of the Congress resolution declaring: "It is the policy of the US to withdraw all US military troops and bases from Iraq." We will send this minute to the all members of the US Congress.

While finding unity in this, we regret that this minute reveals so little of the moral force and divine urgency we feel in regard to war.

Minutes were read and approved.

Meeting closed in worship.

Faithfully submitted,

Sandy Farley, Recording Clerk  
James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

**Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Mt. Madonna Center, Watsonville, California**

8<sup>th</sup> Month 6, 2005  
PLENARY X

The session opened with worship on 8<sup>th</sup> Month 6, 2005, at 11:15 AM at the Mount Madonna Center, Watsonville, California.

Reading Clerk Sarah Rose House read from the 2004 Letter of Greeting from Britain Yearly Meeting.

**Epistles and Reports of Children**

The Preschool children shared their epistle. [See *Attachment K*]

The Lower Elementary children shared their epistle. [See *Attachment L*]

The Upper Elementary children shared their epistle. [See *Attachment M*]

The Middle School children shared their epistle. [See *Attachment N*]

**PYM 2005-16**: We gratefully accepted the epistles of our children.

**Committee to Name the Nominating Committee**

We heard the second reading of the names of additional persons to serve on the Nominating Committee.

**PYM 2005-17**: Friends approved the naming of Martha Hunkins (Humboldt) for a Nominating Committee term ending in 2006 and D J Bloom (Apple Seed) for a Nominating Committee term ending in 2007.

The Committee brought the name of Margaret Mossman (Berkeley) to serve on the Committee through 2008. This name will be heard again at Representative Committee.

**Peace and Social Order**

We returned to our consideration of a minute on universal health care. Stephen McNeil presented the revised proposed minute.

Friends approved the following minute:

**PYM 2005-18**: As witness to our Quaker faith, our testimonies of community and equality, Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends endorses the spirit and intent of California Senate Bill 840 (Kuehl) "The California Health Insurance Reliability Act." Pacific Yearly Meeting acknowledges that Senate Bill 840 may be imperfect and likely will be amended. We are grateful to the Legislature for its courage in addressing the issue of health care reform and encourage it to continue its labors toward equitable, affordable, and accessible health care for all.

We were reminded that the ad hoc Liaison Funding Committee (Jan Tappan (Orange Grove), D J Bloom (Apple Seed) and Rachel Findley (Strawberry Creek)) are working on issues relating to funding policy regarding travel.

### **Statistical Report**

Gary Wolff, Statistical Clerk, gave the statistical report. On May 31, 2005, there were 1,527 members of Pacific Yearly Meeting, seven fewer than last year. Thirty-four Friends died this last year, more than in any recent year. The full report is attached to these minutes. [See Attachment O]

**PYM 2005-19:** We accepted the Statistical Report with appreciation.

### **Mt. Madonna Center**

Brajesh, of Mt. Madonna Center, asked us for our feedback on the site, which we gave.

### **Bank Account Signatures**

Because of our incorporation, it is necessary that we authorize specific Friends to sign checks on our behalf.

**PYM 2005-20:** Friends approved authorizing the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Clerk of the Finance Committee to open and close bank accounts and to sign checks on behalf of the Yearly Meeting. We approved the standard language required by banks and other institutions to accomplish these tasks.

### **Registrar**

Susie Stanley and Kate Newlin, Co-Registrars, reported that 424 Friends attended Yearly Meeting this year, an average of 366 Friends a day, about 50 less than last year. We ranged in age from one to 96, with 46 children, 42 teens. The written report is attached. [See Attachment P]

### **Epistles of Junior Friends and Young Friends**

Niko East (Visalia) read the Epistle of the Junior Yearly Meeting. [See Attachment Q]

Wendee Clevering (Orange Grove) read the Epistle of Young Friends. [See Attachment R]

### **Epistle**

John Holding (San Francisco) read the Epistle on behalf of the Epistle Committee. The other committee members were Robin Durant (Orange Grove) and Evan Nelson (La Jolla). [See Attachment S]

**PYM 2005-21:** We gratefully accepted the epistles of Junior Friends and Young Friends, and our Pacific Yearly Meeting 2005 Epistle.

It was suggested that we attempt to translate the Epistle into the languages of those yearly meetings we send the report to.

### **Attachments to these Minutes**

**PYM 2005-22:** We approved attaching to these minutes, reports brought to Yearly Meeting by Committees, but not specifically referenced in these minutes.

**Announcements**

Bob Runyan read announcements.

**Minutes**

We read and approved the minutes of Session X.

**Closing Worship**

The final session closed with worship at 12:00 PM. The session was followed by our closing worship. We will meet next on July 31 to August 5, 2006, at the University of Redlands.

Faithfully submitted,

Joseph Magruder, Recording Clerk  
James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

# PYM 2005: Minutes Approved

**PYM 2005-01:** Friends approved the nomination of Sara Rose House as Reading Clerk for this year's session.

**PYM 2005-02:** Friends approved John Holding, Clerk, Robin Durant and Evan Nelson as members of the Epistle Committee.

**PYM 2005-03:** Pacific Yearly Meeting is concerned about the environmental effects of travel to do Quaker business. We urge all Friends to consider the environmental impact of our travel, as we witness in the world, and to conduct our business in ways that minimize environmental damage and that ultimately restore the natural world

**PYM 2005-04:** Friends accepted the Treasurer's report for 2004

**PYM 2005-05:** Friends approved augmenting the budget for Young Friends Travel (5288) for fiscal year 2005 by \$1,000 to \$1,600, this amount to be balanced by increasing the transfer from reserves by \$1,000.

**PYM 2005-06:** Friends approved establishing the following limits to reserve funds:

2743 FWCC Section of the Americas Travel (5279) Reserve	\$500
2744 FGC Central Committee Travel (5278) Reserve	\$500
2745 FUM Travel (5280) Reserve	\$1,500
2746 General Reunion of Friends, Mexico Travel (5281) Reserve	\$500

**PYM 2005-07:** Friends approved establishing a policy of giving the full travel reimbursement, currently 16 cents per mile, directly to the meeting representatives who attend Representative Committee or Annual Session.

**PYM 2005-08:** Friends approved the budget for fiscal year 2005-2006, including the increased budget for Peace & Social Order [*Attachment E*].

**PYM 2005-09:** Friends approved continuing the per member assessment for FY2006 at the same level as last year: \$36 per member except for Mexico City, which is assessed \$10 per member.

**PYM 2005-10:** 1. Despite differences between Pacific Yearly Meeting and Friends United Meeting—and perhaps especially because of them — we believe that Pacific Yearly Meeting should stay in relationship with Friends United Meeting, so that we may labor in love with them regarding our concerns, while giving spiritual and moral support to those within Friends United Meeting who seek to change the hiring policy stated in FUM Board Minute 88 GB 52.

2. While the Friends United Meeting hiring policy remains in force, Pacific Yearly Meeting will not send a direct contribution to Friends United Meeting, but will use equivalent funds to defray travel costs of Pacific Yearly Meeting observers to Friends United Meeting gatherings.

3. For the next Friends United Meeting Triennial (to be held in North Carolina in 2008), a team of two Pacific Yearly Meeting Friends again will be named as observers to Friends United Meeting.

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**PYM 2005-12:** We approved the Nominating Committee report—Friends named to serve as PYM Officers, Committee members, and representatives to Friends’ organizations—as presented to us this week.  
[Attachment H]

**PYM 2005-13:** We approved the proposed By-laws of Pacific Yearly Meeting. [Attachment J]

**PYM 2005-14:** Friends approved continuing to use the PYM web site under the care of M&O committee, recognizing that good order was not in evidence in the prior lack of authorization.

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**PYM 2005-19:** We accepted the Statistical Report with appreciation.

**PYM 2005-20:** Friends approved authorizing the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Clerk of the Finance Committee to open and close bank accounts and to sign checks on behalf of the Yearly Meeting. We approved the standard language required by banks and other institutions to accomplish these tasks.

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**PYM 2005-22:** We approved attaching to these minutes, reports brought to Yearly Meeting by Committees, but not specifically referenced in these minutes.

## PYM 2005 Packet: Attachments to Plenary Minutes

~~A: *Attenders List*~~ Not available on web due to Privacy reasons.

B: *Latin American Concerns Committee*

C: *Excerpts from the State of the Society Session*

D: *Site Committee Report*

E: *Finance Committee Report and PYM Financial Statement \**

F: *PFOS Minute*

G: *Report on Friends United Meeting Triennial*

H: *Nominating Committee Report*

I: *Friends Bulletin Report*

J: *Bylaws of the Holding Corporation*

K: *Preschool Children's Epistle*

L: *Lower Elementary Children's Epistle*

M: *Upper Elementary Children's Epistle*

N: *Middle School Children's Epistle*

O: *Statistical Report \**

P: *Registrars' Report*

Q: *Epistle of the Junior Yearly Meeting*

R: *Epistle of Young Friends*

S: *Epistle of PYM 2005*

\* These attachments are in separate files, and will be transmitted separately, because they are in a different computer format than those attachments in this collection.

## Latin American Concerns Committee Report to PYM 2005

The Latin American Concerns Committee met twice this last year, once at PYM in 2004 and once in October. It was decided to dedicate \$1200 toward travel expenses for a person to go to the Casa de Los Amigos to try to get the Board of Directors functioning (and legal again). The clerk has worked closely with Jane Peers, Ministry and Oversight, on the challenges facing the Casa de Los Amigos and the Mexico City Monthly meeting. Both the monthly meeting and the Casa are moving forward and growing. Below is a report on the status of the Casa de Los Amigos.

Rolene Walker, Clerk

### News of the Casa de los Amigos

The Casa de los Amigos has been a strong Friends presence in Mexico for nearly 50 years, home to Mexico Monthly Meeting of Friends, and spiritual springboard for far-reaching messages of peace, of work for justice and reconciliation, and of effective programs of service and community development. Many thousands of people from Mexico and all over the world have been enriched by their contact with the Casa and all it has stood for over the years.

The Casa, as with any enduring institution, has had its times of triumph and of struggle. The last several years have been difficult, from a financial, programmatic and governance perspective, even while its stalwart supporters and staff have labored effectively to keep the Casa going in the best way they could. There has also been in the last year the passing of two of the leaders of the Casa over the last decades, Ellen Gonzalez –Lauck, on November 19, 2003, and Ignacio “Nacho” Gonzales on March 2, 2005, leaving a leadership vacuum to be filled, and administrative matters to be resolved.

A group of Friends and supporters from Mexico Monthly Meeting, and drawn from, but not representing, Friends World Committee for Consultation--Section of the Americas, Pacific Yearly Meeting, Inter-Mountain Yearly Meeting, and American Friends Service Committee, among others, have been meeting over the last few years to accompany the staff and Asamblea through a transition. The group has worked to help put the affairs of the Casa in good order, to help renew the Asamblea for effective governance, and to provide guidance to staff during the transition.

We are happy to report that the Casa is functioning very effectively, with many groups utilizing the Guest House and meeting facilities, with regular programs offered to the public. There is a “Quaker in Residence” under the auspices of the Monthly Meeting who enriches the life of the Casa. Unfortunately, the CONVIVE volunteer program was not working well and has been suspended for the time being. Over the next months there will be a process of discernment and of planning for the next stage of the life of the Casa, and we welcome continued attention and engagement from the many Friends and supporters of the Casa around the world.

The Casa de los Amigos is at:

Ignacio Mariscal 132,  
Col. Tabacalera, 06030  
México DF, México.

E-mail is:

[amigos@casadelosamigos.org](mailto:amigos@casadelosamigos.org).

The web site is:

[www.casadelosamigos.org](http://www.casadelosamigos.org) .

**From PLENARY II: MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT,  
Tuesday 2 August 2005**

**Selections from PYM State of the Meeting Reports**

**Introduced by Steve Smith** [Read by members of Worship and Ministry, each section followed by worship.]

**#1: *The Search for Good Order***

• **In our search for truth, many of us feel the need to slow down, to be in the world, not of the world . . . At this time, we seem caught up in taking on the world's burdens as if they are our own, forgetting to carry just a day's worth.** [Davis]

• ***Newcomers provide diversity and infuse vitality, but we ask how we can best integrate these newcomers into our faith community. We sense the need for succor in our community and wonder how we can replenish ourselves as we attempt to meet this need. We search for ways to educate, to gently elder and to show the Friendly energy that attracts visitors. . . . How do we learn the meaning of a gathered spiritual experience that is channeled through each one of us?*** [Santa Monica]

**#2: *Doing Justice, Loving Mercy***

• **In these troubled times when our own country engages in pre-emptive war, commits acts of torture, and defies the tenets of democracy it so loudly proclaims, there are [some of us] who are restless for our Meeting to act more in the manner of the early Quakers who vigorously, visibly practiced their faith. There are others who find it sufficient that [our Meeting] provides them an environment in which to seek the truth, to wait for God's call in the silence of our worship together. Perhaps, as we improve our skills in love-based Quaker decision-making, we'll create a synergy beyond our expectations.** [Apple Seed]

• ***Many of us yearn for a shared vision or cause which will attract the committed participation of the great majority of us, further consolidating us as a "faithful covenant community."*** [San Francisco]

### **#3: Children and Youth**

- **The new children in our Meeting have been a welcome addition to our First Day School. They have made it possible for us to inaugurate a Junior Business Meeting. We appreciate the opportunity to pass our values on to a new generation, and are grateful for the contributions of our teachers. We have struggled, however, to develop a consistent curriculum for the children, and have been without an education committee clerk for almost a year. We need the entire Meeting to take this responsibility. [Orange County]**
- *In years past, there were hardly any children in Meeting. A few years ago, however, things started an upturn when a group of parents and others began putting real energy, imagination and consistency into the program. Something good is happening when the kids form genuine friendships with each other and look forward to coming to Meeting to be together. Several years ago we started a practice of asking the children, who join Meeting for Worship near the end of the hour, to report to us what they had done that day in First Day School. They were shy about this at first, but over time it's given them confidence in speaking to adults and knowing they will be taken seriously, and it has given the grownups valuable practice in listening to children too. A lot of barriers have been lowered, to everyone's benefit and enjoyment. [Palo Alto]*
- **Our only First Day child writes "I had an important responsibility one First Day. I got to read the query during Meeting for Worship. The testimony that I like best is Peace. I get to practice it regularly at school. Our Worship Group is filled with loving people and I'm thankful to be a part of it. [Conejo Valley]**

### **#4: Growing and Dying**

- **We have suffered the loss of a strong and faithful family who gave so much of themselves, but we have welcomed new attenders who report that we are friendly, kind and generous. These changes make us aware of the life cycle of our Meeting. [Inland Valley]**
- *There are three or four very ill Friends [in our Meeting] right now. Another beloved elder is ill and yet he continues to model a life of service;*

*we feel called to try to follow his example also. Yet another elder, in his rapidly-progressing Alzheimer's disease, still wanted to attend worship. Our love for him graced us with open hearts, as he came into Meeting late, shuffling loudly, and talking in stage whispers. Being called on to provide support leads us to greater spiritual depths.* [Humboldt]

### **#5: Turning to the Light**

- **At its best, [our Meeting] is a place where we know that we are accepted by God and one another as we are, a place where we pause from the busy pace of our lives and draw upon the Spirit, leaving refreshed and better able to cope with often overwhelming demands of the world.** [Claremont]

- *The quality of our Meeting for Worship remains strong and deep, enriched by the steady presence of God. Occasionally an entire hour passes in deep silence. More often, spoken ministry enriches the worship experience, even though there are members who find some contributions more secular than spiritual. We understand that similar tensions are common in other unprogrammed Meetings.* [Chico]

**To: Pacific Yearly Meeting, 2005 Annual Session**  
**From: Your Sites Committee**  
**RE: Visalia site**

Sites Committee was asked to compare the Visalia site with others we have looked at and to provide some comments/questions/guidance for the yearly meeting's discussion of this site at the 2005 annual session. We were asked for our input, and this is our best effort in providing that to you.

We are providing you with the following items:

1. A "Statement of General Philosophy"—the premises your sites committee works under. (pages 1-2)
2. "Sites Committee Report concerning Visalia" (page 3)
3. Q&A concerning Visalia, Some Specifics (pages 4-5)
4. A side-by-side comparison of Visalia with University of Redlands, which we chose for the 2006 annual session, and California Lutheran University, which we looked at seriously for 2006 before deciding we preferred the Redlands campus. (pages 6-11)

Statement of General Philosophy  
**Regarding Sites for Pacific Yearly Meeting**

*Premises your Sites Committee works under:*

1. There is no such thing as a "perfect" site.
2. One of the Sites Committee's goals has been to inconvenience different Friends at different sites.
3. Every site that is chosen for PYM's annual session makes it impossible or extremely inconvenient for some Friends to attend. Both Sites Committee—and especially Arrangements Committee—work very hard to try to accommodate all the needs the best we can. The major difficulties are:
  - a. Location. Our yearly meeting encompasses a huge area. Any site that is picked is nearer to some and farther for others. This causes access problems for those who are farthest from the chosen site. It is easier all around to use the same site multiple times, so Sites Committee has (generally) urged the same site for at least two consecutive years. In the "north" we have relied on Mt. Madonna, although we have looked at many alternatives. In the "south" we have not yet found a place that Friends are willing to go back to repeatedly.
  - b. Food. Friends come with a huge variety of food allergies, needs, and preferences. The food at each site can only represent an "average" diet. Over the years, some Friends have found food at various locations impossible for them to thrive on—in some cases impossible for them to eat at all. Sometimes these Friends have "made do" with bringing their own foods; sometimes they have eaten off-site for some or all meals; sometimes they regard the hassle as not worth the effort and have declined to attend.
  - c. Cost, total. All sites are increasingly expensive. As far as we have been able to determine, only Mt. Madonna will still allow both tent camping and dorm-type housing in the same location. University of Redlands allows RV-type camping with dorm-type housing. (The proposal from Visalia posits camping and yurt-housing). This means that those Friends at the lower end of the income scale who manage to come to yearly meeting only if they can camp, find it difficult to attend because of cost. We have informed Friends of camping locations that are nearest to the site, but that then involves commuting.
  - d. Cost, aided. Many monthly meetings have a fund to help those who ask for some/all of their expenses be paid. The yearly meeting also has a fund for "scholarship" aid. There are many Friends who are embarrassed to ask or who feel that they would be "second class" if they cannot fund their own annual session. For some Friends, this means that they choose to "work" in the

## Attachment D: Sites Committee Report

- children's program, for example, to defray some costs. For others, it means they prefer to not ask, and not attend.
- e. Public transportation availability. Some sites have better options for public transportation than do others. Sites Committee has been careful to consider this when we have made our selections. Many Friends are uncomfortable travelling to annual session in non-public transportation.
  - f. Facilities. We need a wide variety of group facilities—large group plenary space, medium-sized interest group space, small group worship sharing space, children's programs spaces, Young Friends and Junior Yearly Meeting spaces, and committee rooms. (An extra plus at some sites have been such items as a dance floor, gym, swimming pool/pond, hiking trails, outdoor fire pit.) We have tried very hard to pick sites that could accommodate all the various groups within the yearly meeting, but many times these rooms are in inconvenient locations.
  - g. Handicapped accessibility/ease of walking at the site. Our yearly meeting is aging. More and more Friends are needing wheelchairs, canes, walkers, scooters and the like. A site with non-paved paths or one with hilly terrain or numerous stairs makes it difficult/impossible for some Friends to attend.
  - h. Hearing difficulties. Some sites are better than others for Friends with hearing disabilities. We have so far managed to have microphone/amplifiers in the plenary rooms, but often these aids are not available in the smaller rooms. For some Friends, the inability to hear means the inability to participate fully in the sessions.
  - i. Toilets. Availability of a sufficient number of toilets very near the plenary room and near at least some of the housing options is critical for some Friends' attendance.
  - j. Comfort. For some, temperature in the meeting rooms, lighting, availability of laundry facilities, bed types, back supporting chairs, etc. make the difference between being able to come and not to come.

### Sites Committee Report concerning Visalia

#### SECTION ONE: RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Sites Committee makes no recommendation about whether or not the yearly meeting should or should not have a permanent site. We believe that decision belongs at the yearly meeting level.
2. Sites Committee makes no recommendation about whether or not a permanent site (if decided upon) should be located at the Visalia Quaker Oaks Farm site.
3. Individual members of the Sites Committee may have preferences, opinions, or comments that they wish to make during the discussions at yearly meeting.

#### SECTION TWO:

##### UNANSWERED QUESTIONS/CONCERNS ABOUT THE VISALIA SITE

1. The "Operations Report" simply lists estimated daily rates without stating how those rates were determined. We are thus in no position to comment on how accurate the estimated rental rates are.
2. The Site Map that was provided includes facilities that will not be available by the first yearly meeting use of the site. We have not seen a sketch map of where all the temporary rental buildings would go. The Visalia site is flatter and more compact than Mt. Madonna; nevertheless, our concerns about relative spacing of yurts, toilets, shower buildings, meeting rooms, dining facilities, portable tents, etc. remain.
3. Weather at Visalia. Here is a chart of May-Dec. Visalia temperatures.

	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average temp. (°F)	67.8	74.7	79.3	77.9	73.1	64.9	53.0	45.2
High temperature (°F)	81.7	89.3	93.9	92.3	87.0	78.1	63.7	54.3
Low temperature (°F)	54.0	60.1	64.8	63.6	59.3	51.8	42.2	36.2
Precipitation (in)	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.7	1.2	1.5

We are concerned about the “indoor” temps in rental yurts, rental tents, toilet buildings, etc. and about the noise of a/c units (or evaporator coolers) needed. The proposal calls for a number of meetings to be held outdoors, and that may be difficult with these temperatures as well.

4. We are concerned about the handicapped among us. For example, decomposed granite paths work fairly well for motorized wheelchairs/scooters, but they may not be as suitable for walkers, non-motor wheelchairs, canes, etc. unless very tightly packed.

**SECTION THREE:  
Q & A CONCERNING VISALIA: SOME SPECIFICS**

Questions from Sites Committee; answers from PFOS (Sharlene Roberts-Caudle and Ellie Huffman)

1. YURTS: what will be in the yurts? Will there be window(s), vent hole, table, chairs, lamp, bunk beds; what type of cooling? Would bedding/towels be provided?

*From Sharlene: Our planning is at a stage where we have many options. We would want input from a PYM Committee when it comes to these details. Some yurts will be relatively permanent structures. We are committed to making them comfortable in our climate. We are leaning toward using evaporative coolers in each of these yurts. In our climate a combination of trees and evaporative coolers creates a very comfortable climate. Other yurts will be more tent-like and only used during Yearly Meeting. These will be for younger people and sturdier folks who are accustomed to camping. We intend to also use the type of tent cabins used at Yosemite. We may also have tipis, for the more adventurous! We are well aware that the acceptability of simple, rustic accommodations depends on comfort. The furnishings will be simple, attractive, and sturdy.*

*Bedding: this is a decision that we have approached on several levels and about which we have not yet made a decision. This is one of the many areas in which we are open to input from PYM. Having said this, I will share some of my thoughts. The decision to furnish bedding also implies increased housekeeping services and the necessity to provide laundry services. No doubt we would provide linens in the Retreat House. Frankly, maintaining an inventory of linens for hundreds of people to use in yurts and tent cabins for one week each year is probably not financially sound. Many folks have sleeping bags which they prefer to use. In all likelihood, linen service would be an available option, in the interest of increased flexibility.*

2. HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY: Will ALL the facilities be handicap accessible--showers, toilets, yurts, meeting rooms, dining facility? What about the paths between items--paved, gravel, woodchip,

dirt? When you add up wheelchairs, motor scooters, walkers, crutches, and bad knees, there are quite a few people who do have mobility issues.

From Ellie: The site is flat--that helps to start with. There will be at least five yurts with special accommodations for disabled. Because we plan to build with universal design, every general use building will be ramped. All paths will be solid enough for wheelchairs, some will be gravel, some will be woodchip. All bathhouses/restrooms will have handicapped accommodations.

*From Sharlene--a correction, gravel won't be used, instead we would use compacted "D.G." or decomposed granite. This is a very durable, permeable surface that is smooth and hard enough for wheelchairs etc. Universal design does not necessarily imply that every toilet is handicap accessible--we will be considering those with mobility issues as well as visual, auditory, and movement issues. Every entry to every building will be accessible by wheel. Every bathhouse will be wheelchair accessible. Close attention has been paid to minimizing the distances between plenary, dining, children's area, and sleeping. We are even planning handicap-only R.V. sites near the core of the site. The special yurts will be planned for double occupancy and have toilet facilities within for attendees who have this need.*

3. LAYOUT: Can you provide each of us with a sketch of the site, showing spaces between items? One very major issue is the large number of (particularly older) Friends who get up in the night to go to the toilet. Also, the dining tent cannot be the same as the large meeting tent.

*From Sharlene: Yes, the dining and plenary spaces will be separate. We are hoping for the drawings by June 25. We expect the final drawing within two weeks and will send copies out to your committee. We intend two large tents- plenary and dining room, separate.*

4. COST: Would you outline exactly how you arrived at the cost figure? What is/isn't included? Does it include the rental costs of all the rented items?

From Ellie: Yes. If you look at the Operations plan you will see that meals are \$30.00 per day. The \$28.00 per day is camping only, without meals.

*From Sharlene. The costs do include renting items. Our Operations Plan shows us charging a facility use of \$20 adult/\$15 youth--this is what would be paid by those who stay and eat offsite, or bring their own food but stay offsite. Overnight facility costs are \$25 for 2 in an R.V., and \$40 per person in a Yurt. This would be for those who prepare their own meals. Day use with lunch would be \$32; while overnight lodging with meals would be \$45/person for R.V./camping; \$70 per person in a yurt; and \$85 per person in the Retreat Lodge.*

*We would not expect any greater volunteer activity than needed by Mt. Madonna, hopefully less. I agree with your assessment that most folks don't want to cook, unless it's the only way they can attend. We would probably have catering come in and use our facility as a satellite kitchen, at least at first. They would provide everything. We are committed to having our meals be one of the highlights of the site. We believe that simple fresh wholesome ingredients can be used to create meals which are a delight. We would strive to meet the dietary needs just as we intend to do in connection with physical accessibility. Beth Lovett has been creating wonderful meals that meet this description for four years or so each Saturday at lunch for board meetings.*

5. FOOD: I'm going to assume that you will hire a caterer who comes with dishes & utensils. While a number of Friends are vegan, others need dairy/animal proteins daily (one of the main reasons some Friends do not stay overnight at Mt.Madonna). ALSO: we have many, many food allergies, such as: onion, peppers, citrus, avocado, garlic, wheat, rice, rye flour, strawberries, tomato. At Mt. Madonna we finally persuaded them to put out bread & peanut butter at every lunch/supper for kids who wouldn't or

couldn't eat what was prepared. What provisions have you made for food problems?

From Ellie: We expect to have a caterer who will be willing to accommodate the various needs you have outlined. We do not expect volunteers to cook food. We will probably use some volunteers to help with set up and clean up.

6. SMALL GROUP sites: Where will interest groups meet? The worship-sharing groups can meet in the yurts, but where will the interest groups go? You can maybe put 2 in the main meeting room and another 2 in the dining hall at the same time, but more than 2 doesn't work.

From Ellie: We intend to get some larger yurts for JYM (for instance) and for additional meeting rooms  
*From Sharlene: In addition, we are dedicated to creating special outdoor areas making the most of the natural beauty of the site. The outdoor landscaping will be designed around the need to have many large and small group meeting areas separated enough from other areas so that there is privacy. One benefit of clustering the buildings and accommodations is that there will be many places where these can be created. We will rent as many tents for indoor meeting spaces as are needed.*

7. NOISE: How noisy are the a/c units? They will no doubt need to be "on" in the main plenary room all the time; can we still hear over the top of the a/c?

From Ellie: An acoustical engineer is working with us and we will discuss that issue with him. It is an important question—I recall the terrible noise of the air conditioning at Chico in the Plenary room!

<b>Comparison Chart</b> <i>(items in alpha order)</i>			
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Visalia</b>	<b>Cal. Lutheran</b>	<b>Univ. of Redlands</b>
Air Conditioning	Evaporative coolers would be used in central area, provide cooled air via ducts to all structures ; plans for lots of shaded outdoor areas	All buildings we would use; however, they turn AC off noon to 6 p.m. each day in the dorms to save electricity, figuring people aren't there	All buildings we would use
Alcohol		I don't think so but can't find any specific note I made of this	not allowed on campus
ATM on campus	No, possibly at gas station <1 mile away	yes	yes
Billing notes		asked for sample contract to be mailed & didn't get it	10% due at signing, 50% due at check-in, remainder invoiced
Bunk Beds	In most rooms	Standard in most rooms	Standard in most rooms BUT we can request that they be unbunked (no extra charge for that service)
Campus Security	Plan to hire security company	yes, 24 hours/day	yes, 24 hours/day
Can people come for only part of week and pay proportionately?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Can we get room with no linens at lesser price?	Yes, linens would be optional	we didn't ask.	yes but didn't ask how much
Can we get some meal tickets with no breakfast?	Yes	no	no
Can we put up Memorials Meeting names on wall?	Would have way to post on walls or otherwise display	probably not, might have to use easels?	yes, push pins into walls designed for them (lots of space)
Children's space	Babies/preschools in Visalia Meeting House; will bring in appropriate size yurts or platform tents for each other age group	would need to be 4 classrooms, none have very good outdoor space directly in front of classroom	we would need 4 classrooms, excellent open space outside classroom building
Dining Hall	Will bring in a mobile kitchen and dining tent, all handicapped accessible	no punch pad for handicapped access; set of steps between ticket check-in and food; handicapped would need special access thru lower door	no punch pad for handicapped access, one level with no stairs

Attachment D: Sites Committee Report

Dorm Rooms	Most will be 8 per dorm (4 bunk beds), separate platform tents or yurts. **I believe some will be in a larger permanent building, but this may be in Phase 2. Also RV spaces, 5 regular, 5 handicapped equipped	All suites; one small building nearest dining hall would have 2 persons per room, then two rooms per suite. Other dorms would be bunked with 4 to 5 persons per room	2 persons per room, with sink in each room, toilets down the hall. Only 2 persons per room—we didn't ask if we could have a bunk bed PLUS one extra bed for family units. One building is in suites, 4 persons to a suite bath.
Dorms exclusive to us?	Yes	yes	yes
Extra campus "ambiance"	Many huge old trees. Adjacent property is nature center.	little creek runs thru campus	gorgeous huge live oak trees along a big grassy "quad"; mountains visible
Extra charge for extra meeting space?	No.	No	Yes, we would need to rent 4 classrooms for children's programs, cost likely \$200/each for whole week
Fee for day users?	Yes.	yes, \$9.50/per person/per day (plus cash for meals)	No. (cash for meals) (though we might want to charge the \$2/person/day estimated children's rooms fee)
Fitness Center	No, but trails, pool, fenced sports court for tennis or basketball	yes, adults over 18 only	yes, adults over 18 only, \$5 per person per week extra charge
Food	Organic, choice of vegetarian or vegan.	Set of "bars"—salads, pastas, etc. Vegan options available; I thought the dining hall a bit dreary, nothing made to your order (I don't think!)	Set of "bars"—salads, pastas, omelets made to your specs, deli sandwiches made to your specs, etc. Vegan options available
Free Children?	<2	yes, 2 years & under	Yes, and I can't seem to find in my notes the ages
Golf cart shuttle	Yes	no	yes, \$8/hour if they run it; or \$250/week if we run it. They suggest we have them do it for lunch/supper x 2 hours each
Half Price Children?	Yes	Yes, 3 thru 7, age 8 pays full adult rate	Yes, again I can't seem to find the ages but I vaguely remember it as being 12??
Handicap parking	Yes.	yes, could shuttle from dining to chapel as handicap parking in front of each building	yes, probably wouldn't be useful to shuttle though as parking on the outside of the campus
Handicapped Rooms	All rooms will be handicapped accessible. 5 will have their	yes, one per dorm (and we'd probably have 4 dorms?)	2 totally ADA certified, with 2 beds in each: each dorm, dining hall

Attachment D: Sites Committee Report

	accessible. 5 will have their own bathrooms, fully handicapped usable. (plus 5 RV sites)	have 4 dorms?)	in each; each dorm, dining hall, plenary has handicap toilet
Homosexuality	Not an issue	At both schools, I explained VERY carefully OUR policy and asked if that would be a problem for them. They both assured me that it would not be an issue for them.	
How much walking?	Common use areas (dining, plenary, meeting rooms) will be clustered, with handicapped housing closest.	quite a lot. Picture a triangle with dorm, dining hall, chapel as the 3 points, with classrooms mostly in between. Flat	Flat, not nearly as much walking
How to arrange tabling fair & dance at same time	Probably plenary room for dance and dining hall for tabling fair	dance either outdoors next to gym or inside gym (socks only), tabling fair would need to be in smaller conference building or in children's classrooms. Plenary room unsuitable for either event.	dance in plenary room, tabling fair either outdoors on flat huge grassy area right in front of plenary OR in children's classrooms.
Interest Groups	Will have several separate structures brought in	would need to be in classrooms, may be scattered around campus	Can meet in main plenary building (it has 7 smaller spaces) + main plenary room can be divided in two
Internet	Yes, in business center	yes but \$15 per hookup, notify in advance which rooms	free connection, hours 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
JYM space	Separate tent, can have refrigerator	dorm lounge, with fridge	very large dorm lounge with fridge, stove, microwave, ping-pong table
JYM/Young Friends "Puppy pile" sleeping?	Yes	no (fire marshal forbids)	no (fire marshal forbids)
Kids' Snacks	We can bring in	We must use their food service and pay extra for snacks for kids.	We can bring our own.
Kitchenette apartments?	Not initially, when retreat house is built in Phase 2 it will have a kitchen for the 50 rooms.	A few, would be no extra cost	No
Liability insurance required?	PFOS will provide	YES	Yes, they prefer \$5 million but if our carrier won't go that high, they will accept \$2 million (but no less)
Library	Probably	Yes, we can browse	Yes, we can browse
Lost meal card charge	N/A, will use ID badges for meals	yes, I can't seem to find amount	yes \$10
Lounge in each dorm?	Outdoor spaces will be planned for small groups	yes	yes (larger than at Cal.Luth)
M&O meeting space?	In Sanger House (a house on the campus currently used for office space, bedrooms for	Day time use might be able to arrange a classroom that would need to be vacated at night; might possibly	probably have to use a dorm room

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	visitors)	arrange with chaplain to use his "conference" room	
Making copies for Daily Miracle	Onsite	Kinko's about 4 miles away, we would need to take & deliver	Kinko's about half a mile away; HOWEVER, the Univ. will take and deliver—MAY be cheaper as they get some sort of discount from Kinko's
Other Activities?	30 minutes to Kaweah Lake for boating, fishing & swimming. One hour from Sequoia Park. Docent led walks in adjacent nature center	Shakespeare in the park on campus	Free Thursday & Friday events at nearby Redlands Bowl
Other costs	None of these prices includes ANYTHING for our overhead, photocopying, guests for whom we make no charge, etc.		
Other users?	No	Yes, every evening = their summer classes PLUS we would be same week as Shakespeare in the Park	Yes, but only other conferences, no classes in summer
Our Book Store	Yes - somewhere.	Would need to be in separate classroom, there is a SMALL room off the chapel (plenary room) that might work. This could be a real problem as the summer conference center people only control 4 classrooms which we would need for children.	Small space at back of plenary has 3 rooms, could put two together for bookstore (the Methodist group they have regularly does it that way)
Pay for unused meals	Flexible	yes	yes
Pizza for JYM/YF for one supper?	Could order in	Yes, but extra charge; unless that night EVERYONE had pizza. Advance notice needed.	Yes, probably no extra charge, would depend on exactly what was wanted with the pizza and what type of pizzas. Advance notice needed.
Plenary Seating	Will rent a large "party tent" with adequate seating.	Quarter-circle "chapel" setting, with raised platform in front of banked seating; balcony that the kids would love! Snazzy looking with stain glass windows.	Open space, can configure differently for memorials and regular plenary, rather plain looking large room
Price	Probably comparable to others. Camping will be significantly less than others.	Somewhat complicated price structure, as linens are charged heavily for first day, not much after that; facility use fee varies per size of "family" unit. A couple, no kids, staying by themselves in a 2 person	2 persons in one room, all linens, all meals, would be charged \$98 per night for the 2 of them together (we would need to add approximately \$2 per night to cover the cost of the rented classrooms) so figure

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		room, all linens, all meals, would be charged \$126 (for the 2 of them together) for first night, slightly less for subsequent nights. (Slightly less charge for multi-person rooms, possibly as much as \$6 or \$8 less per night). Would likely need to factor in another \$1/day for everyone to cover cost of kid snacks	approx. \$100 for that couple.
Price of meals for day users:	TBD	Breakfast = \$9, Lunch = \$11, Dinner = \$14	Breakfast = \$6.50 & I didn't get price for lunch or dinner.
Public Transit to campus	Bus service to Visalia, Train to nearby Hanford, Visalia would arrange shuttle pickup	Shuttle to Airport, no good bus or train service	Shuttle to airport, excellent bus service, train to San Bernadino connects to bus
Quiet/meditation Room?	Can arrange.	Yes, next to chapel, but we might have to share with other users, library available during some hours	No, but VERY lovely "fire pit" area near plenary building that would make nice outdoor quiet space. Cannot light fires in summer (drought season), library available during some hours
Room Keys	None – will have secure lockers	\$50 if lost	\$50 if lost
RV parking on campus	Yes, 5 regular, 5 handicapped	not allowed on campus	yes, at \$12/day, electric hookup in open parking lot (would be HOT)
Smoking	Designated areas	designated areas only	designated areas only
Sound System	Yes	we can bring our own; extra charge to use theirs	we can bring our own, though may not need to as they will provide hand-held mike at no charge

Attachment D: Sites Committee Report

Space for dinner meetings with committees?	Yes, outdoor tables	Would have to be at outdoor tables	Yes, smaller dining room available that probably seats 75 or so; might have to share with more than one committee
Swimming Pool	Yes, will be building a pool	Yes, new pool should be ready by 2006; current pool = 3 ½ feet at each end and 5 feet middle, no extra charge to use pool but we WOULD be charged for a lifeguard. Probably not suitable for babies/toddlers.	Yes, outdoor large pool, \$5/person for the week to use it. I cannot recommend it for the babies/toddlers as shallowest part = 3 ½ feet deep. I suggest we automatically buy pool pass for every child, YF, JYM and their teachers, FAPs and let others pay if they want. Pool hours only 4 or 5 hours/day in the afternoons. Lifeguard provided
Table Display Space	Some – to be arranged	Not good; would need to remove tables/displays daily	Excellent; can use plenary space and hallway, plenty large enough, overhead “track” so posters could be hung with monofilament fish line
Tent camping	Yes.	not on campus; nearest tiny campground about 5 or 6 miles, can only stay there 3 nights; larger campground about 30-45 minutes each way	not on campus; no campground close enough to commute
Weather	Hot, best to schedule PYM end June to early July	Hot, generally cool ocean breeze in evening	Hot, generally cools off (desert) in evening; but probably a hotter option than Cal Luth at Thousand Oaks
Worship Sharing Groups	Outdoors or in sleeping yurts/tents	would need to house some in dorm rooms OR outside	would need to house some in dorm rooms OR outside
Would YF and JYM need to share dorm with other PYM folk?	No	probably not, smaller size dorms	probably as dorms a bit larger, somewhat unclear on this though
Young Friends space	Yes, could have a separate large tent/yurt	dorm lounge, with fridge	very large dorm lounge with fridge, stove, microwave, ping-pong table

## Pacific Friends Outreach Society (PFOS)

### **Background:**

In response to concerns raised at Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) in 2004, PFOS Board Members revised their approach to the development of a Permanent Site in Visalia, Ca. The revised approach focuses on meeting the needs of the Yearly Meeting for its annual gathering, with a minimum of impact on the environment, maximum flexibility to assure that more families and young people can participate, and an opportunity to practice Quaker values and beliefs. The consequence of these changes reduces the likelihood of immediate use by other than Quaker related groups. Therefore:

### **Minute:**

Pacific Friends Outreach society (PFOS) offers Quaker Oaks Farm (QOF) to Pacific Yearly Meeting (PYM) as a permanently available site for gatherings and as a home for PYM's materials and supplies, dependent on the Yearly Meeting agreeing to meet at QOF for eight (8) consecutive annual sessions.

Development will be consistent with the needs of PYM as expressed by the relevant PYM Committees (Sites, Arrangements, and Registrars); the permit from Tulare County; broad policies on sustainability and Universal Design; and adequate capitalization.

**Report on**  
**FRIENDS UNITED MEETING (FUM) TRIENNIAL,**  
**13-17 July 2005**

by Jane Peers and Steve Smith, PYM Observers

**Brief History:** In 1988, the FUM General Board adopted a hiring policy on sexual ethics that “set a standard for staff to confine sexual intimacy to marriage, defined as ‘one man and one woman.’” [See reverse for fuller text.] Although the policy has been repeatedly reexamined since it was first approved, it continues at present to be a part of the official hiring policy of FUM. This policy effectively prohibits the hiring of paid staff from the following groups:

1. Any unmarried sexually active person, including
2. Any person in a sexually-active same-sex relationship, whether or not joined in a ceremony of commitment or wedding ceremony;
3. Any person in a polygamous marriage (a practice still common in parts of Kenya, where FUM has a large membership).

In August 2004 at Mt. Madonna, during a consideration of the budget, it came to the attention of PYM Friends. After discussion, Friends agreed to postpone a decision about PYM’s 2005-6 contribution to FUM, and to refer the concern to PYM Representative Committee for seasoning. In March 2005, RepCom approved a minute of concern that declared, “We believe it is not in keeping with Friends’ testimonies to deny marriage to same gender couples and at the same time to refuse them full participation because they are unmarried.” The minute also stated that “we feel the funds set aside as a contribution for Friends United Meeting this year may best serve our mutual relationship by supporting travel of PYM Friends to Friends United Meetings Triennial gathering to listen and to seek dialogue on this concern.” [See reverse side for RepCom minute 2005-04.] Subsequently, Jane Peers (La Jolla) and Steve Smith (Claremont) were named.

**Summary of Visit:** We (Jane and Steve) attended the FUM Triennial held on 13-17 July 2005 in Des Moines, Iowa. We delivered our letters of concern, met and visited with other FUM Friends, participated in an informal interest group that discussed possible responses to the FUM hiring policy, and in general participated as fully as possible in the Triennial program.

FUM is theologically the most diverse of the three major groupings of Friends’ yearly meetings (FUM, FGC and EFI), and culturally much more diverse than either PYM or FGC. Most of FUM’s member Meetings are pastoral, and more than half are African, yet FUM also contains several yearly meetings (including Baltimore, New England, South East and New York) that are largely unprogrammed. Many in FUM, are deeply distressed by the personnel policy of their umbrella organization. Much of our visitation was with these persons (some of whom have been laboring for several years regarding the issue) as they struggled to formulate a Spirit-led response to the policy.

**The Future of FUM’s Hiring Policy:** At the recent Triennial, the hiring policy received considerable plenary attention—in the opening address by Retha McCutcheon (outgoing General Secretary), in discussion time during the first Meeting for Business, and in a bible study sermon by guest speaker Douglas Gwyn. Still, no change in the hiring policy seems likely in the near future. In March 2005 the General Board of FUM approved a minute that states frankly, “We realize that a resolution [regarding possible changes to the hiring policy, and other controversial matters] may be long in coming.” Led primarily by a few U.S. Friends, discussion within FUM of its hiring policy will undoubtedly continue.

We believe that through our many thoughtful and sincere discussions, our presence contributed in a small way to this ongoing dialogue—and perhaps sowed small seeds for the future among individuals and groups with whom we met.

**Recommendations:**

1. Despite differences between the two Friends’ groups—and perhaps especially because of them—we believe that PYM should stay in relationship with FUM, so that we may labor in love with them regarding our concerns, while giving spiritual and moral support to those within FUM who seek to change their hiring policy.
2. We recommend that while the FUM hiring policy remains in force, PYM not send a direct contribution to FUM, but use the funds instead to defray travel costs of PYM observers to FUM gatherings.
3. For the next FUM Triennial (to be held in North Carolina in 2008) we recommend that a team of two PYM Friends again be named as observers to FUM.

**In Friendship, Jane Peers and Steve Smith**

\* \* \* \* \*

**FUM Board minute 88 GB 52:**

(a) We affirm the civil rights of all people to secular employment, housing, education and health care without regard to their sexual orientation. In particular, we condemn violence, whether verbal or physical, against homosexuals, and call for their full protection under the civil rights laws.

(b) We reaffirm our traditional testimonies of peace, simplicity, truth speaking, gender and racial equality, personal integrity, fidelity, chastity and community. We recognize that there is diversity among us on issues of sexuality. For the purpose of our corporate life together, we affirm our traditional testimony that sexual intercourse should be confined to the bonds of marriage, which we understand to be between one man and one woman.

(c) The lifestyle of volunteers under appointment to Quaker Volunteer Witness, regardless of their sexual orientation, should be in accordance with these testimonies.

**PYM RepCom 2005-04**

The Pacific Yearly Meeting Representative Committee has a deep concern over the effect of Friends United Meeting Minute 8-8GB-52. We believe it is not in keeping with Friends’ testimonies to deny marriage to same gender couples and at the same time refuse them full participation because they are unmarried.

We unite with Friends General conference that “our experience has been that spiritual gifts are not distributed with respect to sexual orientation or gender identity.” Desiring to labor with Friends United Meeting Friends over this concern, we feel the funds set aside as a contribution for Friends United Meeting this year may best serve our mutual relationship by supporting travel of PYM Friends to Friends United Meeting’s Triennial gathering to listen and to seek dialogue on this concern.

We ask the clerk in counsel with the Ministry and Oversight Committee, to select two additional Friends to join our FUM liaison for this service, and to compose letters of introduction to accompany them.

We also extend an invitation to Retha McCutchen, General Secretary of Friends United Meeting, to attend Pacific Yearly Meeting to speak with us regarding these and other concerns we share, so we can work on them together as Friends.

## PYM NOMINATING COMMITTEE FINAL REPORT

PYM August 2005

### PYM Officers

**Presiding Clerk** (one-year term)

**2006** Jim Anderson, Chico

**Assistant to the Clerk** (one-year term)

**2006** Bob Runyan, Chico

**Arrangements Clerks** (two-year terms)

**2006** Jan Tappan, Orange Grove

**2007** Pat Smith, Claremont

**Historian / Archivist** (three-year term)

**2006** Pat Daggerty, Orange Grove

**Reading Clerk** (one-year term)

**2006** Kitty Bergel, Orange County

**Recording Clerks** (two-year terms)

**2006** Sandy Farley, Palo Alto

**2007** Jamie Newton, Palo Alto

**Registrars** (two-year terms)

**2006** Kate Newlin, Straw. Creek

**2007** Roena Oesting, La Jolla

**Statistical Clerk** (three-year terms)

**2007** Lee Knutsen, Monterey Peninsula,

**2007** Gary Wolff, Orange Grove

**Treasurer** (three-year term, 10/1 – 9/30)

**2008** Gary Wolff, Orange Grove

**Assistant to Treasurer**

**2006** David Barrows, San Diego

### PYM Committees

**Ministry and Oversight Committee**

(9 members, 3-year terms)

**2006** Jane Peers, La Jolla

**2006** Laura Magnani, Berkeley

**2006** Steven Smith, Claremont

**2007** Jean Lester, Orange Grove

**2007** Aimee Elsbree, Claremont

**2007** Zachary Moon, Strawberry Creek

**2008** Joe Franko, Orange Grove, Clerk

**2008** Diego Navarro, Santa Cruz

**2008** Ellie Huffman, Monterey Peninsula

*Sub-Committees of Ministry and Oversight  
and appointed by that Committee*

*ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION*

*Jane Mills, Redwood Forest; Tanna Moontaro,  
Santa Monica*

*BRINTON VISITOR*

*Sally Davis, Sacramento, Clerk; Tom Davis,  
Santa Cruz; Joan Johnson, Conejo Valley;  
Marilee Eusebio, Davis; Nancy Yarnall, North  
Pacific YM*

*RELEASED FRIENDS*

*Elaine Emily, Orange Grove; Laura Magnani,  
Berkeley; Kristina Perry, Humboldt, convenor;  
Elmyra Powell, Orange Grove; Traci Hjelt  
Sullivan, Santa Cruz*

*WORSHIP SHARING*

*Eric Amen, Sacramento; Susan Scott, Inland  
Valley*

*SPECIAL FUNDS*

*Joe Franko, Orange Grove; Tom Farley, Palo  
Alto*

Note: A name in Bold indicates the person was approved at PYM, 2005

A names in Italics indicates the person is not nominated by Nominating Committee

## Attachment H: PYM Nominating Committee Report

*ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION and RECORDS*  
*Don Bean, Conejo Valley, convenor; Michael Eastwood, So. Humboldt; Jan Tappan, Orange Grove; Gary Wolff, Orange Grove*

### **Children's Program Committee**

(6 members, 3-year terms)

2006 Susan Nickerson, La Jolla  
2006 Chris Mohr, SF, **Clerk**

2007 Heather Levien, Berkeley  
2007 Elizabeth Bills, La Jolla

**2008 Joe Magruder, Berkeley**  
**2008 Ramón Castellblanch, Berkeley**

### **Discipline Committee**

(6 members, 3-year terms)

2006 Ellie Foster, Santa Cruz  
2006 Elsa Glines, Strawberry Creek

2007 Steve Birdlebough, Redwood Forest, *Clerk*  
2007 Rachel Fretz, Santa Monica

**2008 Robin DuRant, Orange Grove**  
**2008** \_\_\_\_\_

### **East-West Relations Committee**

(Ex Officio: PYM representatives to Friends House Moscow Board.)

2006 Bill Bauriedel, Palo Alto  
2006 Hannah Parris, Berkeley

2007 Carl Anderson, Straw Creek, *Clerk*

**2008 Deborah Marks, Strawberry Creek**  
**2008 Dharma Yamaguchi, Strawberry Creek**

### **Finance Committee**

(6 members, 3-year terms. Ex Officio: Treasurer(s), Statistical Clerk)

2006 Stratton Jaquette, Palo Alto, *Clerk*  
2006 Nancy Curdts, Redwood Forest

2007 Kitty Bergel, Orange County  
2007 Karen Lawrance, La Jolla

**2008 Stephen Matchett, San Francisco**  
**2008 Cliff Lester, Orange Grove**

### **Holding Corporation Committee**

(6 members, 3-year terms. President named by the Committee. Ex Officio: PYM Presiding Clerk, and Treasurer(s))

2006 Lanny Jay, Redwood Forest, President.  
2006 John DeValcourt, Santa Cruz

2007 Harry Bailey, Grass Valley  
2007 David Barrows, San Diego

**2008 Sherri Sisson, Orange County**  
**2008 Mary Miché, Lake County**

### **Junior Yearly Meeting Committee**

(8 members, 3-year terms. Liaison appointed by M&O)

2006 Peter Arnold, Palo Alto  
2006 George Parker, Humboldt  
2006 Kathryn Manalo, Berkeley

2007 Barbara Babin, Palo Alto  
2007 Winnie Sunshine, La Jolla  
2007 John Pixley, Claremont

**2008** \_\_\_\_\_  
**2008** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Latin American Concerns Committee**

(5–9 members, plus three members appointed by: Guatemala MM, Mexico City MM, El Salvador Project)

**2006 Liz Baker, Berkeley, Co-Clerk**

2006 Ruth Ross, Orange Grove  
2006 Lauren Mari-Navarro, Santa Cruz

2007 Linda Rowell, Chico (1997, Co-Clerk)  
2007 Barbara Flynn, Redwood Forest

**Note: A name in Bold indicates the person was approved at PYM, 2005**  
**A names in Italics indicates the person is not nominated by Nominating Committee**

**2008 Michael Eastwood, South Humboldt**

**Nominating Committee**

*(nominated by the Naming Committee)*

- 2006 *Eric Moon, Berkeley*
- 2006 **Nancy Lynch, Santa Barbara**
- 2006 **Martha Hunkins, Humboldt**

- 2007 *Elaine Emily, Strawberry Creek*
- 2007 *Darcy Stanley, Strawberry Creek*
- 2007 **DJ Bloom, Appleseed**

- 2008 *Sharon Gates, Orange Grove, Clerk*
- 2008 **Judith Favor, Claremont**
- 2008 \_\_\_\_\_

**Peace and Social Order Committee**

(9 members, 3-year terms)

- 2006 Carolyn Stephenson, Honolulu
- 2006 Stephen McNeil, Strawberry Creek, **Clerk**
- 2006 \_\_\_\_\_

- 2007 Hubert Morel-Seytoux, Palo Alto
- 2007 Bill Hayner, Inland Valley
- 2007 Jane O'Shields, Inland Valley

- 2008 **Ann Boone, Redwood Forest**
- 2008 **Lenore Diane, Santa Cruz**
- 2008 \_\_\_\_\_

**Religious Education for Children Committee** *(9 members, 3-year terms)*

- 2006 Peggy Ramsey, Orange Grove
- 2006 Susan Hopkins, Grass Valley
- 2006 Robin DuRant, Orange Grove
  
- 2007 Robyn Robbins, Redwood Forest
- 2007 Joe Morris, Santa Monica
- 2007 Joe Wilcox, Napa Sonoma

- 2008 **Sherri Sisson, Orange County, Co-Clerk**
- 2008 **Gail Eastwood, So. Humboldt, Co-Clerk**
- 2008 **Sandy Kewman, Grass Valley**

**Secretariat Committee**

(3 members, 3-year terms. Ex Officio: Asst. to Presiding Clerk, Bob Runyan)

- 2006 Claire Gorfinkel, Orange Grove
- 2007 Jim Eusebio, Davis **Clerk**
- 2008 **Tom Yamaguchi, Strawberry Creek**

**Site Committee**

(6 members 3-year terms)

- 2006 John DeValcourt, Santa Cruz
- 2006 Emily Leo, San Jose
  
- 2007 Carol Mosher, Berkeley Co-Clerk
- 2007 \_\_\_\_\_

- 2008 **Mariana Ruybalid, Berkeley Co-Clerk**
- 2008 \_\_\_\_\_

**Unity with Nature Committee**

(9 members, 3-year terms)

- 2006 Mary Ann Percy, La Jolla
- 2006 Kristina Perry, Humboldt, **Clerk**
- 2006 Susanna Matthay, Redwood Forest
  
- 2007 Michael Dunn, Inland Valley
- 2007 Dee Rossman, Strawberry Creek
- 2007 \_\_\_\_\_

- 2008 **Lenore Diane, Santa Cruz**

- 2008 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2008 \_\_\_\_\_

**Wider Fellowship Among Friends Committee** (3 members, 3-year terms)

- 2006 Tom Davis, Santa Cruz
- 2007 Anthony Manousos, Santa Monica
- 2008 **Jan Tappan, Orange Grove**

Note: A name in Bold indicates the person was approved at PYM, 2005  
A names in Italics indicates the person is not nominated by Nominating Committee

**PYM Representatives,  
Nominations, and Observers to  
Other Organizations** *1 representative,  
unless stated otherwise.* Ex Officio: Representatives  
to Friends' organizations marked with asterisk \*  
below.

**American Friends Service Committee  
(AFSC)**  
(5 members, 3-year terms)

- 2006 Joe Franko, Orange Grove
- 2006 Lanny Jay, Redwood Forest, *Conv.*
  
- 2007 Katherine Youngmeister Strawberry Creek
  
- 2008 **Carl Magruder, Humboldt**
- 2008 **Walter Sullivan, Santa Cruz**

**\*Evangelical Friends Church Southwest**  
2008 **Emelyn Buskirk, Santa Cruz**

***Friends Bulletin Board of Directors***  
(3 members, 3-year terms)

- 2006 **Rob Roy Woodman, Davis**
- 2007 **Elizabeth Boardman, San Francisco**
- 2008 **Stephen Matchett, San Francisco, *Conv.***

**Friends House Moscow Board of  
Directors**  
2006 Julie Harlow, Davis

**Friends Committee on Legislation of  
California (FCL)**  
(1 representative, appointed by PYM Peace and Social  
Order Committee)

**Friends' Committee On National  
Legislation (FCNL)**  
(6 reps, 3-year terms)

- 2006 Suellen Lowry, Humboldt

- 2006 Hubert Morel-Seytoux, Palo Alto, *Conv*
- 2007 Stephen McNeil, Strawberry Creek
- 2007 Sally Davis, Redwood Forest
  
- 2008 **Ernest Bicknell, Berkeley**
- 2008 **Carolyn Stephenson, Honolulu**

**Quaker Earthcare Witness**  
(formerly FCUN -- 2 representatives, 2-year terms,  
appointed by Unity with Nature Committee)

**\*Friends General Conference (FGC)**  
***Central Committee Representative***

2006 \_\_\_\_\_

**Friends Peace Team Project Board of  
Directors**  
(2 representatives, 3-year terms)

2007 \_\_\_\_\_  
2007 \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Friends United Meeting (FUM)**  
(1 Observer, 3-year term)

- 2008 **Kate Newlin, Strawberry Creek**

**\*Friends World Committee for  
Consultation (FWCC) Section of the  
Americas**  
(5 representatives, 3-year terms)

- 2007 Donna Smith, Orange Grove
- 2007 Michael Eastwood, South Humboldt,  
*Convener*

2007 \_\_\_\_\_

2008 **Roena Oesting, La Jolla**  
2008 \_\_\_\_\_

Note: A name in Bold indicates the person was approved at PYM, 2005  
A names in Italics indicates the person is not nominated by Nominating Committee

## Attachment H: PYM Nominating Committee Report

### **World Gathering of Young Friends**

**August 2005, Lancaster, England**

2006 *Kate Newlin, Strawberry Creek*  
2006 *Darcy Stanley, Strawberry Creek*

### **Pacific Friends Outreach Society (PFOS) Board of Directors**

(Corporation indep. of PYM, appoints own board. *Ex Officio member appointed by Lovett family*)

2005 *Jim Updegraff, Sacramento*  
2005 *Ellie Huffman, Monterey Peninsula*  
2005 *Bob Baker, Berkeley*  
2005 *Liz Baker, Berkeley*

2006 *Hannah Parris, Berkeley*  
2006 *Gary Wolff, Orange Grove*  
2006 *John Davis*

2007 *Micki Graham, Strawberry Creek*  
2007 *Debrah Armitage, Strawberry Creek*

### **\*Reunion General de los Amigos en Mexico**

(2-year term—attends every 18 months)

**2007 DJ Bloom, Apple Seed**

### **William Penn House** (1-year term)

**2006** \_\_\_\_\_

### **PYM Young Friends**

(Nominated & approved by Young Friends attending)

*Co-Clerks:*

*Arthur Carpenter, Orange Grove*  
*Xavier Manalo, Berkeley*

*Recording Clerk:*

*Catherine Hershey*

*Ministry and Oversight Committee:*

*Anna-Lisa Chacon, Santa Cruz, Clerk*  
*Eleni Richey, Santa Cruz, Backup Clerk*  
*Faith Eastwood, Southern Humbolt*

**Note: A name in Bold indicates the person was approved at PYM, 2005**  
**A names in Italics indicates the person is not nominated by Nominating Committee**

*Sola Wolff, Orange Grove*  
*Paul Boling,*  
*Evan Nelson, La Jolla*

*Spirit and Light Gatherings, Ad Hoc Committee:*

*Martin Otero, San Francisco*  
*Anne Bleili-Kratzer, Fresno*

### **Junior Yearly Meeting**

*Co-Clerks:*

*Elena Anderson, San Jose*  
*Erin Marshall, Visalia*  
*Chris Turner, Humbolt*

*Recording Clerk:*

*Zoe Rodine, Palo Alto*

*Ministry and Oversight Committee:*

*Miranda Chatfield, Palo Alto*  
*Gabriel Martinez, La Jolla, Clerk*

## *Friends Bulletin* Annual Report to Yearly Meetings

Over the past year, the board of *Friends Bulletin* has devoted a good deal of time to discussing how to cut costs and at the same time maintain or raise the quality of the products it publishes. We keep learning.

Instead of meeting face to face three times a year, we now save money by managing the business we need to handle together in two meetings and doing a lot of our work through frequent email communication. This change seems to be a good one.

*Friends Bulletin*, which characterizes itself as “Building the Western Quaker Community,” depends on several income streams: subscriptions (\$35,000); subsidies from the three western yearly meetings (\$18,500); donations (\$15,000); sales of books, pamphlets and other products (\$9,000), and advertisements (\$5,000).

Donations from individuals and meetings are clearly an important part of our revenue. It was these in addition to one large donation which enabled the magazine to come within \$200 of balancing expenses and revenues for 2004. We are grateful for whatever Friends have been able to contribute to the magazine. But more is needed. Even though the editor has developed new skills that have helped reduce our printing costs by 25%, other production costs have gone up at the same time as donations have somewhat diminished. Therefore, the Board’s efforts this year will be to increase this source of support. We believe that the quality of magazine justifies an increase in donations.

The magazine remains our primary responsibility and our primary publication. We believe it looks better than it used to because we have approved better paper, clearer photos, more space around the words, and finer design. We believe our editor has done excellent work handling a job that demands a number of different talents as he presents a variety of topics likely to be interesting to Friends. Naturally, he gets some flack. He listens and he responds. We hope Friends recognize that he is limited in his selections by what he gets in the mail. He tries. He announces general topics ahead of time, invites submissions, and holds his breath. So far, so good.

In addition to the magazine, the board has authorized publication of two books (*A Western Quaker Reader* in 2000 and *Compassionate Listening* in 2003) as well as two pamphlets. These are selling well (as are the “Real Men Listen” T-shirts) and are contributing much needed funds to our operation. Because of the success of these special publications, we have decided to continue to produce occasional pamphlets and books and plan to seek donations and grants to help fund these projects.

Both the editor and board members remain open and eager to hear positive and negative critical evaluation of our products. Though it’s not possible to please all of the Quakers all of the time, given our predisposition to individual expression of our truth, it is possible to balance differing views over the course of several issues of the magazine. We believe that is what is happening in *Friends Bulletin*.

## Attachment I: Friends Bulletin Report

The magazine is sincerely grateful for the continued support it receives from Friends—yes, their money, but also their art, their photos, their ideas, their articles and their appreciation. We hope all of these continue to find expression in the pages of *Friends Bulletin*. It's what we need.

Submitted by Norman Pasche, Clerk, *Friends Bulletin* Board of Directors with grateful acknowledgement to Phyllis Hoge, board member, for her help in writing this report.

Yours in peace and friendship,

Anthony Manousos,  
Editor of Friends Bulletin  
westernquaker.net  
3223 Danaha St  
Torrance CA 90505  
310-325-3581

DRAFT

## **BYLAWS OF PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

### **Article I. Principal Place of Business**

The principal place for the transaction of the business of the corporation and address for the receipt of official correspondence is 65 Ninth Street, San Francisco, California 94103. The principal place for the transaction of business may be changed by action of the yearly meeting without amendment of the bylaws; however, notice of any such change shall be given to the Secretary of State within ten (10) business days.

### **Article II. Membership**

Members of the corporation shall be those persons who have made formal application and been accepted into membership in any monthly meeting of Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

Monthly meetings in Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends shall be expected to contribute regularly to Pacific Yearly Meeting. No individual member shall be liable for dues or assessments.

Neither any person who is now or who later becomes a member of this corporation, nor any meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, shall be liable to the yearly meeting or its creditors for any indebtedness or liability, and any and all creditors of this corporation shall look only to the assets of the corporation for payment of any indebtedness or liability.

### **Article III. Governance**

The governing authority of this corporation is vested in its members and there is *no* board of directors separate or distinct from the members. All decisions and actions, including the adequacy of the number of members in attendance to act, shall be taken by the process of seeking unity in the manner of Friends, as more particularly described in *Faith and Practice, A Guide to Quaker Discipline in the Experience of Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends*, 2001 edition, or in subsequent editions of said *Faith and Practice*.

### **Article IV. Officers**

The Presiding Clerk of Pacific Yearly Meeting shall be the principal corporate officer and shall preside over plenary meetings of the corporation's membership. In the event the Presiding Clerk shall for any reason fail to perform the functions or duties of this office, the most recent available Presiding Clerk of Pacific Yearly Meeting shall perform the functions and duties.

The Recording Clerks shall record and keep minutes of all meetings of the membership and shall discharge such other duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the meeting.

## **Attachment J: Draft Bylaws of PYM**

The Treasurer shall receive, hold, record, account for, and disburse funds under the direction of the meeting.

### **Article V. Meetings of the Corporation**

If no other date is set, an annual meeting of Pacific Yearly Meeting shall be held during, or as close as reasonably feasible to, the first week of the eighth month of each year at a time and place set by the Presiding Clerk. The members of the corporation shall be given at least sixty (60) days' notice thereof.

As described in *Faith and Practice*, Pacific Yearly Meeting's Representative Committee shall meet between annual meetings of the corporation to season concerns and transact necessary business. Representative Committee members shall be given at least thirty (30) days' notice of any such meeting.

Special meetings of the corporation's members may be called by the Presiding Clerk. The members of the corporation shall be given at least thirty (30) days' notice thereof. The purpose(s) of such meeting shall be stated in the notice.

### **Article VI. Nomination and Selection of Officers**

Nomination and selection of officers, committee clerks, committee members, representatives and delegates shall be seasoned and made in the manner of Friends.

Terms of office for officers and clerks of committees are from the end one yearly meeting to the end of the next yearly meeting and until a successor qualifies, except that the Treasurer and Clerk of the Finance Committee shall serve until the end of the fiscal year and until a successor qualifies, unless the members of the corporation shall specify and approve otherwise. Representatives, delegates, and members of committees are normally appointed to serve three year-terms.

If a vacancy should occur before the end of a term, a replacement shall be seasoned and approved in the manner of Friends and, upon approval, the individual shall immediately take office.

### **Article VII. Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the corporation, provided that the text of any proposed amendment has been given in writing to the members of the corporation at least sixty (60) days before any amendment is approved.

The Articles of Incorporation may be amended in the same manner as is prescribed above for the amendment of these bylaws.

## **Epistle from the Preschool Children**

To Friends Everywhere,

We played in the sand;  
We talked inside;  
We climbed up and then we'd slide down;  
We sang songs;  
We played with other people –  
    Now let's play outside!

In the Light,  
PYM Pre-school program:  
Joyce, Amelia, Arianna, Silas, Zoe, Callum, Olivia and Miles

## **Epistle from the Lower Elementary School Children**

To Friends Everywhere,

We had fun doing everything: beading, swimming, the rope swing, snack time and meeting for memorials. We learned new songs and new stuff. We liked the monster song. Some of us learned to camp. We liked the tent in our room. We made Gods-eyes. We made placements for Friends House in Santa Rosa. We invite you to come visit us.

Your Friends,

PYM lower elementary group

## **Epistle from the Upper Elementary School Children**

To Friends Everywhere,

Epistle Recipe – Quaker Cookbook

4 Tbsp Simplicity

6 ft Peace

1 c Integrity

6 Tbsp 24k Community

1 round scoop Equality

[Note SPICE acronym]

½ dozen Sustainability

4 C Lanyards

1 gentle pinch Friendship Bracelets

11 turns Labyrinth

1 gallon Swimming

1 strong shake Shock

5 days of Caring dipped in honey

350 degrees of Emotions

PYM Upper Elementary

## **Epistle from Middle School Friends**

The Middle School group got to know each other and worked together great! We met a lot to go swimming, which was one of the most important things this week. We made crafts such as medicine baskets, plus colored sunflowers for the vigil. We played a lot of games involving bongalo and big booty. Several older Friends shared stories with us. Our daily hikes up to the classroom were about seven miles total for our week in the hot, blazing sun. We had tons of fun playing MAO, chess and twister! We also had fun at the dance/party but wished it was longer. At talent night, we got a lot of laughs from our skit, Planet Bizarro. One of our teachers came up with the idea of a planet opposite to earth, then we improvised to create our planet. We definitely took advantage of our talent. We will be leaving with mosquito bites, sleep deprivation and new friends and a greater understanding of Quaker values.

Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Middle School Friends

## Registrar's Report: Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Gathering August 1-6, 2005

Although we welcomed 424 Friends during the week, our overall attendance was lower than last year by about 50 people per day.

	<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tues</u>	<u>Wed</u>	<u>Thurs</u>	<u>Fri</u>	<u>Sat</u>	<u>Average</u>
Residents	327	336	336	334	334	325	
Commuters	12	39	45	49	39	16	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>366</b>

Our age range was 1-96 years  
 with 46 children ages 1-12,  
 42 teens ages 13-17,  
 38 young adults ages 18-25,  
 277 adults ages 19-79,  
 10 adults in their 80s,  
 4 adults over age 90.

Approximately 51% of us camped. 253 Friends came from College Park Quarterly Meeting and 119 came from Southern California Quarterly Meeting. 10 Friends visited from other Yearly Meetings or Friends organizations.

These figures are the best the Registrars can provide. We are grateful to Gary Wolff for writing and maintaining the computer program that we use. The registrars are simple people and this is a complicated program with which we are striving to reach unity.

Gratefully submitted,  
 Susie Stanley and Kate Newlin, co-registrars

## Junior Yearly Meeting Epistle, 2005

Greetings friends,

Yet another JYM summer session has come to pass. A festivity of thought-provoking and deeply spiritual events has taken place over the course of this week. From worship-sharing to interest groups, and business meetings to open discussions, strong and treasured bonds have been built.

After arriving, we played various ice-breaking games and had an enjoyable first night getting to know our environment and fellow JYMers. Tuesday afternoon comprised of our first worship-sharing groups of the week followed by an exciting trip to the Santa Cruz beach boardwalk. Our evening concluded with a mostly silent ride on the Giant Dipper, with the exception of three non-Quakers screaming out of place.

Carol Cruickshank came to JYM on Wednesday to ask for advice and feedback on following her leading to worship and bear witness to the inmates and soldiers in Guantánamo Bay Prison. Later that day, we received most moving and powerful speeches from Zac Moon and Diego Navarro, who sat in with us for worship. Our topic for worship was “what does it mean to be a real Quaker.” The rest of the day did not disappoint.

One of the few times we got to really speak with Young Friends in a program this year was with our annual respectful relationships discussion that took place after the dance Thursday night. It was a remarkable bonding experience that both groups thoroughly enjoyed, featuring discussion groups, lectures and the essential game of Jeopardy.

On Friday, some of the friends and we rode to Santa Cruz to take part in a vigil to remember the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The vigil was opened by two powerful songs from the Raging Grannies. After the songs, a speech was given by the Weapons Inspectors Team which included a story about one of the survivors of Hiroshima. Then, people were allowed to go up and share their thoughts and memories about nuclear disarmament. When everyone returned, an interest group was held for us by the Young Friends. The talk consisted of several highly emotional ministries. Near the end, everyone decided that both the JYM and the Young Friends needed more of a combined schedule.

Over the course of this week, a theme has emerged and become evermore important, not only to JYM but to Young Friends and the Yearly Meeting at large. A community is not a community unless it is tightly bound with threads of spirituality. The development of these ties is something greatly desired for the future.

## Young Friends' Epistle, 2005

We come here to join hands as a community and make a difference in the world. When this overwhelming feeling of peace takes over upon arriving at PYM, it is obvious that there is a strong presence of God here among us immediately calming our souls. We find and greet our missed friends, most of whom we haven't seen all year. We embrace, and are filled with happiness to experience this time together in such a beautiful place.

We began our week together by introducing ourselves and took care of business as usual to make arrangements for the week ahead. But, we became overwhelmed by the desire to catch up and share our lives and experiences from the past year, part of which included traditional backrubs and card playing late into the night.

Meanwhile, we grappled with a number of difficult questions. Youth Plenary prompted the discussion of many important queries, including "Who are we in this community as young people?" and "How can we as youth lead our community into action while learning from and gaining support from our elders?" There was a strong call for more communication with people who can guide the young friends and JYM on how to live the lifestyle of a Quaker every day. One friend pondered whether her service to her monthly meeting and yearly meeting was getting in the way of her ability to listen and follow spiritual leadings.

As the greater PYM attempted to discern a clear path on the issue of a permanent site, there was a strong feeling among young friends that the issue needed to be resolved before we as a meeting could move on to other spiritual pursuits and leadings. After a concern brought by two friends regarding the inaction of our community on the subject of the growing violence in our society, we held a threshing session during business meeting Friday morning. A number of important issues were explored, including how we as Young Friends can support each other spiritually throughout the year.

Of course, in the midst of all this spiritual struggle, we also found time to go to the Santa Cruz boardwalk, plan a campout at a nearby lake, dance, sing, and hold a Respectful Relationships talk with JYM.

In this PYM characterized by struggling to find our place in our community and discerning and following our leadings, we hope to remember throughout the year, and in years to come, that we are the real Quakers.

## PYM Epistle 2005

To Friends Everywhere,

Greetings from Pacific Yearly Meeting. We met August 1 – 6, 2005 at Mt. Madonna Center, once again graciously hosted by the spiritual, yoga community that calls this mountaintop retreat of Redwoods and Oaks their home.

Our worship here has been rich and deep, more so this year because children and adults sat in the silence together at the beginning of each day. Ministry reminded us of several basic truths. That our work proceeds from our worship wherein process and outcome are of the same cloth. And that we can strive to be “always kind and true” in our comings and goings.

From this grounding in worship we proceeded to challenging business especially around questions of site and home for our yearly meeting. Moving us forward from past ambiguity, a group of Friends put forth a specific proposal for Yearly Meeting to meet for eight years on donated property in the Central Valley of California.

Friends shared with passion and integrity their sense of Spirit’s leading. Many people felt it is essential for our future to have a home for our memories, our work, our children, as well as a place of continuous witness. Many others expressed concern that such an endeavor is the wrong focus of our resources and could distract us from other work to which Spirit is calling.

At the close of our discernment, the Clerk recognized that we had not come to unity on this proposal. However, even in disagreement, we expressed the desire to continue in love and community to seek God’s will – understanding that God’s timing may not be our timing.

Many other questions have been alive among us during this week. How are our different generations connected to each other? How are individual leadings related to Meeting business? How do we balance the damage we do to the world by travel with the good we do by our witness in the world? How do our yearnings and feelings of brokenness lead us to growth and joy in the Spirit? And how does the tragic horror of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 60 years ago instruct us in this present time of fear and war?

Specific to the question of young and old, Young Friends and Junior Yearly Meeting led a plenary session at which four young people shared their current, youthful experience of Quakerism. Their words informed and resonated across generations:

“What I need help with is learning how to meditate and get in touch with Spirit, and get something out of all the worship sharing and praying.”

“Quakerism is possibly one of the hardest religions to be raised in because of the openness. . . .I don’t want someone telling me what to do, but I do need some

information — and right now I'm not getting that from my Meeting.”  
“I want to change the world, but how can I expect the world to change if I can't even change myself?”

“I've decided to go on the assumption that God exists.”

In response to this Friends recognized the many gifts that young Friends bring to our communal Spirit and our work. Several shared the sense that you are, we are, the real Quakers—the yeast enlivening the bread dough.

Responding to an invitation from younger Friends, many friends attended a nearby vigil commemorating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing.

We connected with old friends and made new ones. We danced, sang, acted, braided and beaded. We found joy in conversations, and in our Memorial Meeting shared the sorrows and joys of remembering ordinary Friends who lived extraordinary lives. Our lives were made richer by each others' gifts and the gift of each other.

Friends, our community continues its journey of ever deepening faithfulness. This week we have been challenged by our differences, yet in finding the courage to engage them we come through with feet once more on solid ground and a deeper sense of, and appreciation for, our connection to one another. We now more clearly hear a call to understand fundamentally the purposes and mission God has in mind for our beloved yearly meeting community. With the work of this session completed we wish you peace and continued lives of loving service in Spirit.

Pacific Yearly Meeting

James Anderson, Presiding Clerk

Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Statistical Clerk

Statistical Report on Membership – As of May 31, 2005

This report summarizes the membership in the Religious Society of Friends within the constituent monthly meetings of Pacific Yearly Meeting at the close of the statistical year that ended May 31, 2005.

We continue with 37 constituent meetings. Twenty-two (22) meetings are in College Park Quarterly Meeting, 11 meetings are Southern California Quarterly Meeting, and four meetings are independent of the quarterly meetings. We have two (2) preparative meetings: Central Coast Preparative Meeting and Live Oak Preparative Meeting both under the care of Santa Cruz Meeting. There are twelve worship groups. They were reported as: Conejo Valley and Whitleaf both under the care of Orange Grove Meeting; Hemet and Las Vagas both under the card of Inland Valley Meeting; Ojai under the care of Santa Barbara Meeting; Friends House (Santa Rosa) under the care of Redwood Forest Meeting; Southern Humboldt under the care of Humboldt Meeting; Maui, Kauai, and Molokai all under the care of Honolulu Meeting; and Lake County and Ukiah (northern California) without being under the care of a meeting.

The following table summarizes the changes the membership over the past six years.

	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
<b>Beginning of Statistical Year</b>	<b>1,479</b>	<b>1,472</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>1,516</b>	<b>1,521</b>	<b>1,534</b>
Increases						
Youth to Adult	-	2	-	2	-	1
Transferred In	24	28	20	32	17	18
Convincement	35	49	64	35	54	47
Decreases						
Died	(23)	(22)	(17)	(26)	(29)	(34)
Transferred Out	(21)	(25)	(16)	(18)	(15)	(14)
Released or Withdrew	(22)	(25)	(15)	(20)	(14)	(22)
Corrections/Adjustments	-	1	-	-	-	(3)
<b>Ending of Statistical Year</b>	<b>1,472</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>1,516</b>	<b>1,521</b>	<b>1,534</b>	<b>1,527</b>
<b>Net Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>(7)</b>
<b>Percent Gain (Loss)</b>	<b>-0.47%</b>	<b>0.54%</b>	<b>2.43%</b>	<b>0.33%</b>	<b>0.85%</b>	<b>-0.46%</b>
<b>Six-year Change</b>						<b>3.25%</b>
<b>Annual Rate of Change</b>						<b>0.53%</b>

Overall, we decreased our membership by 7 members (bringing our total to 1,527 members (from 1,534 members). (See the attached Summary of Meeting Responses.) The three meetings with the largest membership are Santa Cruz, Berkeley, and Strawberry Creek (107, 106, and 99 members, respectively). The three meetings with the smallest membership are Pacific Ackworth, Guatemala, and Napa-Sonoma (4, 5, and 6 members, respectively). The three meetings with the greatest percentage increase in membership are Sacramento, San Jose, and Los Angeles (21%, 12%, and 10%, respectively).

Reno and San Francisco released the greatest number of members accounting for half of the released members.

Over the past six years, we experienced the greatest number of deaths this year (34 deaths) with the second greatest number occurring the previous year (29 deaths).

Gary Wolff, PYM Statistical Clerk

Pacific Yearly Meeting  
 Statistical Report - Summary of Meeting Responses  
 Statistical Year: June 1, 2004 through May 31, 2005

	Number of Members Last Year	Gains				Losses				Total Adjustments	Number of Members This Year	Change in Number of Members	Percent Change in Number of Members	Notes
		Youth to Adult	Transferred from Another Meeting	Joined by Convincement	Total Gains	Loss by Death	Transferred to Another Meeting	Released or Removed	Total Losses					
<b>College Park Quarterly Meeting</b>														
APPLE SEED	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	0.0%	
BERKELEY	115	-	-	1	1	(8)	(2)	-	(10)	-	106	(9)	-7.8%	
CHICO	17	-	-	1	1	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	-	17	-	0.0%	
DAVIS	48	-	1	3	4	(2)	-	-	(2)	(6)	44	(4)	-8.3%	
DELTA	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	0.0%	
FRESNO	16	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	(1)	1	16	-	0.0%	
GRASS VALLEY	45	-	2	3	5	(1)	(1)	(1)	(3)	9	56	11	24.4%	
HUMBOLDT	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	18	1	5.9%	
MARIN	16	-	-	-	-	(2)	(1)	-	(3)	-	13	(3)	-18.8%	
MENDOCINO	12	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	(1)	-	11	(1)	-8.3%	
MONTEREY PENINSULA	22	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	23	1	4.5%	
NAPA-SONOMA	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	0.0%	2
PALO ALTO	97	-	-	-	-	(1)	(1)	-	(2)	2	97	-	0.0%	
REDDING	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)	-	9	(2)	-18.2%	
REDWOOD FOREST	91	-	1	-	1	(3)	(1)	-	(4)	(2)	86	(5)	-5.5%	
RENO	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5)	(5)	-	20	(5)	-20.0%	
SACRAMENTO	33	-	-	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	40	7	21.2%	
SAN FRANCISCO	91	-	1	3	4	(1)	-	(6)	(7)	-	88	(3)	-3.3%	
SAN JOSE	33	-	4	1	5	-	-	(1)	(1)	-	37	4	12.1%	
SANTA CRUZ	105	-	1	3	4	-	(1)	(1)	(2)	-	107	2	1.9%	
STRAWBERRY CREEK	93	-	1	8	9	-	(3)	-	(3)	-	99	6	6.5%	
VISALIA	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	(1)	-	29	(1)	-3.3%	
Subtotal	953	-	11	31	42	(19)	(11)	(18)	(48)	5	952	(1)	-0.1%	
<b>Southern California Quarterly Meeting</b>														
CLAREMONT	59	-	1	3	4	(2)	-	-	(2)	1	62	3	5.1%	
INLAND VALLEY	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(4)	-	22	(4)	-15.4%	
LA JOLLA	77	-	4	-	4	(2)	-	(1)	(3)	-	78	1	1.3%	
LOS ANGELES	10	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	11	1	10.0%	
MARLOMA/LONG BEACH	20	1	-	-	1	(2)	-	(2)	(4)	(3)	14	(6)	-30.0%	
ORANGE COUNTY	39	-	-	1	1	(1)	(1)	-	(2)	-	38	(1)	-2.6%	
ORANGE GROVE	87	-	2	2	4	(1)	(2)	(1)	(4)	-	87	-	0.0%	
PACIFIC ACKWORTH	5	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	(1)	-	4	(1)	-20.0%	
SAN DIEGO	22	-	-	-	-	(1)	-	-	(1)	-	21	(1)	-4.5%	
SANTA BARBARA	48	-	-	3	3	(2)	-	-	(2)	-	49	1	2.1%	
SANTA MONICA	58	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	(1)	-	59	1	1.7%	
Subtotal	451	1	7	12	20	(12)	(3)	(4)	(19)	(7)	445	(6)	-1.3%	
<b>Independent</b>														
BIG ISLAND	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	18	1	5.9%	
GUATEMALA	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	0.0%	
HONOLULU	89	-	-	2	2	(2)	-	-	(2)	-	89	-	0.0%	
MEXICO CITY	19	-	-	2	2	(1)	-	-	(1)	(2)	18	(1)	-5.3%	
Subtotal	130	-	-	4	4	(3)	-	-	(3)	(1)	130	-	0.0%	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,534</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>(34)</b>	<b>(14)</b>	<b>(22)</b>	<b>(70)</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>1,527</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	

Note 1: Adjustments include gains and losses that occurred in prior years and were reported incorrectly at the time.  
 Note 2: A report from the meeting was not received.