

The Daily Miracle

Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Thursday, Seventh Month Twenty-Eighth, 2011

Thursday's Schedule

7:00-8:30	Bible Study
7:00-8:30	Transformative Quakers
7:00-8:30	Outdoor Worship
8:00- 9:00	Breakfast
9:15-10:15	Worship
10:30-12:00	Plenary IV
12:00- 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 2:15	Worship Sharing
2:30- 4:30	Plenary V – Meeting for Memorials
4:30- 5:30	Free Time
5:30- 6:30	Dinner
6:45- 10:00	All-Ages Dance, Board Games
8:30	12-Step, Affinity Groups, Open Time

Transformative Quakers

Transformative Quakers continues everyday at 7:00 a.m. in the Plenary Room. Coffee and tea is served at 6:30 a.m. outside by the fountain.

Thursday	Bayard Rustin
Friday	History of Testimonies
Saturday	Henry Joel Cadbury

Lost and Found

A bag was taken from the Sixth Floor Lounge of A [redacted] all. If found, contact Gracia Fay [redacted] is staying off-campus. Call her at [redacted]

Children's Program Pick-up Times

Morning pick-up (all ages): 12:00 noon in front of the dining hall.

Afternoon pick-up (all ages): 5:00 pm in front of the dining hall.

Please note that children may not leave the program on their own. Be sure to sign them out with a staff person. If you come late to get your child, the staff will probably be in the dining hall with him or her.

If you lock yourself out at night you can call Campus Safety at [redacted] 9) 607-2000. During the day contact Pat S [redacted], as she has the master keys.

Pool Use

Pitzer College

July 28 only

12 noon to 6:00 pm

\$2.00/person/visit

Scripps College

Monday thru Friday

11:00 am-1:30 pm and 4:00–6:00 pm

\$5.00/person/visit or a pass for \$15.00/week

You need to purchase passes at the

Summer Conference Office in Vita Nova,126

Those who have not paid for meals with their registration but are occasionally eating in Collins Dining Hall, need to provide a check to the Registrar before you leave PYM this year. The meal costs are:

\$ 8.00 per person for breakfast

\$11.00 per person for lunch

\$14.00 per person for dinner

AFSC Bookstore

There are plenty of good, bargain-priced books left at the bookstore; Boxes of Faith & Practice can be purchased for \$90 + tax, and will be available for pickup on Friday afternoon. If interested, please contact David Morse in the bookstore before dinner on Thursday.

Community Night

Community Night sign up forms are available in a RED basket in the Plenary Hall (McKenna). Please place your completed form in the BLUE basket in a timely fashion.

Evening Music and Conversation Lounge

After 8:15 p.m. every night, the Registrar's space (First Floor of Fawcett Hall) will be open for singing and quiet talk. Bring your musical instruments and voices to sing and talk with. Stay as long as you are moved.

Affinity Group: Quakers and the 9/11 Truth Movement 8:30 pm in the Marks Hall Lounge. The affinity group is being convened by David C. [REDACTED] of Visalia Friends Meeting.

Peace and Social Order Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting will present for your consideration the following minute in Plenary IV:

Note that changes recommended during PSO Wednesday meeting are in bold type.

As Friends, we stand firmly opposed to torture committed **by anyone in any setting**. We support the work of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (<http://www.nrcat.org/>) as well as of Quakers Initiative to End Torture (<http://www.quit-torture-now.org/>). We call on our elected officials to bring to justice those who have authorized torture in violation of US and international law. We want the United States government to stop preventing the victims of US-sponsored torture from seeking redress and just compensation in US courts. **We are also deeply concerned that cruel and inhuman punishment and torturous treatment such as solitary confinement are taking place in prisons in California and throughout the USA.**

Finally, we support the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT), which

can help prevent torture and abuse by requiring a ratifying country to establish National Preventative Mechanisms (NPMs) to monitor the treatment of prisoners. In addition to the NPMs, OPCAT allows for international oversight of places of confinement to ensure that torture and other abuses are not occurring.

As Quakers, we feel that torture is a moral and religious issue. We believe that there is "that of God" in every human being and therefore everyone deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. Torture does incalculable and long-lasting damage to both the torturer and the torture victim. Torture erodes our nation's moral fibre, diminishes our moral standing in the world, incites retaliation, and puts at risk the lives of Americans abroad and at home. We want this practice to end.

An unofficial "interest group" for folks who like quieter meal times; take your plate(s) out to the picnic table [REDACTED] north side of the dining room. Claire G. [REDACTED]

Phone numbers to give out if you need to be contacted during PYM.

- Non-Emergency numbers to leave a message; Call Story House during working hours – 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday thru Friday – at (909) 621-8112. They will take a message.
- Emergency number: In an emergency, call Campus Safety at (909) 621-8170. They need to know what campus their family is on (Claremont McKenna campus), what group (Pacific Yearly Meeting or PYM) and what dorm (make sure dorm and room # is known). These calls should be made only for emergency purposes.
- Faxes can be received at 909-621-8542. Please note there is a \$1 per page fee that PYM is charged. Include "Attention: PYM" and the recipient's name. Pick up faxes at Storey House between 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM.
- To send your Reports and Daily Miracle items via email to Don Bean, use ddbean@me.com

Cultivating The Peace Within Us-Basic AVP Workshop (Sponsored by L.A. Alternatives to Violence Project)

Dates: Saturday and Sunday, October 1-2, 2011 (8:00 am to 5:00 pm)

Location: New Hope Family Life Center
1505 W. Highland Ave.

San Bernardino, CA. 92411

Cost: \$50 (depending on ability to pay)

Please bring sack lunch; beverages and light snacks will be provided. Questions: Email Joan at avpla3@gmail.com, or call 800-905-6765.

If you are leaving and have a key, please find Joe Magruder, Pat Smith, or Liz Baker and give us your keys. Thank you.

Worship Sharing arrangements

Please remember to avoid passing through Auen and Fawcett lounges (all floors) during the Worship Sharing periods. Also, please leave the main doors to each building blocked open for access during Worship Sharing.

Those wishing to play Baroque/Chamber music

will meet Thursday at 4:30 p.m. in Fawcett Hall Lounge after Meeting for Memorials and also Friday at 6:30 p.m. in McKenna Auditorium after dinner and before Community Night.

The Friends of European Descent Concerned About Racism Affinity Group

meets tonight and Friday evening at 8:30 p.m. in the Marks Hall Lounge.

Turrell Light Installation Pomona College has a beautiful outdoor room designed by the light artist, James Turrell. Let's meet outside the dining hall at 7:45 tonight (Thursday) and walk over (about five minutes) to catch the emerging night sky. Claire G [redacted]

Friends of Color will meet in Wohlford Hall Lounge, Thursday and Friday at 8:45 p.m. At 7:45 we are joining the group that's going to the **Turrell Light Installation**, meeting in front of the dining hall.

From the Secretariat Office

If you have information to distribute to Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups, PYM Officers, Representatives, Delegates, and Observers to Other Organizations, please drop them in the white plastic boxes in the rear of the Plenary Room.

A reminder: to get WiFi Internet access on Campus, use CINE. No password is required.

Creating the U.S. Military Budget by Stephen M [redacted]

San Francisco Meeting endorses "New Priorities", three actions you and your monthly meeting can take:

1. Join the "New Priorities" network by endorsing and/or getting city councils and other groups to endorse the resolution at www.newprioritiesnetwork.org, calling for reduced military spending.
2. Take the "People's Budget Preference Poll" at www.afsc.org.
3. Download, read, and take actions in FCNL's "\$2 Trillion Solution" newsletter at www.fcnl.org and visit their "Our Nation's Checkbook" resource page.

Interest in FCNL? Join your PYM representatives, Meeting contacts, and others for Friday lunch at a [redacted] outside the Di [redacted] Hall. Look for Sherri S [redacted] or Stephen M [redacted].

From John P [redacted]

I would be interested in hearing Friends' thoughts on whether you prefer waiting for me to use my speech device or trying to understand my speech. As I see it, both take time, but one requires much more effort on your part. There are times when I have the device off to conserve the battery (even when plugging it in when possible), because the unit that allows it to run off my chair battery isn't working at the moment. Also, if you haven't already, I invite you to get to know me better at <http://queerx3.blogspot.com>.

Seeing Yellow Sunflowers?

Please be particularly friendly to people whose nametags have a yellow sunflower sticker. This is their first PYM Annual Gathering.

Rides Available to N. Calif.

I thought I had passengers for my car going back to Oakland, but those passengers are going home other ways. So, I have 2 seats available to Oakland or anywhere on the way. 2 pm. – Carl A. (room: [REDACTED])

Walnuts for Sale

Quaker Oaks Farm has lots of English walnut meats for sale this year. 3 pounds for \$13. Building #7 “Hub” (next to plenary room) or see Bill L. [REDACTED].

Women’s Health Care in Guatemala.

Only 31% of pregnant women have access to a skilled birthing attendant! In 2008, I helped establish “Manos Abiertas” (Open Hands) women’s clinic which offers low-cost care and gentle delivery. I will be happy to share my information and passionate feelings with you. Catch me at the bookstore, Thursday 10-12 or at the Guatemala Store, Friday lunch and dinner hours. Margaret B. [REDACTED], C.N.M., Guatemala Friends Meeting.

Elizabeth Fry asks to Us

by Ramona [REDACTED] (Jolla) donned plain dress and Quaker bonnet to reminisce about Elizabeth Fry’s life in England as an inspired Quaker wife and mother who felt compelled to help women in prison.

Born into privilege, she used her position and influence to organize “society women” to help clothe, feed and educate women and children in London’s infamous Newgate.

Known as “Betsy” to her family and friends, she was not always well physically or financially. Nevertheless, she organized a school in prison for the children of the inmates, raised funds to feed and clothe them, and accomplished some small reforms in the prison. Ironically, Elizabeth Fry was opposed to the “penitentiary

movement,” which she felt isolated prisoners and caused insanity.

One of her accomplishments had to do with transportation of the women after they left the prison. Newgate Prison shipped some of its prisoners to Australia, where the women arrived with nothing. Elizabeth and her friends taught the women to sew and supplied them with quilting supplies so they could sew quilts on the long voyage and have something to sell when they arrived.

Through her prison activities, she became in great demand as a speaker, traveling through England, Ireland, France, Belgium, and explaining how people could lose their own souls by not caring for others.

Now, learning the details and determined spirit of this remarkable woman, how can we fail to speak out for the less fortunate?

Stop by the FCLCA/AFSC letter table and follow Elizabeth Fry’s footsteps by writing a letter in support of prison reform.

Evaluation of this Gathering

Ministry & Oversight is adding a new way of doing the PYM evaluation. The evaluation form is posted on the Yearly Meeting website and can be answered at any time now.

<http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/surveys/py m-2011-evaluation-form/>

The other way is to fill out the hardcopy form that you will find in the box in the plenary room.

Please take the time to fill out the evaluation as soon as possible. It is a great help to Ministry & Oversight as they plan for next year.

First-Day Thoughts

by John Greenleaf Whittier (1852)

In calm and cool and silence, once again
I find my old accustomed place among
My brethren, where, perchance, no human
tongue
Shall utter words; where never hymn is sung,
Nor deep-toned organ blown, nor censer swung,
Nor dim light falling through the pictured pane!
There, syllabled by silence, let me hear
The still small voice which reached the
prophet's ear;
Read in my heart a still diviner law
Than Israel's leader on his tables saw!
There let me strive with each besetting sin,
Recall my wandering fancies, and restrain
The sore disquiet of a restless brain;
And, as the path of duty is made plain,
May grace be given that I may walk therein,
Not like the hireling, for his selfish gain,
With backward glances and reluctant tread,
Making a merit of his coward dread,
But, cheerful, in the light around me thrown,
Walking as one to pleasant service led;
Doing God's will as if it were my own,
Yet trusting not in mine, but in His strength
alone!

Western Quaker news [humor]

PYM Site Committee has found the perfect solution for holding yearly meeting in both Northern and Southern California. We will rent the Barnum & Bailey Circus train, and meet as we ride from San Diego to the Oregon border. Amtrak will handle registration. Plenaries will be held in the Big Top, while JYM practices tightrope walking overhead. Arrangements clerks will be recognizable by their large shoes and rainbow wigs. Unity with Nature Committee has agreed to feed the circus animals and has promised not to release any until after yearly meeting is over.

Acknowledging it has been decades since there was an orange grove within many miles, Orange Grove Meeting has decided to change its name to Asphalt Grove Meeting. A celebratory tour of the La Brea Tar Pits is planned.

Perceiving that people of Latin American origin are not the only ones in need, AFSC Pacific Mountain Region is expanding its legal counseling and sanctuary services for undocumented immigrants to include those from Canada, Hawaii and Idaho.

After intense study, the “Ecoberries” of Strawberry Creek Meeting – stalwart seekers of a sustainable future, one and all – have concluded that the only pollution-free source of energy is perpetual motion, and have drafted a minute to the US Patent Office recommending it rescind its obsolete prohibition of patents for perpetual motion machines.

The elevation of Palo Alto Meetinghouse has been determined to be only 20 cm above sea level. Since the foundation of our older building needs replacing about the same time that sea level rise reaches 20 cm, Building & Grounds Committee recommends the new foundation be made of recycled Styrofoam instead of concrete.

Sierra Friends Center is concerned about a rumor that gold has been discovered on its land. This rumor is categorically denied, Friends should never circulate false rumors, and anyway, the gold belongs to College Park Friends Education Association.

In keeping with the testimony on integrity, every sentence of this report is true, except this one.

July 28, 2011

Dear Friends,

I want to ask you for your help in a small but important way, with a correctable environmental problem in the eastern Sierra Nevada mountains. I have been laboring under the weight of a leading since 2005 to try to get this problem corrected, but it is clear I cannot do it alone. (If you lose this copy of "The Daily Miracle" please recall that all issues are on the PYM website, so you can go there later and access the information below, which includes instructions on how you can help with this.)

It's an erosion problem caused by a water system that dumps water onto a very steep mountain slope. The mountain soil is unprotected by rocks, rip rap, or vegetation, and so the water dumping causes huge amounts of sediments to erode down the mountain, into a creek, and then deposit on the valley floor below.

I own the working ranch below the erosion problem, and since 2005 it has been mostly impossible to operate my ranch business because both of my irrigation systems were ruined by massive sediment deposition coming from the eroding mountainside—which is located on state land above me in altitude. Here in Nevada, it is only possible to grow grass hay, vegetables, fruits, or any other kinds of trees with extensive irrigation.

I am now trying to help the federal EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and the Nevada EPA become motivated to enforce the NPDES Permit they created for the water system in 2008 (required by the Clean Water Act), which they created for the purposes of 1) protecting the creek waters from the effects of the dumping and 2) requiring sediment remediation on the eroding mountainside to protect the creek waters from the erosion caused by the dumping. I am in litigation against the owner of the water system (the state of Nevada is the owner), but the help I am requesting from

you is entirely apart from the litigation and will not involve you in the legal process in any way. The federal EPA is not involved in the legal process, either.

A very brief five minute phone call from you to the federal Region 9 EPA office or a very brief two paragraph letter from you to that same office (instructions below), would contribute powerfully to the EPA's motivation to mobilize in this situation to enforce their own Permit. Correspondence like this from any person who is a citizen of the United States will carry weight—even letters from children. This is called a "Citizen's Complaint of Noncompliance." Please let the EPA know simply that you are aware of the ongoing violations of Permit NV0023612 which cause large-scale erosion of sediments into McEwen Creek in Washoe Valley, Nevada. Your small act of communication will contribute to the EPA's interest in getting involved to make the permit violations stop!

Please go to www.mcclearyranch.com for details, documentation of the problem, and specific instructions for where to call and/or send your communication. Use "mcclearyranch" as your user name, and "McEwen&5" as your password. Also, please forward this request to everyone you know who you believe would be interested in helping in this way.

Thank you so much for your willingness to learn more, and for helping me try to enforce the Clean Water Act on public lands and in my own backyard!

Gratefully yours,

Beth McCleary
beth@mcclearyranch.com

MEETING FOR MEMORIALS PYM 2011

FAYE ALA'ILIMA, HONOLULU
CHARLES BASS, SACRAMENTO
ELEANOR BECKER, MARIN
EDITH COOPER, CLAREMONT
ELEANOR FOSTER, SANTA CRUZ
DOROTHY GOETZ, RENO
JIM HARRIS, SACRAMENTO
AMY HOWELL, ORANGE GROVE
ELLIE HUFFMAN, MONTEREY PENINSULA
JOHN JAQUETTE, HONOLULU
GLORIA JOYCE, LA JOLLA
EDWIN WALTON KENDIG, MARLOMA/LONG BEACH
CAROLYNA MARKS, STRAWBERRY CREEK
FUMIYE MIHO, HONOLULU
DALE OLSEN, MARIN
KAREN PEACOCK, HONOLULU
RICH TITTLE, STRAWBERRY CREEK
SHERRY WALDEN, CENTRAL COAST