

SCQM Teen Epistle, April 2012

Dear Friends,

During the teen program at Southern California Quarterly Meeting (SCQM) Spring 2012, we came to unity to change the name from Quaker Adventures to Southern California Youth Planning Committee. This committee will now serve two purposes: the first to plan the teen program at Southern California Quarterly Meeting, and the second to plan other events for all ages throughout the year. We are asking for the Southern California Retreat Committee, the College Park Quarterly Meeting Teen Planning Committee and The Youth Program Coordinator and Supervisory Committee to be resources to us. We appreciate Nominating Committee for selecting youth and adults for The Southern California Youth Planning Committee and ask them to continue doing so.

The Teen Program at Southern California Quarterly Meeting Spring 2012, began at the Unitarian Universalists Fellowship in Riverside California. The teens joined the adults for opening worship, made introductions among one another, and then arranged transportation to the service project site. This service project was to help clear the area for the future Inland Valley Friends Meeting. Seven teens from five Meetings, six adults from Inland Valley, two adults skipping out on plenary, one new FAP, and one Youth Program Coordinator cleared old tires, a door, and a mountain of weeds, tumbleweeds, tree branches, trash, and drank a few gallons of strawberry lemonade. While working each teen asked a person they had not met about each other's "heart's desire." Upon finishing the service project, we returned to The Unitarian Universalists Fellowship for lunch with the larger SCQM. After lunch, the teens, FAPs, and some of the older children all joined together outside for community building games. Teens encouraged the newcomers to attend Pacific Yearly Meeting and the various summer camps offered at Quaker Center. Then the five teens who were staying overnight and the FAPs who were joining them, arranged transportation to the Dunn's house. (The teens would like to thank Michael and Linda Dunn for their generous hospitality and good company. And the FAPs for making the gathering come together). The rest of the evening was spent going out to pizza, having a business meeting, discussing the state of the committee, playing board games, and enjoying one another's company. Sunday all the teens and FAPs who spent the night, attended Inland Valley Friends Meeting. Before joining in worship, the teens had a closing business meeting to discuss and finalize the goals of this revised committee (Southern California Youth Planning Committee). We ended with closing worship with Inland Valley Friends Meeting.

The teens would like to give thanks to the Dunn's for hopsipitality, the FAPs for making the gathering possible, The Youth Program Coordinator and Dan Strickland for planning and scheduling the teen program, and Inland Valley Friends Meeting for hosting Southern California Spring Quarter.

Sincerely,
Your Southern California Youth Planning Committee