



Grass Valley Friends Meeting Of the Religious Society of Friends

MAY
2012
Volume 5



MINUTES & RECORD: Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, 5th Month, 13th Day, 2012.

PRESENT: Deborah Aufdenspring, Dean Olson, Charity Bryson, Chamba Cooke, Dorothy Henderson, Sharon Stewart, Bob Barns, Pamela Aldridge, David Barnett, Brylie Oxley, Mary Starr, Fosten Wilson, and Gordon Starr.

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

JOYS, CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

** One member expressed gratitude that her daughters are such good mothers ("probably better than I was").

** One person told of being separated from a daughter since she was adopted at 8 months old; she did not connect again until the daughter was 27 years old. When the daughter finally did make contact, she was disowned by her adoptive family, and she has now become a member of this family. Joy at just receiving her first Mother's Day card ever from her daughter.

** Gratitude for the discussion in the Meeting about membership and what it means.

** Gratitude that both the president and vice-president of our country have recently acknowledged the legitimacy of gay marriage.

** Request to hold Amy Cooke and her family in the Light as she attends her sister's funeral. Gratitude that it has been a very fruitful family gathering.

** Request to hold Fosten Wilson's mother (Beverly Wilson) in the Light as her condition has deteriorated recently and she is in a lot of pain.

** Gratitude to all of the participants and support people in putting on the Meeting Spiritual Retreat. "It is always nice to have your home blessed by the presence of others."

** And hope for another retreat next year!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

** If anyone has a hospital bed available, please contact Fosten Wilson.

** Bob Barns is leaving us again (with the intention of returning).

** Elizabeth DeSa and Coleman Watts have given birth to a son, yet to be named.

MINUTES

Highlights of the 4th Month, 2012 minutes were read. The Meeting accepted the minutes as published in the newsletter, with a correction to the Woolman report of the time frame for the appearance of staff in the news.

CLERK'S REPORT:

** Presentation of An Introduction to the Quaker Testimonies which was put together by AFSC. It has been suggested that Quakerism 103 will possibly be focused on this topic.

** Status of Inactive Member was found in Ann Arbor's newsletter. Would this be helpful for us? Could Yearly Meeting accept this status so that Inactive Members would be recognized and yet not charged by PYM? Some members who we have contacted who are no longer active in the Meeting have stated that they still considered themselves Quakers, but do not want to be a financial burden to the Meeting. One Friend suggested that we do not need to ask PYM, but can simply do this and inform them.

** Seekers Meeting: Looking at the possibility of holding a Seekers Meeting to orient new attenders to Quaker testimonies and traditions.

** Considering an ad in The Union stating "Are You a Quaker and Don't Know It?" and listing Quaker beliefs. Possibly followed by a meeting held on a week-day evening in town.

** A letter from Felicia Hall was read thanking us for our continued financial support of her education. It was asked that the letter be posted for members of the Meeting to see and read. Eve Hall was an important member of the Meeting and was Felicia's grandmother.

** State of the Meeting Report: A draft of the annual State of the Meeting Report was read. Several changes were proposed. It was requested that the following be included in the report:

"Some members are feeling unheard and unable to express themselves safely. This matter needs further attention and exploration." It was proposed that the report as read and with proposed changes be approved so that the report can be sent to the Quarterly Meeting at Quaker Center in May. The State of the Meeting Report was approved, with corrections.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MINISTRY & OVERSIGHT: reported by Sharon Stewart

** M&O hosted the spring Clerk's Meeting, where clerks reported on the activities of their committees and acted as the Naming Committee to select nominees for the Nominating Committee.

** Continued to discuss the logistics of transporting Gloria Kershner to Meeting. One Meeting member has offered to help defray the cost of transportation.

** Work continues to contact missing members and clarify their status.

** The clearness committee for Dave Barnett is recommending that his name be put forward as a new member. This will be seasoned for a month.

** State of the Meeting Report draft was read and discussed.

** The remaining schedule for Spiritual Life programs was reviewed.

** There was discussion of the idea of having a more structured method for dealing with the pastoral needs of the Meeting. A Care Committee?

** After seasoning for a month the following minute was approved:

Minute 05.12.01 GVFM approves Brylie Oxley as a new member.

NOMINATING: reported by Fosten Wilson

** After seasoning for a month, a new position of Representative to the Interfaith Council will be filled by Dianne Marshall.

Minute 05.12.02 GVFM approves Dianne Marshall as the representative to the Interfaith Nevada County.

** The Naming committee has met and brought forth the names of Jenny Gray and Mary Starr to serve on the Nominating Committee. This will be seasoned for a month.

** Two additions to the slate were presented: Peg Rein and Karen Olson are added to Peace & Social Justice committee and will be seasoned for a month.

** After seasoning for a month, the following minutes was approved:

Minute 05.12.03 GVFM approves the slate of nominees for the 2012 – 2013 year as printed in the April, 2012 newsletter.

FINANCE: The Budget and Finance Report was read by Mary Starr

At its last meeting the Budget and Finance Committee considered, at the request of the April 8 Meeting for Business, the matter of the \$1,000 annual pass to Quaker Center activities that has been offered to Monthly Meetings by the Ben Lomond Quaker Center.

The Committee feels that having the pass would increase Meeting's involvement in Quaker activities in our region. Of course the question of paying the cost is an issue, and there are some details related to use of the pass that need to be considered. The 2012 Program Schedule of activities is available online at www.quakercenter.org.

The Committee considers it imperative that one person from Meeting would need to be responsible for informing members and attenders of all upcoming activities and to promote those activities and the use of the pass if we are to get full value for the upfront annual cost. The Committee suggests that the appropriate person might be the Ben Lomond representative from Meeting. It is also felt that the person attending an activity under the pass should be expected to report back to Meeting on the substance and value of the activity as a means of promoting ongoing use of the pass by others. It is also necessary that Meeting consider how, when, and to whom people would apply to use the pass and how attendees would be chosen in the event that more than one person makes application for use of the pass for the same event.

If these and any other logistical considerations that are raised can be worked out, the Committee has two approaches that could make purchase of the pass a reality if Meeting chooses to do so. We cannot increase this year's budget in the middle of the fiscal year, but in looking over our finances to date, we believe we could cobble together funds from the Scholarship Fund and the Childcare and Miscellaneous Unbudgeted Expense line items from the current year budget to purchase the pass. We could also wait until August and simply add a new line item ("Quaker Center Pass") to next year's budget. We would have to do that in any case if we wish purchase of the pass to be ongoing. A \$1,000 addition to the annual budget would represent about a 6% increase to the overall annual budget,

and of course Meeting would have to be willing to make a commitment to financially support that increase.

The Budget and Finance Committee submits this report to Meeting for Business for consideration, discussion, and guidance.

* Three issues need to be resolved:

-Hilary Ellis-Levigne's role as the Meeting's representative to Quaker Center.

-Entity to approve or administer funds and selection of persons.

-Will there be any childcare or scholarship funds left after funding this pass?

* Gordon Starr will address these issues and report back.

Woolman REPORT: by Dorothy Henderson

* Coleman Watts has resigned and will not be replaced. He and his family plan to continue to live at the Center for now.



AFSC News, May 2012

New Regional Director -- The appointed Director of AFSC Western Region is Sonia Tuma, previously Regional Director of AFSC's Central Regional Office in Des Moines. The new expanded Region's office will be in San Francisco. Sonia will begin June 20.

Street Spirit and the Occupy Movement -- Last month I spoke of the Street Spirit issue highlighting the value and effectiveness of non-violence in protest movements. That issue has been a sell-out. For the first time in its history there had to be a reprint. People requested copies from Seattle and Chicago. A total stranger came into the SF office and took as many copies as they had to distribute among Occupy activists. As the Occupy movement gears up for spring activities, the Street Spirit articles are going to play an important role in their decision making.

Announcement -- I have an announcement of my own. This is my last posting as the AFSC Newshound. I will be leaving for England May 9. It has been a joy to bring you this news and I can assure you it will continue. Thank you for allowing me to give this service. Yours in Peace,

...Ruth Fraser, AFSC Newshound

New Quaker Blog

FGC has a new Quaker blog. To stay in touch with Friends and to tell your story, visit www.fgcquaker.org/quakerquest/qblog.

* Vanessa Teran has been laid off and will not be replaced.

* These changes are the result of a long process to balance the budget at Sierra Friends Center and the Woolman Semester.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS:

NEWSLETTER READER presented by Charity Bryson.

Selected readings from Friend's Newsletters were read.

GVFM NEWSLETTER REMINDER: Please submit items for the newsletter to Jan Wenzel by 12noon on the Tuesday following Business Meeting.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Starr, Recording Clerk

Gordon Starr, Clerk

Pendle Hill Employment Position:

Executive Director

Nominations and letters of interest with resumes may be submitted to pendlehill613@msn.com. This search is being conducted by a Pendle Hill Board search committee, beginning April 27. Please respond directly to the email address and not to Pendle Hill.



Local Fire Safe Assistance Program

Brush cutting and removal services are provided to Nevada County senior citizens or disabled persons who physically can no longer work on defensible space and cannot afford to contract commercial services for their property. Visit www.areyoufiresafe.com/get-fire-help/special-needs-assistance/ or contact the FSCNC office 272-1122 for the assistance request form.

*****FCLCA's Recommendations*****

June 2012 Ballot Propositions

Proposition 28: Limits on Legislator's Terms in Office-- **FCLCA SUPPORTS**

Proposition 29: Imposes Additional Tax on Cigarettes for Cancer Research-- **FCLCA OPPOSES**

About Grass Valley Friends...

Birthdays in May:

May 3 (Charles Swift) 1918-1983
 May 5 Deborah Aufdenspring 1944
 May 6 Rochelle Davisson
 May 8 Forest Chew
 May 9 Herb Dimock 1914
 May 9 Kathy McCreery
 May 11 Shelley Doyle
 May 15 (Alice Vredenberg) 1908-2006
 May 17 Elizabeth DeSa
 May 18 Theo Black 1975
 May 21 Bob Barns
 May 21 Beyond Joy
 May 21 Susan Hopkins

May 23 Kate Duroux
 May 24 Barbara Will
 May 25 Nori Fussell
 May 26 Jerome Orloff
 May 27 Jan Wenzel
 May 28 Charity Bryson
Anniversaries in May:
 May 19 John and Martha Steuer
 May 30 Gordon and Mary Starr

We hold Gary Aufdenspring and family in the Light.
 We hold Harold Blickenstaff and family in the Light.
 We hold Gloria Kershner in the Light.
 We hold Tristan Anderson in the Light



Please be mindful of environmental sensitivities...

In order to make our Meeting accessible to all, including those with chemical sensitivities and asthma, please refrain from wearing perfume, fragrance and scented products to our Meeting House. Thank you very much.

CLIMATE CRISIS 350.ORG

350.org is a global grassroots movement to solve the climate crisis and push for policies that will put the world on track to get down to 350 ppm of CO2 in the atmosphere. Founded in 2008 by Bill McKibben, this group works with hundreds of thousands of people in over 188 countries around the world. For info: visit www.350.org.

Grass Valley Friends Meeting, 13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA 95959, 530-273-3183

Located at Sierra Friends Center outside Nevada City and Grass Valley, on Woolman Lane, off Jones Bar Road.

Calendar of Events: Recurring activities:

First Days: 9:00am Singing at the Meeting House, 9:45am Silent Meeting for Worship
 Second Sunday: 9:45am Silent Meeting for Worship, Potluck, Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business

Grass Valley Friends Meeting Contacts:

Clerk	Gordon Starr	878-1237	gstarr121(at)aol.com
Treasurer	Kathy McCreery	265-6533	fostenw(at)yahoo.com
Recording Clerk	Mary Starr	878-1237	mstarr2133(at)aol.com
Recorder	Sharon Davisson	265-6287	skdavisson(at)gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Jan Wenzel	265-0501	jan90066(at)hotmail.com
Communications Coordinator	Judy Hamilton	273-8818	judyfieldswl(at)hotmail.com
Directory Coordinator	Don Kewman	272-3736	dkewman(at)gmail.com
Librarian	Dianne Marshall	274-1922	dmarshall(at)pacific.net
Mail Clerk	Dean Olson	273-2094	deanolson44(at)hotmail.com
Newsletter Distributor	Charity Bryson	4779232	quakercrone(at)comcast.net
Religious Ed Program Coordinator	Amy Cooke	559-9158	amylisette(at)gmail.com
Website Maintenance	Sandy Kewman	272-3736	srosekewman(at)gmail.com

Grass Valley Friends Meeting Committee Clerks:

Building and Grounds:	Reed Hamilton	Nominating:	Fosten Wilson and Sharon Davisson
Finance:	Lawren Giles	Peace and Social Justice:	Harold Blickenstaff
Hospitality:	Karen Olson	Outreach:	Sandy Kewman
Library:	Susan Hopkins	Yard Sale and Beyond:	not filled
Ministry and Oversight:	Amy Cooke		

“Never, never be afraid to do what's right, especially if the well-being of a person or animal is at stake. Society's punishments are small compared to the wounds we inflict on our soul when we look the other way.” ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Grass Valley Friends Meeting “State of the Meeting” Report, April, 2012

Friends are an interesting combination of ardent individuals who never the less adhere to and value their traditions and structure. This past year a proposal was made to change the schedule of first day Meeting in order to include a period for adult discussion before Meeting for Worship. This would allow time for more programs but would make Meeting for Worship later and create a longer day, especially when we have Meeting for Business. We also are having an on-going discussion around the meaning and significance of membership, prompted by a proposal from Ministry and Oversight that membership on that committee be opened to “members and active attenders”. This has prompted a deep examination of our relationship to and with each other that will continue. We have not come to unity on either of these issues.

The Ministry and Oversight committee has been quite active this past year. In addition to its traditional role of care for the spiritual and corporate life of the Meeting, they hold two subcommittees; Quaker in the Corner, which schedules one person three times a month to be available in a quiet area to answer questions, give support or simply listen as needed, and Spiritual Life Committee, which has presented programs on fourth first days which explore various aspects of Quaker worship including prayer, death and dying, vocal ministry, and preparing for Meeting for Worship. In addition, they organized Grass Valley Friends Meeting first weekend Spiritual Retreat this April on the theme of discovering our spiritual foundation and how that connects us all. A multi-year effort to follow up a Quakerism 101 course bore fruit this year with the presentation of our own Quakerism 102 program: a six week course, structured like Friendly Eights, exploring various aspects of Meeting for Worship through short readings and queries that were designed to bring forth the spiritual essence of each person’s experience of Meeting. The committee, at one point, held eight clearness committees under its care. They have also contacted long absent F/friends, especially members, to discern their interest in continuing to be a part of Meeting. Three members were released through this process, with others to be considered. This year we have had two new members and one applicant. One couple was married under the care of the Meeting.

Our Peace and Social Justice committee, in addition to their monthly meetings, presents a program each third first day with films, speakers and information of interest to the Meeting covering a range of topics. For a year they have worked on a letter looking at the Israeli/Palestine conflict and encouraging readers to boycott, divest and sanction companies that profit from that violence. The letter was adopted by the Meeting and sent out to all Quaker schools and Friends Meetings in Pacific Yearly Meeting. They have also been active in gathering signatures to place on the California ballot an initiative to replace the death penalty with life in prison without the possibility of parole, and one to require labeling of food with GMO content. The Earthcare Witness subcommittee is doing an in-depth study of the local effects of a two degree rise in the ambient temperature. There has been concern expressed that some of the long standing committee members are getting too elderly to actively participate.

The Budget and Finance committee has managed the in and out flow of Meeting’s funds without dipping into reserves. This has been, in part, a result of getting Friends to contribute regular amounts over the year which evens out cash flow. Since we rent our Meeting House from Sierra Friends Center, we don’t have the expenses associated with owning our own building, which allows us to operate with a somewhat smaller budget than would otherwise be required. With the committee’s recommendation, the Meeting forgave a ten year loan made to SFC that had become due. We continue to be blessed with an excellent treasurer.

The Nominating Committee has been active and organized. Described by a member as “working with a sense of worship” they have brought forward the slate for 2012 – 2013 while acknowledging the challenge of filling all positions in a smaller Meeting. A husband and wife team will assume the duties of clerk and recorder next term, continuing the previous pattern.

Last year, the number of children attending Meeting diminished. In addition, Intergenerational Education was having difficulties finding a focus and curriculum that spoke to the needs of children and adults. With the possibility of laying down the committee for a year, one member stepped forward to volunteer to try a new approach – a work project theme that each week brought in adult volunteers to assist whatever ages and numbers of children were there to contribute as appropriate. Making and planting flower beds, making first aid border kits for people trying to cross the Mexican border, and making banners that portray the Testimonies were some of the projects. We are happy to report that we have been blessed with a great increase in the number of young children attending Meeting and often enjoy the vocal ministry of small ones.

This is the second year that Hospitality and Outreach have again operated as separate committees. Outreach greets Meeting attenders, gets new folks oriented, and follows up with a note afterwards. Each member takes a turn setting up the table and badge board. Hospitality sets up for refreshments and cleans up after Meeting. In addition, they host

special events such as weddings and memorial services. Both committees have operated well with little fanfare. It is good to remember their service.

For the last few years, GVFM has benefited from a dedicated Library Committee that has met regularly for work days and has transformed our library. They recently published our first Library Newsletter. All books are now catalogued and sorted and our collection is now listed online. Check-out procedures have been clarified and posted.

Other issues the Meeting has addressed this year include how to support a long term member, who was incapacitated from a stroke, in finding help and transportation to be able to again attend Meeting. We installed a new ramp for easier access to the Meeting House. (We are a bit out in the country.) Our interdependent relationship with the Woolman Semester continues to grow with several board members and the Head of School being from Meeting. We also enjoy the benefit of students and interns who attend Meeting. As with other Meetings, we continue to search for a solution to those who are hearing impaired being able to hear ministry. So far solutions seem to be technical and cost-prohibitive. Some members have said they are feeling unheard and unable to express themselves safely. This matter needs further attention and exploration.

Over all it has been a year of cooperation and support with few challenges. We seem to find a balance between active and contemplative Friends and various spiritual and world viewpoints. May Peace prevail on earth.

~~submitted by Gordon Starr, Clerk



Library Committee Report for April 10, 2012 ~~ submitted by Susan Hopkins

In addition to working on organizing books on the shelves and checking titles against inventory lists, we had some very stimulating discussion. A summary follows:

**Library Committee is concerned about holding this vast amount of information in its collections, much of which is never used. Our discussion today resulted in several queries for our continued seasoning and one proposed policy. We will further discuss the queries at our next meeting and the policy is included here.

Policy: Library Committee is concerned about the loss of books and publications. Therefore, we propose that when books have been missing for more than three months, and we have done all we can to get them returned, we will request the borrower replace the book or publication. Failing that, we suggest that the Meeting general fund pay for the replacement copy (as happened when the 5-6 missing Pendle Hill Pamphlets from 2010 were replaced).

QUNO (Quaker United Nations Office) Report - May 2012 ~~ submitted by Shera Banbury

**Andrew Tomlinson, Director of QUNO New York, announced the publication of QUNO Review 2011, the first jointly produced covering the QUNO work in both New York and Geneva offices, which is available for download on line at www.quno.org, or in hard cover if you email your name and mailing address to quno@quno.ch.

**Four QUNO staff members attended the World Conference of Friends April 17-25 in Nakuru in Kenya, sharing with over 1,000 Friends from around the world during the nine days of the Conference.

**In April, QUNO New York Program Assistant Kirsten Mandala attended the three-day World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates in Chicago; theme of the summit was "Speak Up, Speak Out for Freedom and Rights." Kirsten was selected as a youth representative of the AFSC. At the summit, nine Nobel Laureates and thirteen Laureate organizations brought their messages of peace, human rights, and individual responsibility to students, government leaders, international dignitaries, and the general public.

**QUNO staff members Rachel Brett and Oliver Robertson attended the 21st UN Crime Commission in Vienna April 23-27. Their focus was on violence against migrants, and the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. They also spoke at a meeting on children of prisoners. If you would like to read more about Rachel Brett's lecture at Swarthmore, part of Quakers' Britain Yearly Meeting assembly on May 26, you can go to www.nayler.org/?p=483. She will speak about Quaker processes as applied to the UN.

**Work of QUNO - Snakes and Ladders: A personal exploration of Quaker work on Human Rights at the United Nations.

**The Geneva International Summer School takes place July 1-13. This year's registration is closed. If interested in applying for next year, contact Helen Bradford, Friends House, London, helenb@quaker.org.uk or go to www.quno.org/getInvolved/IntlSummerSchool-Geneva.htm.

** The 7th Annual Middle School Model UN took place in April in New York. 1,500 children attended.

May 2012 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		World Asthma Day	Occupy NC	National Prayer Day	Meditation at Bailey Home	NC Library Book Sale <u>M&O Com Mtg</u> Quilt Show
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:00 Singing 9:45 Meeting for Worship Quilt Show	Peace and Social Justice Com Mtg Library Meeting	Middle East Peace Talk at Peace Ctr	Occupy NC	Equal Pay Day	Meditation at Bailey Home	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:00 Singing 9:45 Meeting for Worship, Potluck, <u>Business Meeting</u> <u>Peace Center Movie</u> Mother's Day		Grandmothers For Peace Mtg	Occupy NC		Meditation at Bailey Home <u>Spiritual Cinema</u> <u>CPQM Quarterly</u> Woolman Students	Armed Forces Day <u>CPQM Quarterly</u> Woolman Students
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:00 Singing 9:45 Meeting for <u>Worship</u> <u>Woolman Students</u> CPQM Quarterly		Harvey Milk Day	Occupy NC	Dorothy Naor Talk	Meditation at Bailey Home	Woolman Semester Graduation 9am
27	28	29	30	31		
9:00 Singing 9:45 Meeting for Worship Spiritual Life	Memorial Day	Occupy NC Training	Occupy NC			

June 2012 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					Meditation at Bailey Home Relay for Life	NC Library Book Sale Relay for Life
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:00 Singing 9:45 Meeting for Worship Relay for Life	Peace and Social Justice Com Mtg		Occupy NC		Meditation at Bailey Home	GVFM Yard Sale
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00 Singing 9:45 Meeting for Worship, Potluck, Business Meeting Peace Center Film		Middle East Peace Talk at Peace Ctr	Occupy NC	Flag Day Bluegrass Festival	Meditation at Bailey Home Spiritual Cinema Bluegrass Festival	HH Yard Sale Bluegrass Festival
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00 Singing 9:45 Meeting for <u>Worship</u> <u>P&SJ Social Forum</u> <u>SFC Work Camp</u> <u>Bluegrass Festival</u> Father's Day	SFC Work Camp	Grandmothers For Peace Mtg SFC Work Camp	Occupy NC SFC Work Camp Summer Begins	SFC Work Camp	Meditation at Bailey Home SFC Work Camp	SFC Work Camp
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:00 Singing 9:45 Meeting for <u>Worship</u> <u>Spiritual Life</u> SFC Work Camp			Occupy NC		Meditation at Bailey Home	



* SIMPLICITY * PEACE * INTEGRITY * COMMUNITY * EQUALITY * TRUTH *



QUAKER EVENTS

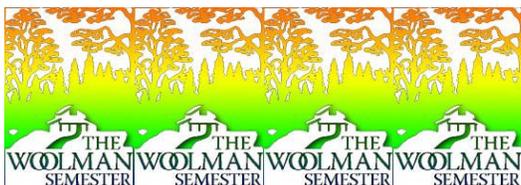
P&SJ Third Sunday Social Forum

The Peace & Justice Committee will not have their usual Third Sunday Program on May 20. Instead, Woolman students will present their "Speaking Truth to Power" projects at 12:30pm.

~ ~ June and July Scheduled Events:

Parts 1 and 2 "The People Speak" by Howard Zinn

This beautiful and moving film features the actual words (in letters, songs, poems, speeches, and manifestoes) of rebels, dissenters and visionaries from our past and present. These dramatic moments in U.S. history are brought to life by activists, actors and musicians. Join us after Meeting and refreshments.



Woolman Semester News

Graduation is coming soon for the Spring 2012 Semester. The upcoming events are as follows:

- ~ **Student Peace Documentary Premiere**
Friday, May 18, 7pm, UUCM, Grass Valley
- ~ **Sustainability Project Demonstrations**
Saturday, May 19, 9am-12noon, Woolman Campus
- ~ **Baccalaureate**
Saturday, May 19, 7pm, Woolman Campus
- ~ **Speak Truth to Power Student Presentations**
Sunday, May 20, 12:30pm, Woolman Campus
- ~ **Graduation**
Saturday, May 26, 9am, Woolman Campus

Spring 2012 Quarterly Meeting

Friends are invited to the spring 2012 gathering of College Park Quarterly Meeting, May 18-20 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center. The theme is "Beyond Membership: Growing as Friends." Registration/info: <http://collegepark.quaker.org>.



"Spiritual Life" Session

Sunday, May 27 -- 11:30 after Meeting

Please join us after Meeting and refreshments for Spiritual Dance: Circle Dancing. Led by Sandy Kewman.



Annual GVFM Yard Sale

Saturday, June 9

Plan on the GVFM Yard Sale at the Banner Grange. Set up and drop off will be the same as before. Details to follow at Meeting.

SFC Family Work Camp Week

June 17-24, Woolman SFC

Our weeklong celebration of family, community and the joy of shared work. Plan to work in the morning, play in the afternoon. Come for the day or the whole week. You'll be so glad you did!

SFC SUMMER CAMPS

SIERRA FRIENDS CAMP FOR AGES 9-14

SESSION 1: JULY 1 - 13

SESSION 2: JULY 15 - 27

SESSION 3: JULY 29 - AUGUST 4

TEEN LEADERSHIP CAMP **NEW** FOR AGES 15-16

SESSION 1: JULY 1 - 15

SESSION 2: JULY 21-AUGUST 4

Pacific Yearly Meeting in August

August 13-18, Monday through Saturday

Walker Creek Ranch in Petaluma, with special guest John Calvi.

QUAKER CENTER RETREATS

Ben Lomond, May-June 2012

June 1-3 ~ Celebrating Aging and Facing the

Inevitable--Claire Gorfinkel and Mary Ann Percy

June 23-30 ~ Quaker Camp for 4th-6th Graders

July 7-15 ~ Service Camp for 7th-9th Graders

July 22-28 ~ Peace Action Camp for 10th-12th

Graders at La Jolla Friends Meeting

Camps Director Stephen Myers. For information, call (831)336-8333 or visit www.quakercenter.org.

Friends General Conference

"All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir"

July 1-7, Sunday through Saturday

University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI

Fees: All 2012 FGC Gathering fees are on the website. Basic fee for adult: \$718 (shared room without air conditioning and three meals a day).

Half-Gathering Registration: Consider registering for half of the Gathering, July 1-4 or July 4-7. Half-Gathering registrants may choose on-campus housing and a meal plan, and choose from workshops open to part-time registrants.

Registration now open: Workshops/financial assistance available. **Info:** Visit the website: <http://www.fgcquaker.org/gathering>

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Second Sunday Peace Center Film

Sunday, May 13, 7pm at UUCM

Always the second Sunday. Facilitated discussion to follow. Refreshments will be available.

Suggested donation \$5-10; no one turned away. Proceeds shared by the Peace Center and UUCM.

Spiritual Cinema Circle

Friday, May 18, 7pm, Film: "From Time to Time"

Third Friday of the month at Sierra Center for Spiritual Living. Free; donations accepted.

Occupy Wall Street Nevada County

** Outreach Abolish Corporate Personhood Training: Tuesday, May 29, 6:30-8:30pm at the NC Methodist Church. Sharon Delgado will provide training for those who want to give presentations on Move to Amend.

** Gatherings continue every Wednesday 4-6pm rotating between Brunswick Basin, Downtown Nevada City and Downtown Grass Valley. Contacts: APPLE, the Peace Center or <http://www.occupynevadacounty.org/>.

The Palestine Israel Working Group

Meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month, 7pm, at the Peace Center, 216B Main Street, Nevada City. Everyone with similar interests is invited to attend. Call 265-0200.

June Library Book Sale

Saturday, June 2, 10am-2pm

Every first weekend of the month. Big book sale, Doris Foley Library, downtown Nevada City.

Relay for Life Annual Event

Friday, June 1- Sunday, June 3

Sponsored by the American Cancer Society. At the NC Fairgrounds. Info: Call 916-446-7933 or visit www.relayforlife.org.

Bluegrass Music Festival

Thursday - Sunday, June 14-17

At the NC Fairgrounds. This is always fun! Info: www.cbaontheweb.org.



Nevada County Fair is Coming!

August 8-12, "Barnyard Safari" Theme

12th Annual Nevada City Film Festival

August 16-19, Thursday-Sunday

Hospitality House Fundraiser Yard Sale

**Saturday, June 16, 8am-7pm
at "Utah's Place" in Grass Valley**



Hospitality
House

Funds raised will go towards remodeling the new building. You can donate items on June 14-15 from 12noon - 7pm. Call 559-4430 for information.

A Conversation with Dorothy Naor

Thursday, May 24, 5-7pm, UUCM

An American born Jewish Israeli citizen who has lived in Israel for more than 50 years, Dorothy will offer her perspective on current issues in Israel and Palestine. This will be an informal, conversational format with potluck finger food refreshments. Please bring some food to share. No admission charge; donations will be gladly accepted to pay expenses. Presented by the Palestine-Israel Working Group of Nevada County. For information, call 478-1943.

Grass Valley Friends Meeting
c/o Charity Bryson
1025 Amber Loop
Grass Valley, CA 95945

May 2012
Return Address Requested

**It is not possible to love and judge
at the same moment, at the same instant.**
~~Mary Robinson Reynolds



Advices and Queries ~ “Harmony with Creation”

“It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world, that they were better studied and knowing in the Creation of it. For how could [they] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the Great Creator stare them in the face, in all and every part thereof?”

~~ William Penn, *Some Fruits of Solitude*, 1693

God is revealed in all Creation. We humans belong to the whole interdependent community of life on earth. Rejoice in the beauty, complexity, and mystery of creation, with gratitude to be part of its unfolding. Take time to learn how this community of life is organized and how it interacts. Live according to principles of right relationship and right action within this larger whole.

Be aware of the influence humans have on the health and viability of life on earth. Call attention to what fosters or harms earth’s exquisite beauty, balances, and interdependencies. Guided by Spirit, work to translate this understanding into ways of living that reflect our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations.

~~ *In what ways do I express gratitude for the wondrous expressions of life on Earth?*

~~ *Do I consider the damage I might do to the Earth’s vulnerable systems in choices I make of what I do, what I buy, and how I spend my time?*

~~ *In our witness for the global environment, are we careful to consider justice and the well-being of the world’s poorest people?*

~~ *Does our way of life threaten the viability of life on Earth?*

~~from *Faith and Practice*, 2001