

PYM Representative Committee 2014 Quick Notes

Dear PYM Meeting Representatives,

Enclosed here are PYM Representative Committee Quick Notes. For the full experience I recommend reading our clerk's call to Rep Com, M&O's full report, and all the other committee reports listed under 2014 Rep Com at the following link:

<http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/2014/pym-docs/pym-repcom-2014/>

Our clerk, Steve Smith, called us to 2014 Representative Committee with the words of George Fox in 1652:

“What canst thou say? Art thou a Child of Light and hast walked in the Light, and what thou speakest, is it inwardly from God?”. At the heart of the new movement was a radical realization: “Christ has come to teach his people himself.” That for which we hunger—that which fuels our power and creativity, our energy and passion, leading us to seek justice and peace is already within us, a Blessed Presence to our hearts, veiled only by confusion in our minds.¹ Only after experiencing failure and facing it honestly did Fox awaken to a new creation. He surrendered fully to the Source and went out speaking with the power that came through him. “Those listeners who were truly honest with themselves...were captured by the truth he spoke, convinced—convicted—by his prophetic voice.

At the Annual Session (14--19 July 2014, Walker Creek Ranch, 1700 Marshall Petaluma Rd, Petaluma, CA), we will ask what the prophetic power of “a new creation” means for us as a collective body. Can we be a corporate prophetic voice to the world?

We will be welcoming a keynote speaker to the 2014 Annual Session. Jonathan Vogel-Borne, who grew up in Pacific Yearly Meeting, is the former secretary of New England Yearly Meeting and is the facilitator of the FGC workshop “Practicing Prophetic Ministry”.

¹ Smith, Steve. (2014, March 1). Call to Representative Committee. Retrieved from <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/2014/pym-docs/pym-repcom-2014/>

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M&O reported that they have reviewed the 2013 Annual Session and concerns about the cost of attending and the narrow demographic spectrum. The committee has looked at the manner in which business is conducted at the Annual Session and “our inability to function as body if we don’t have community”²

M&O has been discussing the role of Minutes of Concern at Annual Session. Time will be allotted to open this discussion at 2014 Annual Session.

M&O has given consideration to potential benefits and drawbacks of PYM affiliating with Friends General Conference (FGC). They request that PYM Reps take the following question to their monthly meetings: “Are there stirrings in your Meeting to join FGC?”

M&O met this winter in Mexico City, worshipping with the monthly meeting there. Because of the benefits reaped by this experience, M&O hopes that other meetings will invite the committee to their meeting in the near future. “The experience of listening to some of the quieter voices in our community has enriched both the members of the M&O Committee and its service to the Yearly Meeting.”³

M&O is working to make the Annual Session Attendance Assistance more user friendly by revising the form and clarifying the process.

The Ministry and Leadings subcommittee of M&O is developing a workshop to be offered to Monthly meetings. The workshop will explore the role of Meetings in naming, nurturing, supporting and providing accountability for ministry and leadings. M&O hopes to offer a recommendation at 2014 Annual Session.

Racial Justice Subcommittee: has been asked to consider and examine the diversity of our Yearly Meeting and to make suggestions as to how we may enrich the mix of attenders at the Annual Session.

² M&O Community (2014, March). Retrieved from Rep Com M&O Report <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/2014/pym-docs/pym-repcom-2014/>

³ IBID

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The draft schedule of Annual Session 2014 is available at:

<http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/DraftScheduleAnnual-Session2014withExplanatoryNotes.pdf>

Or if you go to the [pacificyearlymeeting.org](http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org) website, it is listed under RepCom 2014 as one of the reports.

The YAF (Young Adult Friends at RepCom, Kylin Navarro, co-clerk, Elena Anderson-Williams, co-clerk, Rob Cimorelli, and Cody Lowry, clerk of Young Friends M&O gave their report (with the meeting standing in a circle holding hands.)

“We aren’t planning this year’s YAF program as one for “young people” and we don’t even want to talk right now as “young people.” We want to speak as people who love you, as people who recognize the God in you. The Young Adult Friends of PYM and the Senior Yearly Meeting are not separate; we are one. This is the Spirit moving in us now. Welcome to the revival of this blessed community.

In First Day School we were told the truth, there is that of God in everyone, in everything. To experience every moment, every interaction as sacred, seeking the divine, feeling the Light scorch our very souls, this is the source of our Witness. Our testimony is to live in this Truth. If we are vessels of the divine, then we love so as to leave no occasion for war.

We are engaged in an experiment of radical trust. We want to ask the YM to join us in this work and we accept your invitation to join you. We’re seeking the living spirit, not just in our lives and in one another, but also how that flows through this corporate body.

Talk to us, we want to know you.

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In light of this, we are planning a workshop on Convincement, Conversion, and Conviction for annual session. We are holding a Meeting for Healing with JYM and implementing a structure to support community members in their Concerns and leadings. In all of our planning we are arranging our schedule and sponsoring the activities which cultivate the greatest inclusivity and integration of PYM. We are excited to connect with Monthly Meetings and Friends who have not attended annual session before or haven't been lately as we extend an open invitation to join us.”

After YAF gave the report, some comments were made about how crucial it is that Young Adult Friends and general meetings interact and work together. YAF will be trying to contact possible YAF members, especially those who attended meetings as teens or younger.

Site Committee Sherri Sisson, clerk, reports that Walker Creek will be the Annual Session site in 2015, July 13th – 18th. The following two years the meeting will then be in the South. Recommendations are requested for locations in the South.

A friend pointed out that it may be helpful to those Friends not familiar with PYM that PYM is the group we all belong to whether we attend Annual Session or not and that much is happening year round within PYM.

I hope you find these notes helpful.

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