

### **Welcoming Plenary**

The plenary began with worship.

**Clerk's Welcome.** Diego Navarro (Santa Cruz), Presiding Clerk, welcomed all the attendees. This Annual Session is arranged a little differently than previous ones. Diego described how this Annual Session is an experiment in several ways, noting that we as Quakers experiment together spiritually. Over the next five days he invited us to experience “not knowing” together, and find where the spirit is alive in this gathering, and when the veil is lifted.

**Walker Creek Ranch Welcome.** Patrick, Assistant Ranch Manager of Walker Creek Ranch, welcomed all. He mentioned the purpose of the Ranch, some housekeeping items and scheduling with an emphasis on conservation.

**Original people of this land.** Barbara Babin (Redwood Forest) introduced Skyroad Webb of the Coastal Miwok. Skyroad shared some words, understandings and songs of his culture and welcomed all to this place.

**Roll Call.** Amy Cooke (Grass Valley), Assistant to the Clerk, reminded us of some practices that we can use. Roll call of meetings and worship groups was completed and is attached. [Attachment I]

**Visitors.** The Presiding Clerk introduced two visitors who have been invited to help.

Scott Bell (Chena Ridge FM, Fairbanks, Alaska) is accompanying Carl Magruder in his ministry here.

Cathy Walling (Chena Ridge, Fairbanks, Alaska) is accompanying Alyssa Nelson to Australia Yearly Meeting. The Presiding Clerk read the minute of travel for her. The minute of travel is attached. [Attachment II]

Other Visitors introducing themselves were the following:

Kiernan Colby (Guilford/Washington, DC)  
Marco Antonio Lopez (Mexico City), Director, Casa de los Amigos  
Shelley Tanenbaum (Strawberry Creek) General Secretary, Quaker Earthcare Witness  
Traci Hjelt Sullivan (Green Street Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting) representing  
Friends General Conference  
Katherine Youngmeister (Santa Fe)  
Robert Broz (Palo Alto) visiting from El Salvador, Director of the El Salvador Project  
Jonas Bauer (Mountain View FM) Inter-Mountain Yearly Meeting  
Maia Wolff-Ostrum (Agate Passage FM) North Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Brylie Christopher Oxley (Tampere Worship Group, Tampere, Finland) and PYM's  
website manager

**Children's Program (CP).** Nathan Secrest (Redwood Forest), Children's Program Coordinator, offered information concerning the Children's Program and a new evening offering, a children's campfire program.

**Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM).** The Co-clerks, Ministry and Oversight Committee members and adult co-clerks introduced themselves and summarized what they have been and will be doing. One request was for others to please ask before joining JYM activities.

This year the JYM Co-clerks are Rose Nadis (Santa Barbara), David Shaw (Santa Monica) and Maya Price (Berkeley). JYM Ministry and Oversight Committee members are Co-clerks Nina Shaw (Santa Monica) and Miles Pangelina (Berkeley), and member Ari Standish (Berkeley). The JYM Adult Committee Co-clerks are Steve Leeds (San Francisco) and Erika Tarabini (Redding/Chico). The JYM Adult Committee members are Kate Connell (Santa Barbara), Suzanne Doss (Orange Grove), Dan Strickland (Orange Grove), and Muriel Strand (Sacramento).

**Young Adult Friends (YAF).** Co-clerks J.T. Dorr-Bremme (Orange Grove) and Rebekah Percy (La Jolla and Vancouver) reported on the YAF schedule and invited others to join in.

**Respectful Relationships/ Community Expectations.** The YAF-led experimental exercise was rescheduled for Saturday morning.

**Ministry and Oversight Committee (M&O).** Bronwen Hillman (Mexico City), Clerk of M&O, and members of M&O, introduced themselves. Please make suggestions to any one of these committee members. New this year is the Information Desk, to answer any and all questions.

**Arrangements.** Rick Altherr (San Jose) and Laura Kohl (La Jolla), Arrangements Co-Clerks, mentioned a few points, especially the Information Desk as the place to start an inquiry.

**Registrar.** Sarah Tyrell (Berkeley) and Heather Levien (Berkeley) described where to register and offered a few other housekeeping notes.

**Secretariat.** Raph Levien (Berkeley), Clerk of Secretariat, described the "Daily Miracle" and how to publish in it, and shared other resources they have to offer.

**Minutes.** The minutes were read, edited and approved.

**Worship.** The plenary closed with worship.

Presiding Clerk: Diego Navarro

Recording Clerks: Jim Anderson, Leslie Zondervan-Droz

## Attachments

### **Attachment I: Roll Call**

#### Meetings and Worship Groups

Appleseed	y (1)	
Berkeley	y	
Big Island	y	
Central Coast	y	
Chico	y	
Claremont	y	
Davis	y	
Delta	n	
Sierra Foothills WG		n
Fresno	n	
Grass Valley	y	
Placer WG	n	
Guatemala	y	
Honolulu	y	
Kauai WG	n	
Maui WG	n	
Molokai WG		n
Humboldt	y	
Southern Humboldt WG	y	
Inland Valley	y	
Las Vegas WG	y	
La Jolla	y	
Live Oak	y	
Friends of Soledad WG	y	
Marloma-Long Beach	y	
Mendocino	n	
Mexico City	y	
Oajaca WG	n	
Monterey Peninsula	y	
Napa-Sonoma	n	
Ukiah WG	n	
Orange County	y	
Orange Grove	y	
Conejo Valley WG	y	
Whittier WG	n	
Palo Alto	y	
Redding	y	
Redwood Forest	y	
Friends House WG	y	
Lake County WG	y	
Reno	n	

Sacramento	y	
San Diego	y	
San Francisco	y	
Western Shore WG	y	
West Marin WG	n	
San Jose	y	
Santa Barbara	y	
Ojai WG	y	
Santa Cruz	y	
Santa Monica	y	
Strawberry Creek	y	
Oakland WG	n	
Visalia		y
and		
Carson City WG	n	
Livermore WG		y

note (1) y = present, n = not present

## **Attachment II: Travel Minute, Cathy Walling**

### CHENA RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

2682 Gold Hill Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

June 5, 2016

Dear Friends in Pacific Yearly Meeting and Australia Yearly Meeting:

We at Chena Ridge Friends Meeting (Alaska Friends Conference) send our love and greetings with Cathy Walling as she travels as companion in the ministry with Alyssa Nelson and Thistle West of Pacific Yearly Meeting. Cathy will first join Alyssa for her presentation for the week of Pacific Yearly Meeting Sessions, and then they will travel together with Thistle to Australia Yearly Meeting where Alyssa has been invited to share her experiences serving as Pacific Yearly Meeting Youth Program Coordinator.

Cathy has been a faithful member of Chena Ridge Meeting for 20 years, serving the meeting as co-clerk, and clerk of various committees. She has also served as clerk of the Yearly Meeting Ministry and Nurture Committee. Her gifts of eldering have been recognized within our Meeting and more widely by Friends General Conference Traveling Ministries Program. She has served as an elder for several Friends over the years including traveling twice to Australia as a companion in the ministry with Elaine Emily.

For the past four years Cathy has provided spiritual accompaniment for the Way of the Spirit Contemplative Study in Community Program in the Pacific Northwest of the USA. Cathy with her husband, Scott Bell, continue to offer Couple Enrichment workshops and retreats.

She is accountable to an anchor committee within our Meeting, which aids in her discernment and provides spiritual support. In support of Cathy's concern for our planet, Chena Ridge Friends are also individually pledging carbon offsets for her travel through reducing resource use, conservation, recycling, and re-use.

We commend her to your care as she travels and trust that she will be faithful to what God is calling her to do.

In the Light,

Charlotte Basham, clerk  
Chena Ridge Friends Meeting

Approved in Meeting for Business Sixth month 5th day, 2016