

**Youth Programs Coordinating Committee (YPCC)
& Youth Programs Coordinator (YPC - Alyssa Nelson)
Report for PYM Annual Session, July 2017**

See also: the supplement to this report, "Reflections on Traveling in the Ministry to Australia Yearly Meeting in June-August 2016" (7/12/17): https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/annual-session-minutes-reports/2017-annual-session-reports-and-minutes/#Youth_Programs_Coordinating_Committee_YP_Coordinator

SUMMARY

This *Summary* gives an overview of what the PYM Youth Programs Coordinating Committee (YPCC) and the Youth Programs Coordinator (YPC) have focused on in 2016-2017, activities planned for Annual Session, some upcoming plans, and examples of what we have found engaging, exciting or challenging. For greater detail, we invite Friends to read the appendices below and the separate report about the 2016 Australia Yearly Meeting travels. The appendices at the end of this document include details about: our collaborative work with other PYM entities (for Annual Session and otherwise), state of the YPCC, links to other YPCC documents and communications, YPC committee and programs budgets, our stewardship of the Youth Programs Fund (interest from the Bob Vogel Endowment), and reflections from some of our co-sponsored projects/activities: the Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp at Quaker Oaks Farm, and the YAF Clerking Workshop.

Much of the YPC and YPCC's work is in the background, improving systems and communication and troubleshooting problems; sometimes this invisibility seems to lead to Friends wondering what we do. The YP Coordinator and Coordinating Committee's roles are predominately to act as resources for other volunteers, committees, officers, and the Yearly Meeting as a whole, as well as to organize some activities of our own. The YPCC is of course also charged with supervising, evaluating, and supporting the Coordinator; to that end the YPCC conducted a performance review this year for the Coordinator, we have some updates to make to the YPC and YPCC job descriptions, and in the next year or two it is time to do another full program review, as the last comprehensive program review was in 2013: <https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/2013/documents/ypc-evaluation-report-to-repcom-march-2013/> .

Since hiring the first coordinator in 2010, YPCC members have noticed much growth and improvement in PYM's various youth and intergenerational programs, inclusion of young Friends, respect for youth voice, linkages among various groups throughout PYM, and the efficacy of PYM's organizational systems, bringing about new spiritual connections and growth within our community. We have continued working with many groups within PYM (such as JYM, Children's Program Committee, YAFs, M&O, Registrars, the clerking team, etc.), Quarterly Meetings, local meetings, and Quaker organizations, though we still cannot do it all at once!

Last year (2015-2016) for the first time, the YPC engaged deeply with PYM Children's Program Committee. This initially grew out of a need to improve the communication and transition between the middle school program and Junior Yearly Meeting. We have seen that expansion of the YPC's services to Children's Program has led to better coordination and sharing of resources, such as a consolidated application form and coordinated process for youth worker applications (FRAPs and CP Teachers for Annual Session) and compliance with abuse prevention policy and procedures. We expect that the YPC will continue to be able to work with CP Committee into the future as part of the regular YPC job

duties and that this might allow the CP Committee to proceed with some changes to the structures and job descriptions of their current committee and CP Coordinator. We support listing the YPC as *ex officio* to the CP Committee, as proposed in M&O's "Restructure Proposal" being presented at Annual Session this year: http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/PYMRestructureProposalv5July_2017.pdf

We appreciate the work of M&O and the YPC to bring an improved draft Abuse Prevention Policy back for consideration for approval at this year's Annual Session. According to the the YPC, both JYM and Children's Program have been implementing the policy. <https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/committee-newsletters-and-reports/ministry-and-oversight-committee/>

In addition to our Annual Session-related work, the YPC Committee strives to create new opportunities outside of the Annual Session throughout the year. This past year, for example, we continued our partnership with the Wukchumni Tribe and Quaker Oaks Farm to host our 4th --and largest so far-- Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp, involving 35 campers and 15 staff from 5+ indigenous groups, 8 PYM meetings, and 3 Unitarian Universalists. Nineteen youth returned from the previous year, and these returning campers help to establish the culture of acceptance and respect that permeates the camp. The appendix to this report includes a section with highlights from Spring Camp.

We also provided financial and organizational support to the PYM Young Adult Friends (YAFs) to organize a clerking workshop, held at Sierra Friends Center (SFC) in May, which involved 14 participants and 2 facilitators from 9 monthly meetings and worship groups ranging in age from early 20s to 70s, including Friends who are committee clerks or presiding clerks as well as Friends new to clerking and/or new to our Society. An unexpected boon was that this event, being held at SFC, drew almost half its participants from nearby Reno and Carson City, thus involving Friends who are often geographically and socially isolated from the rest of PYM.

In June through August 2016, Alyssa, along with Friends Thistle West and Cathy Walling, travelled at the invitation of Australia Yearly Meeting (AYM), carrying concerns for youth and intergenerational community in the Religious Society of Friends and for right relationship with First Nations Peoples. A separate report from the three of them along with Sally Kingsland include details about their experiences traveling in the ministry with spiritual accompaniment and the evolution and fruits of the trip: "Reflections on Traveling in the Ministry to Australia Yearly Meeting in June-August 2016" (7/12/17): https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/annual-session-minutes-reports/2017-annual-session-reports-and-minutes/#Youth_Programs_Coordinating_Committee_YP_Coordinator

In Pacific YM, we are aware of growing concern and interest in right relationships with and justice for Native Americans and Indigenous / First Nations Peoples. We are actively engaged with this topic in partnership with Quaker Oaks Farm, and we have been invited into similar consultation now at Sierra Friends Center. In November 2016, the we supported 4 PYM Friends and 4 Wukchumni Yokuts (including 4 teens and 4 adults) to participate in the "Quakers, First Nations, and American Indians from the 1650s to the 21st century" conference in Philadelphia. Jim Summers (former YPCC clerk) was one of the attendees, and he authored an article about the conference in *Western Friend*: "Native Voices and Quaker Choices" (March/April 2017) <https://westernfriend.org/article/native-voices-and-quaker-choices>

Alyssa, along with YPCC committee members, have worked with YAFs, JYM, and M&O to continue building a relationship with the Coast Miwok people on whose land we gather at what is now called Walker Creek Ranch; this year, YAFs and M&O have again asked Sky Road Webb to welcome us to the land, meet with Friends, and share about Coast Miwok culture. At Alyssa's suggestion, JYM is doing their service-learning project with Sky Road at Kule Loklo, the recreated Coast Miwok interpretive cultural exhibit at Pt. Reyes National Seashore.

<http://www.ptreyes.org/activities/kule-loklo-coast-miwok-cultural-exhibit>

We continue to be grateful to have the semi-annual interest income from the Bob Vogel Endowment as our "Youth Programs Fund" to support the activities of our committee, to fund projects, and to encourage involvement of more and more young Friends. We fund and co-sponsor **events** such as Spring Camp, the Clerking Workshop, and the YAF Pre-Annual Session Retreat. We provide organizational support for **new programs, new outreach, new connections, and novel experiments** such as seed funding for a new scholarship fund for the El Salvador Service-Learning Trip. And we continue to foster Friends' **participation in Quaker activities and spiritual development** when other funding is not available, including intervisitation between Quarterly Meetings, a variety of spiritual development workshops, YPCC presence at events, eldering / spiritual accompaniment, and opportunities to put Quaker values toward social and environmental action in the world. A section in the appendix to this report gives greater detail.

As a reminder, applications for funding requests from the Youth Programs Fund / Bob Vogel Endowment are due to the YPCC on or before March 20th, June 20th, September 20th and December 20th (near the equinoxes and solstices). <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/resources-funding/>

Friends who would like to learn more or dive deeper: please read the appendices below and come to our Interest Group or one of the Open Committee Meetings held during Annual Session, or contact our Clerk, Bertha Peña. Please see the beginning of the appendix for a list of where and when you can find us throughout Annual Session.

Submitted on behalf of the YPCC,
Bertha Peña, Clerk & Alyssa Nelson, Coordinator

<p><u>YPC Committee Members and Coordinator 2016-2017</u> <i>At-Large Three-Year Terms:</i> Jennifer Carr, Las Vegas WG / La Jolla (2017) Stephen Myers, Sacramento (2017) Steve Leeds, San Francisco (2017), <i>YPC Supervisor</i> Barbara Babin, Redwood Forest (2018) Melissa Lovett-Adair, Central Coast (2019) Bertha Peña (2019), <i>Clerk</i></p>	<p><i>One-Year "Youth" Terms:</i> Kylin Navarro, Berkeley Rebekah Percy, La Jolla / Vancouver Julian Garrett, Redwood Forest <i>[One slot empty]</i> <i>Co-opted:</i> Bitsy Carr, Las Vegas WG / La Jolla <i>Youth Programs Coordinator:</i> Alyssa Nelson, Davis (2011-present)</p>
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APPENDICES

Table of Contents: Appendix

Electronic version: Click on TOC links to jump to sections or scroll down

Table of Contents

Highlighted YPCC & YPC Activities at Annual Session 2017.....	4
State of the YPCC.....	5
YPC and YPCC Collaboration with Other PYM entities.....	6
Links to YPCC Documents & Communications.....	7
Budget.....	8
Stewarding the Bob Vogel Endowment / Youth Programs Fund.....	9
Youth Programs Fund Income.....	9
Youth Programs Fund Expenditures: Projects and Activities Funded.....	10
Spring Camp at Quaker Oaks Farm - Report.....	12
Australia Trip Reflections.....	14
YAF Clerking Workshop, May 26-28, 2017 - Reflections.....	14

Highlighted YPCC & YPC Activities at Annual Session 2017

Schedule for Annual Session: http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/2017-Annual-Session-Final4-Schedule-v12-FINAL_July9.pdf

Plenary Agendas: https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/2017_Plenary_Agendas_v5_6_July11.pdf

- Cathy Walling (Alaska Friends Conference) is again be eldering for Alyssa before and during Annual Session.
- **YAF Pre-Annual Session Retreat: Wednesday-Friday, July 12-14 at Redwood Forest Meetinghouse.** <https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/young-adult-friends/>
- Alyssa will be involved in the **staff orientations for Children’s Program and JYM** on Friday afternoon, as well as the respective **parent/guardian/sponsor orientation meetings:** CP at 3:15 and JYM at 4:00.
- **Sunday, Plenary IV: 11:00am-12:30pm: Committee and Delegate Reports**
- Our **Interest Group** is on **Sunday at 6:45pm:** Although our IG description is worded broadly, we have decided to focus mainly on the content of the Australia trip as well as how it fits into the bigger picture.
 - Original IG description: “What’s Happening in our Youth Programs?” Learn how to get support for a youth or intergenerational activity, including social and environmental

- justice actions that are grounded in Quaker ways. Provide input to our future directions together in service of a vibrant intergenerational PYM and Religious Society of Friends. Come hear updates about our sponsored activities, for example: **last year's visit to Australia Yearly Meeting**, the Quaker Oaks Farm Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp that we co-sponsor with the Wukchumni Tribe and Quaker Oaks Farm, and participation in the "Quakers, First Nations, and American Indians" conference in Philadelphia.*
- Alyssa Nelson and Cathy Walling will then participate in an **Interest Group panel on "Spiritual Accompaniment: Experiences of Eldering and Being Eldered"** organized by M&O, on **Monday at 3:15**.
 - YPCC members will be available to chat during the **Open Committee Meetings** on **Saturday and/or Monday at 4:45pm** (we intend to announce which one in the *Daily Miracle*).
 - **Plenary sessions**: members of YPCC will attend plenaries throughout the week
 - In the **Monday evening all-ages Plenary V**, we'll hear Alyssa, Thistle, and Cathy's travel minute endorsements from travelling in the ministry to Australia Yearly Meeting.
 - YPCC Clerk and YPC will participate as usual in the **Evaluation Meeting** on Wednesday afternoon.
 - Alyssa will be participating in and supporting various activities with JYM, Children's Program, and Young Adult Friends throughout the week.
 - Of particular note this year: Alyssa will be helping JYM with its three "Mini-AVP" sessions in addition to its "Respectful Relationships" (sexuality education) workshop. This year, the AVP facilitators and Alyssa have worked to link the two activities thematically, focusing on "Power in Relationships."

State of the YPCC

The YPC Committee continues to meet once a month via conference call to talk about pending matters, review proposals and requests for funding or other support, receive updates on events, and carry out subcommittee work. The Supervisor communicates more frequently with the Coordinator, usually by email and phone. We also had our annual face-to-face meeting during College Park Quarterly Meeting's winter gathering, where we shared space with JYM Committee, which also came to CPQM to have a meeting and to participate with the CPQM teen program. We appreciate Berkeley Friends Meeting for hosting us during CPQM. We used this time to get acquainted, delegate to our subcommittees, decide how to face increased health insurance premium for the Coordinator, and finish a performance review of the Coordinator (Alyssa). We came out of the meeting strengthened as a committee and more clear about what we need to do next. We also express thanks for the work Steve Leeds has put into being Alyssa's supervisor for the past few years and for Barbara Babin during the transition as Barbara prepares to take on the supervisor role next year.

As we've said in previous reports: Simply put, the YPCC and YPC's work falls into two main categories: 1) committee work with support from the coordinator and 2) coordinator work with support from the committee. This work is organized around a Goals and Objectives document and subcommittee structure that the committee approved in June 2014 and which is posted on the PYM website:

http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/ypcc_GoalsObjectives_2014_06_AnnualReport.pdf

The YPCC has had a Communications Subcommittee that has struggled and would be much more effective if it could collaborate with an empowered Communications Committee. **YPCC has expressed**

its support to M&O for the proposal to create a standing Communications Committee and to have the YPC be *ex officio* to it. Alyssa has already been participating in the Electronic Communications Subcommittee of M&O and will be present for their interest group on Sunday evening and other meetings of the ECSC at Annual Session.
(http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/PYMRestructureProposalv5July_2017.pdf).

YPC and YPCC Collaboration with Other PYM entities

Annual Session-Related Activities

In addition to the highlighted activities above that the YPC and YPCC will be participating in, here is a summary list of types of work we do throughout the year to prepare for Annual Session:

- Continued support to various age-based programs of PYM (Junior Yearly Meeting/JYM teens and adult support committee, Children's Program Committee, Young Adult Friends)
 - Supporting JYM, CPC, YAFs, and M&O with program planning and coordination of communication about joint activities and cooperative scheduling
 - JYM and CPC:
 - Supporting discernment around equity in compensation to adults who volunteer with Children's Program and JYM, as well as improving visibility and appreciation of these volunteers. (Both programs comp the registration costs for their volunteers up to the cost of a shared dorm, and Children's Program has had an additional stipend in recent years that they agreed to lay down this year.)
 - Financial assistance requests: Improving awareness of options and access to information
 - Supporting JYM's discernment around sleeping arrangements and their decision to try out mixed-gender sleeping this year to better include trans* and non-binary gender participants
 - Supporting JYM and CPC outreach to potential volunteers (FRAPs and Teachers)
 - Improving Youth Worker Application Form again this year
 - Use of PYM website, email, Facebook for outreach
 - Use of GoogleDocs for collaboration and record-keeping
 - YAFs:
 - Pre-Retreat planning
 - Integrating with the rest of YM
 - YAF schedule, structure, and group identity
- Collaboration with M&O, Presiding Clerk, Assistant to Clerk, Registrars, Electronic Communications
 - Improving registration forms and processes for Annual Session, especially meeting the needs of younger Friends, families, and the various youth programs
 - Helping revise last year's Community Expectations for all attendees
 - Helping revise PYM's Child Abuse Prevention Policy
 - Serving on the Electronic Communications Subcommittee of M&O, particularly on the website working group

- Presiding Clerk's Team Calls: Logistics, Action, Youth, and YM-QM Collaboration

Program and Calendar Highlights

The updated Youth & Intergenerational Calendar on the PYM website continues to serve as a public portal for anyone interested in learning more about youth-related activities

(<http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/calendar/>)

Upcoming:

- YAF Retreat before Annual Session, aka "pre-retreat"
- Golden Rule Action Camp (training in nonviolence and sailing with Friends and Veterans for Peace)
- Helping SCQM with outreach for Fall Fellowship to help more young Friends attend and hear guest Ben Pink Dandelion speak

In the works:

- Return of the "Becoming Adult Allies to Youth" workshops -- on hiatus this year and last year, with the exception of offering it 6 times in Australia. Meetings that would like to host it, please contact Alyssa.
- Gathering of Youth-serving committees of YM and QMs for better coordination
- Supporting a budding partnership between Sierra Friends Center and the Nisenan Tribe, based on the learnings we've had with the Wukchumni-Quaker Oaks Farm partnership

Recent:

- 4th Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp at Quaker Oaks Farm (Visalia, CA), April 10-14, 2017, <https://quakeroaksfarm.org/blodgevents/service-camp-registration>
 - YPCC co-sponsors this with the Wukchumni Tribe and Quaker Oaks Farm
 - See dedicated section below for details
- YAF Clerking Workshop, May 26-28 at Sierra Friends Center with co-facilitators Diego Navarro and Barbara Babin
 - YPCC supported this event financially, logistically, and spiritually
 - See dedicated section below for details

Links to YPCC Documents & Communications

- Webpage: <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/>
- Calendar: <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/calendar/>
- RepCom 2017 Report: <https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/2017/documents/pym-committee-reports/representative-committee-docs/ypcc-report-repcom-2017/>
- Other past YPCC reports and epistles: <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/category/yearly-meeting-docs/ypcc/>

Next year, working with the PYM website team, Alyssa hopes to create a more user-friendly YPC Committee page on the site, with lists and links to things like epistles and past reports. As it is now you have to scroll through the reverse-chronological list of posts that is automatically generated by Wordpress. Stay tuned.

Budget

As we do each Spring, we submitted our detailed annual budget request to Finance Committee. Here are some highlights, summarized (and in spots elaborated for clarification for the audience of this report) from the narrative portion of that budget request:

Background: Since the 2009 inception of having a YP Committee and Coordinator, many of the YPCC line items have changed somewhat with fine-tuning thanks to data gathered about our expense patterns, shifts in programmatic priorities, and the addition of the Bob Vogel Endowment. In past years' budget proposals, we have done our best when requesting increases to find ways to reduce other lines to minimize net increases, regularly finishing the year under budget. Last year (2016), we reached a point where reducing such items became no longer possible without affecting program priorities. However, a combination of factors has allowed us to keep the [proposed] net increase for 2017-2018 to \$868.

COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment): Is mandated by the original proposal for the YPC position, and there has been a small COLA each year except for 0% in 2016-2017, otherwise ranging from 1.26% to 2.3%. We base it on the amount calculated by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics via CalPERS on May 1st: *"The 2017 annual CPI is 718.955 and the rate of inflation is 1.26%."*
<https://www.calpers.ca.gov/page/retirees/cost-of-living/cola>

Health Insurance: To create the 2017-2018 budget proposal we used the 2017 monthly premium rate rather than guessing at what 2018 rates might be. With the volatility in politics and the health insurance market, we do not have adequate information to predict for 2018 at all. Also, we will be working with the YPC to see if there are alternate plans; when we tried to do so for 2017, we found the options for individual plans very limited by a number of factors, for example, what plans are offered in the marketplace and which of those are accepted by the YPC's medical providers. (Note: PYM cannot offer the YPC a group plan because we would need to have 2 or more covered employees to do so. We looked at Friends Mutual Health Group, but at this time their premiums are even higher for lesser coverage than CoveredCA's.) Health insurance costs make up a significant increase in budget and expenses over the years, with costs doubling since 2011 to \$9,150 in 2016-2017.

No raise: Since 2011, the present Coordinator hasn't received a raise. However, we have found ways to instead improve the various benefits (e.g., adding retirement, increasing paid time off, increasing office expenses/equipment monthly pre-tax reimbursement, adding a small per diem for travel), thereby creating only small budget increases or finding the funds within the existing budget.

In lieu of raise this year, and fixing a past omission: This year in lieu of a raise in wages (and for other practical reasons), we are looking into the possibility of leasing a car for the YPC. We have done preliminary research about the various costs involved in leasing and believe that this can be mostly accomplished within the existing travel budget. If costs exceed the capacity of the YPCC budget, for this first year we will use the Vogel endowment interest funds (aka

Youth Programs Fund), which the YPCC administers and may use for non-salary-related items in the budget or for activities outside of the YPCC budget.

Leasing a car would also necessitate car insurance, about which we've talked with PYM's current insurer, Guide One. *From the beginning of the YPC's employment, insurance should have been procured and included in the budget to eliminate the personal liability of the YPC while traveling on behalf of PYM (i.e., while driving a rental car or personal car). We are unclear whether such insurance could be added to the budget now, so we have left it out at this time with the intention of purchasing it as part of the above-mentioned spending plan for the overall car leasing expenses unless otherwise advised.*

If we proceed with the car lease, we will draw up written agreements, per advice of a lawyer on our committee and unity of the YPC Committee.

Stewarding the Bob Vogel Endowment / Youth Programs Fund

Applications are due to the YPCC on or before March 20th, June 20th, September 20th and December 20th (near the equinoxes and solstices). <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/resources-funding/>

We continue to be grateful to have the semi-annual interest income from the Bob Vogel Endowment as our "Youth Programs Fund" to support the activities of our committee, to fund projects, and to encourage involvement of more and more young Friends.

Although we usually fund Quaker-specific activities, YPCC will consider funding other social/environmental action, especially by young Friends who have some kind of anchoring support in place (e.g., support can range from being connected with a small group of 2+ Friends to having a formal support or anchor committee) and who are willing to report back to YPCC/PYM/their Meeting. We have asked to discuss with M&O how this relates to the Leadings Fund.

We continue to find good reason to utilize some of the fund to have our YPC Committee attend one event per year in conjunction with our face-to-face committee meeting; this has shown benefits both to our committee (by creating a greater shared understanding among us about the state of our Society, its needs and its strengths) and to the host events/organizations (so far SCQM and CPQM). We also see there might be benefit to us getting together solely for the purpose of committee work.

We thank Finance Committee and Treasurer for continuing to do a good job communicating with us about the endowment's investment in Friends' Fiduciary, and the Treasurer for disbursing funds in such a timely manner upon our request.

Information about the Fund is online: <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/resources-funding/>

Youth Programs Fund Income

Detailed accounting is available from the PYM Treasurer. This section summarizes how we use the funds available to us in alignment with our goals and objectives.

- Total Income from Bob Vogel Endowment interest so far: **\$57,046.21 total June 2014 - June 2017.**
 - Received twice a year (in June and December each year)
 - Range of interest income payments to Fund so far: **\$7,707.67 - \$9,121.34**
- Other income (donations): **\$129.00**
- Current available (estimated taking into account earmarked amounts): **approx. \$10,000**

Youth Programs Fund Expenditures: Projects and Activities Funded

We fund and co-sponsor **events (approx. range \$500-\$3,000):**

- Spring Youth Service-Learning Camp, *2013, 2015, 2016, 2017*
- YAF Clerking Workshop, *May 2017*
- YAF Pre-Annual Session Retreats
- YAF Couple Enrichment Workshop, *April 2016*

We provide organizational support for **new programs, new outreach, new connections, and novel experiments or special events (approx. range \$250-\$2,000):**

- Seed funding for a new scholarship fund for the El Salvador Service-Learning Trip, *2017*
- Travelling Ministry of YPC and a YAF in Australia, *June-August 2016*
- Golden Rule Action Camp, *upcoming*
- Western Young Friends New Year's Gathering - 40th Anniversary (used for participant registration and travel assistance, including a handicap-accessible van rental, and other general expenses), *December 2014 & 2015*
- Composting toilet to improve the camping area at Quaker Oaks Farm for youth and intergenerational gatherings (for materials; built in part during a campout with some young adult Friends and Wukchumni): *February 2015*
- AVP Basic Training hosted by PYM Young Adult Friends (for food, materials, meeting space, facilitators): *March 2015*
- YAF Leadership Trainings: *May 2015*
- "Cracking the Codes: The System of Racial Inequity" video streaming rights to be shared throughout PYM, by Racial Justice Subcommittee of PYM's M&O, crackingthecodes.org : *April 2015*
- "Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with America's Native Peoples." Honorarium and travel costs to bring facilitator Paula Palmer to PYM Annual Session 2015 to conduct this workshop, hosted by Racial Justice Subcommittee of PYM's M&O, boulderfriendsmeeting.org/ipc-right-relationship , *July 2015*
- Outreach materials and logo design for YPCC (by the YPCC with a YAF who has graphic design training)

We continue to foster Friends' and our partners' **participation in Quaker activities and spiritual development** when other funding is not available (**approx. range \$100-\$5,600**):

- Intervisitation between Quarterly Meetings
- Participation in a variety of spiritual development workshops and events, as leaders or participants (especially those who do not have access to other financial assistance, e.g., they are friends of Friends and/or unaffiliated with with a local Meeting, or other assistance does not exist)

- Eldering Workshop, *April 2016*
- YAF attendance at Mystics Retreat, *February 2016*
- Quaker Earthcare Witness conference
- YAF “Continuing Revolution” Conference on theme of Equality at Pendle Hill
- Youth to attend PYM Annual Session
- Wukchumni visitors to PYM Annual Session 2015: 2 Adults and 2 Children, travel and registration
- YAFs to travel to IMYM Annual Session
- Teen Intervisitation between CPQM and SCQM
- Travel to camps
- Travel to a service project
- YPCC presence at events
 - CPQM
 - SCQM
 - YAF Retreats
- Eldering / spiritual accompaniment
 - Travelling Ministry of YPC and a YAF in Australia with an elder, *2016*
 - Eldering at PYM, *2016, 2017*
- Opportunities to put Quaker values toward social and environmental action in the world
 - Women’s March on Washington, *January 2017*
 - FCNL Spring Youth Lobby Day, *2016*
 - Delegates to the “Quakers, First Nations and American Indians” Conference in Philadelphia: 4 Quakers and 4 Wukchumni Yokuts (including 4 teens and 4 adults), *November 2016*
 - Service projects

Spring Camp at Quaker Oaks Farm - Report

This section is adapted from a report of the Quaker Oaks Farm Board of Directors. For more information, contact Melissa Lovett-Adair, YPCC member and Chair of Quaker Oaks Farm at <chair@quakeroaksfarm.org>.



Spring Service Learning Camp 2017 was amazing! The focus of camp this year was on this land, Pa'an, and the indigenous people of it (the Wukchumni Yokuts), the plants and especially the water.

We learned about the living cultures, rich traditions and the history of Native Americans in California, including the ongoing impacts of genocide. We also learned ways to heal from intergenerational trauma and to be allies to one another. The skilled facilitation of Yaynicut Franco (Wukchumni) and Alyssa Nelson (YPC PYM) provided opportunities to learn experientially, through activities that generated thinking and processing together. While addressing challenging topics we had fun, made friends, laughed and played together.





Steven and Mary Lee (Visalia) presented an engaging and meaningful service project creating a pollinator habitat on the farm. Each step of the process was completed by the youth from preparing the soil, planting, laying irrigation and mulch. Each camper took home a Quick Guide so they could create a similar habitat in their home garden. The entire week we talked about the importance of caring for the land, a central aspect of the Wukchumni and the Native American ethos. This hands-on project gave campers a concrete opportunity to invest their energy in caring for this land and their future.

With gratitude for the rain we braved the elements and followed the watershed up to Kaweah Lake and Terminus Dam where we learned about the history and construction of the dam. At the Visitor Center some of the Wukchumni youth saw photos of their ancestors in the museum display. It was moving to hear the elders pointing out relatives and telling stories of individuals and it brought home in a very tangible way that we are on ancestral Yokuts lands.

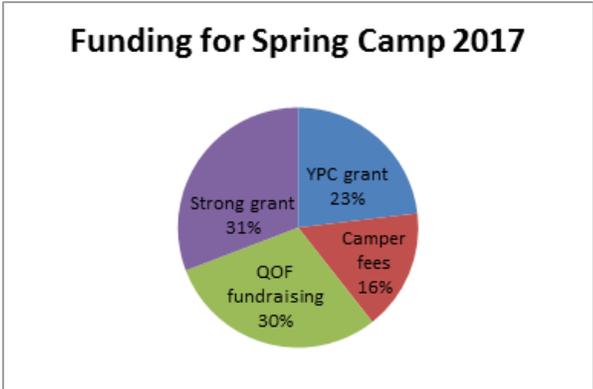
From there we traveled upstream to Hospital Rock in Sequoia National Park where we viewed the pictographs and some of the Wukchumni girls demonstrated acorn processing at the communal grinding rock used by their ancestors.

The QOF logo water bottles were used by all campers and eliminated the need for single use water bottles at camp. The impact of plastics in the environment and importance of clean safe water were explored. Water bottles will be available for purchase at PYM to raise funds for



camp environmental projects.

Camp participants this year include 35 campers and 15 staff from 5+ indigenous groups, 8 PYM meetings, and 3 Unitarian Universalists. Nineteen youth were returning from the previous year. The returning campers help to establish the culture of acceptance and respect that permeates the camp.



Keeping camp accessible to all youth who wish to attend regardless of ability to pay is a central commitment of the project. Generous support from the Bob Vogel Endowment (YPC grant) and contributions from individual Friends (QOF fundraising) make this possible. A grant from the Strong Foundation paid for the service project.

Australia Trip Reflections

See the supplement to this report, "Reflections on Traveling in the Ministry to Australia Yearly Meeting in June-August 2016" (7/12/17): https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/annual-session-minutes-reports/2017-annual-session-reports-and-minutes/#Youth_Programs_Coordinating_Committee_YP_Coordinator

YAF Clerking Workshop, May 26-28, 2017 - Reflections

This past spring the YPCC sponsored a clerking workshop at Sierra Friends Center, located in the beautiful foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Northern California near Grass Valley and Nevada City. The YPCC supported the workshop financially, logistically, and spiritually. We covered the cost of rental, food, supplies, and facilitators using a combination of the YP Fund and participant contributions on a sliding scale. Alyssa Nelson, in her role as YPC, helped the YAF Clerks plan and execute the logistics. Many thanks to Diego Navarro (PYM Presiding Clerk) and Barbara Babin (a YPCC member and former clerk of PYM's M&O) for co-facilitating, to Sierra Friends Center for hosting, and to our YPCC committee members who lent their support in various ways.

Participants ranged in age from early 20s to 70s, including Friends who are committee clerks or presiding clerks as well as Friends new to clerking and/or new to our Society. The 14 participants and 2 facilitators came from 9 Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups. About half came from Reno MM (PYM) and Carson City (independent). Two even came from North Pacific YM (Eugene MM).

Evaluation feedback strongly supports doing more such workshops annually, again at the Sierra Friends Center site, again on a holiday weekend (this time it was Memorial Day), and again on the topic of clerking as well as on a variety of other topics related to Quaker spiritual formation. There was a specific request for a workshop on eldering, as word has gotten around about last year's eldering workshop at Ben Lomond Quaker Center and the positive impacts of loving eldering at PYM Annual Session. Suggested changes were mostly minor logistical ones or requests for information and improved communication that can easily be accommodated next time.

Comments from YPCC-affiliated Participants of the Clerking Workshop:

Although we would have loved more YAFs present, we are very happy to say that almost half of the attendees came from Reno/Carson City, who shared with us that they sometimes feel far from PYM activities and were glad this workshop was available and close to them. We are very grateful to Barbara and Diego for facilitating a very deep, reflective workshop that emphasized clerking as a spiritual practice, and to Sierra Friends Center for hosting it. As for how it is impacting me, I'm feeling more confident and am realizing that I'm probably at that time when I need to stop feeling like a 'new' Quaker, especially after someone at the workshop who has been a Quaker for something like 40 years said she learned a lot!

--Bertha Peña, YPCC Clerk & YAF--

The workshop was well-organized around group and pair activities, with time for discussion and questions, as well as individual reflection. Despite many attendees not knowing each other prior to the start of the weekend, everyone opened up pretty quickly, allowing Spirit to flow throughout our time together. I think we could all say we learned a lot from each other on the art of clerking.

--Rebekah Percy, YAF Co-Clerk--

The workshop helped me think about the variety of different types of clerking needs we have in our YM, QMs, and MMs. One realization I had thanks to the framework the facilitators provided is how challenging in particular the JYM Adult Committee Clerk and members' roles are. The JYM Adult Committee work requires more than 'just' clerking a group of Friends in seeking unity, and at the same time that's exactly what it is. It's event planning, project management and logistics, chaperoning minors, being a resource person to parents/guardians, and more, and then on top of that mentoring JYM teen leaders in their own clerking, event planning, project management and logistics, and spiritual care of the wider JYM community. In the words of another Friend, it's 'meta-clerking.' This is inspiring me to think about how to work with the JYM Adult Committee, Nominating Committee, M&O, and other elders to get more clear about these JYM Adult roles, the skills and support needed, and saner ways to go about the work that don't lead to chronic burnout and that could actually be fun and spiritually fulfilling.

--Alyssa Nelson, YPC--

Sampling of the comments from other participants:

Something I'll take home that's important to me:

"The understanding that I need to deepen/clarify my own spiritual foundation to be a better clerk."

"To bring the role of clerk to my daily life. Let the Spirit lead me."

"Healing of my heart"

What surprised you?

"It was a mystical experience for me... I felt I was holding the hand of God."

"I learned the difference between a clerk and chair, how to stay back, let the spirit guide the way instead of [to] resist or try to guide my way."

"The many implied duties of the clerk."

"How 'deep' and 'spiritual' the role of clerking can be!"

"How much fun it was! Laughter, joy, love!"

"That it wasn't all nuts and bolts but had a deeper exploration."

"How quickly and fully the group of participants gathered."

"I could do the same workshop again and still learn."

"How I was able to just settle in to the space and the present moment."

Other feedback:

"Nicely done. You guys had the wisdom and authority and experience to do this well."

"Come to Oregon and Washington."

"This was ideal, affordable cost, food, housing, and Spirit in abundance."

"Exceptional content, method, leadership."

"A fantastic location for me personally."

"I would like more deep skills developing liturgy and practicing deepening the Spirit in the meeting."

Want more in depth on "how to open to the Light - the way early Friends meant it!"

--end report--