

The Daily Miracle

FAREWELL TO Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Wednesday July 17, 2019

Wednesday Schedule

6:00-7:00	No Bible Study
7:00-8:00	Breakfast – Dining Hall
7:30-8:00	Worship with Quaker Center online – plenary tent
8:00-9:30	Interest Groups – various
9:30-10:00	CLEAR ROOMS
10:00-11:15	Closing Plenary – plenary tent
11:30-12:30	Closing Worship – plenary tent
12:45-1:30	Lunch – Dining Hall
1:30-3:30	Evaluation Meeting for PYM Clerks and Officers – Maple

Interest Groups

8:00-9:30 a.m.

Speak the Truth We See and Listen to the Truth Others Bring: Quaker Advocacy in a Tumultuous Time

(Plenary Tent) Stephen Donahoe, sponsored by FCNL (Friends Committee on National Legislation)

FCNL, our Quaker lobby in Washington D.C. works on a daily basis to empower Friends with the tools to be effective advocates, which requires both listening and truth-telling. We will share strategies about how to communicate effectively with people from diverse backgrounds and differing perspectives. Then we will put these strategies into effect, taking action on a timely peace and justice issue.

El Salvador Projects – Making a Difference

(Fireside) Robert Broz, sponsored by Latin American Concerns Committee

El Salvador Projects of Palo Alto Meeting will present a look at the current social, political, and economic situation in El Salvador: recent elections, gangs, crime, and the northern migration. You will hear how El Salvador Projects makes a difference in the lives of students and their communities.

Committing to Anti-Racism Work

(Carson) Zae Illo, sponsored by Peace and Social Order (P&SO)

Learning from those most impacted by systemic racism is a way to refine our understanding of what actions we can take to counter racism and systemic injustice. Please join us for a session of listening to the experiences of PYM Friends of Color, followed by discussion in small groups, focusing on forming individual commitments, small and large, to further anti-racism work.

It Takes a Village to Raise a Child; It Takes a Meeting to Raise a Quaker: What's Working for Our Families and Their Children?

(Bobcat) Suellen Lowry and Gail Eastwood, sponsored by Religious Education Subcommittee of M&O

What's working for religious education of children in Quaker meetings and Quaker families? How do we nurture the spiritual development of our children? This interest group provides a forum to facilitate sharing and connections among parents, teachers and interested community members about intentions and strategies for a Quaker children's religious education. We'll listen to some people with

creative experience in their meetings and families, have a chance to engage in informal “shop talk” about what’s working well for our children and their parents, and share thinking about the challenges the meetings are facing.

Closing Plenary

10:00-11:15 a.m.

Main Agenda

- PYM Epistles - all age groups
- Nominating Committee
- Naming Committee
- JYM new officers/committees

Other Events Today

No Bible Study this Morning

The 6:00 am Bible study shown on the printed schedule will (or did) NOT happen on Wednesday.

Evaluation Meeting for PYM Officers and Committee Clerks

If you are an Officer or Committee Clerk (outgoing or incoming), please attend the Annual Session Evaluation Meeting at **1:30-3:30 PM in Maple**. This session is your opportunity to provide critical feedback regarding how this Annual Session went from your perspective in service to the Yearly Meeting. If you cannot attend, please ask another member of your committee to bring your feedback. See Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk, if you have questions.

Thank the Cooks

Wednesday breakfast, toward the end, someone will call for silence (probably Julie Harlow since this is her idea), we will ask the kitchen staff to come out and we will give them three cheers of gratitude.

Before You Leave

Clear Rooms by 10:00

All sleeping spaces must be empty by 10:00am.

Linens - Leave in Room

In contrast to instructions for those who left earlier in the week, today just leave your rented linens in your room.

Name Badges to Info Booth

Please leave your name badge holders in the boxes in the information tent. Reusing our eclectic collection of name badge holders saves us a substantial amount of money. — Your Registrars

Check Lost and Found

Please check the Lost and Found box at the Information booth. We will only hold over items that are – in our judgement – valuable; this will not include water bottles.

Worship Sharing Evaluations

We ask all Worship/Sharing participants to fill out an evaluation (if you haven’t already done so) and place it directly in the bright yellow box at the Information Booth on the patio. — Julie Harlow

Annual Session Evaluations

Help make future Annual Sessions even better than this year’s by filling out an [evaluation on the PYM website](#).

If you are unable to fill out the online form, see the Assistant to the Clerk for a paper form. If you have trouble with the on-line form, send an email to PYMAssistanttotheClerk@gmail.com. The deadline for submitting your evaluation is August 4, but fill it out as soon as you can after you leave so the information is fresh in your memory. — Sharon Gates, Assistant to the Clerk

Feedback on Accessibility

The arrangements committee would like to ask any friend with a disability or mobility problem how your experience of accessibility at Walker Creek Ranch has been for you. Where did you stay? How did it work for you? Any problems? We would also like to hear any suggestions you may have. Send to pym.arrangements@gmail.com

Other Things

Memory Book for Alyssa Nelson

Time Period has been extended.

To help us express our appreciation for her long service to the Yearly Meeting, Friends are invited to participate in creating a memory book to capture meaningful, humorous, joyous, inspirational, and/or stimulating moments that you shared with our former Youth Programs Coordinator, Alyssa Nelson. Book pages and art supplies are available at a table at the back of the patio near the Arrangements/Information tent. Materials will be available through the end of Annual Session. If you can't find them, please look for Melissa Lovett-Adair or Bertha Peña. — Youth Programs Coordinating Committee

Packing Assistance Needed

We are two disabled women staying in Willow. We need help when rooms are cleared out, helping to finish packing and carry out many suitcases and bags and medical equipment. Two or three people would make short work of it. Please look for us. — Peni Hall and Julia Bazar

Good Neighbor Signs for Sale

\$10.00 after closing plenary in the tent, to benefit the Guatemala Scholarship Program. "No matter where you are from, we're glad you're our neighbor" In Spanish, English and Arabic. — Donna Higgins Smith

Prayers for Pakistan

Please hold Pakistan and its leadership in the light as it seeks its way to become a peaceful and prosperous nation, and that the long time suffering of its people might be alleviated. — Saima Farrukh and Dia Farrukh

Services

In case of medical emergency

During the day, go to the information booth on the patio outside the dining hall; if no one is there to assist you, go to the Walker Creek office.

Maintenance issues

During the day, go to the information booth.

Beyond Annual Session

Overdose Awareness Day

Did you know that accidental overdose is the leading cause of death in Americans under age 50? It is a main cause of reduced life expectancy in this country. More people are lost to overdose than to gun violence or auto accidents. Central Coast Friends Meeting (CCFM) is sponsoring an event to bring attention to ending the overdose crisis. It will be held on August 29 at 6:00 pm at the San Luis Obispo Library Community Room

This will be an evening tabling fair and will include a Narcan training (opioid antidote). A local hospice will close the evening with a candlelight memorial. This work is led by the ministry of a meeting member, in recognition of international Overdose Awareness Day (Aug. 31st). If you have questions or just want to learn more, see Kim Lacey / Central Coast Friends Meeting.

World Quaker Day: October 6, 2019

Emelyn Buskirk, Co-representative for Friends World Committee for Consultation

Celebrate our worldwide, multicultural Quaker family. The day will start in New Zealand, Japan, Taiwan, and Australia. Evangelical Friends in Africa and Bolivia will be celebrating, along with Conservative Friends in Ohio and Iowa. It's a great opportunity to learn about our whole community. You can find more information and lots of ideas on the website worldquakerday.org. I, Emelyn, look forward to hearing how your meeting celebrated.

Quaker Work Tour In Guatemala

For the 11th year, Progresia is offering the Teaching English Experience, a fun and rewarding week where you get to know some of our exceptional students and visit the colonial town of Antigua. We had 22 teachers last year from all over North America paired with 22 students participating in our new, fun-filled curriculum. We expect to have our maximum of 25 teachers this year, so reserve a space early. For more information about Teaching English, tours, and Guatemala Friends Scholarship Program (Progresia) visit www.guatemalafriends.org or contact Donna Smith, dforestvil@aol.com.

Progresia is currently supporting 8 secondary students and 76 university students studying in Guatemala. Through education and leadership classes, we are providing opportunities to eager and talented students, mostly Mayan, who would not otherwise be able to afford higher education. We thus address root causes of migration in Guatemala.

Sign up to receive our Update and see our display in Maple. Your purchases of Guatemalan textiles, donations, and sponsoring a student are other ways to support our students. Mil gracias.
— Donna Smith

Breathe Deeply

From Ministry in Meeting for Worship:

Silence connects us in Meeting like trees are connected in a forest.

Silence is:

Nothing/everything
Calming/awakening
Peaceful/exciting
Comforting/uncomfortable
Restful/energizing
Expectant/reflective

From Elementary Children's Program

“When will we also teach them what they are?”

We should say to each of them:

Do you know what you are?

You are a marvel. You are unique.

In all the years that have passed,
there has never been another child like you.

Your legs, your arms, your clever fingers,
the way you move.

You may become a Shakespeare,
a Michelangelo, a Beethoven.

You have the capacity for anything.

Yes, you are a marvel.

And when you grow up, can you then harm
another who is, like you, a marvel?

You must work; we must all work,
to make the world worthy of its children.

— *Pablo Casals*

PYM at Walker Creek Again in 2020

It was announced in Plenary session yesterday that the next PYM Annual Session will once again be held at Walker Creek Ranch, July 10-15, 2020.