

Pacific Yearly Meeting Historian/Archivist Report to Annual Session 2020

The archivist's Job is to "gather, organize, and preserve materials relating to the development and history of Pacific Yearly Meeting, and its precursor, the Pacific Coast Association of Friends." The archives of Pacific Yearly Meeting are deposited in twelve 4-drawer file cabinets at Whittier College, Whittier, California and at Swarthmore College Library in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.

This year I was aided substantially by the work of George Mills, who helped to scan and print Yearly Meeting Minutes to update the archives and library collections, and to post our PacYM minutes on the Yearly Meeting website. Since the archivist occasionally responds to requests for information, we are also printing a complete collection of Minutes for the archivist.

A continuing focus is to organize the archives at Whittier to facilitate access to the collection there. Once it's organized, we will make a list of everything available there so materials will be easier to find. At the moment, Whittier College Library is closed, so this project will wait until it reopens.

The archivist is an ex-officio part of the Discipline Revision Committee, and this year I have begun to research best archival practices for selecting material for the PacYM archives to deposit in our very limited space at Whittier to inform the revision of materials in the discipline that relate to archives and the archivist. I am working on recommendations for Quarterly and Monthly Meetings they can consider in determining what to send to the archives, what to keep, and how best to keep materials for your own archives.

The archivist is also an ex-officio member of the PacYM Communications Committee, and works with that committee to develop responsible policies for materials on the Pym website

PacYM's Historian/Archivist is Jan Tappan (Orange Grove).