

# 2019 PYM Annual Session Evaluation Summary

## Who responded to the survey?

### **Mostly older people responded, with a notable lack of responses from young adults.**

We received 79 responses to the survey; 76 of these stated their age class. The responses (of those who stated age) were mostly from older people. Only five responses (7%) were from attendees under the age of 36; 25% were from attendees 36-60 years old, while a full 68% (two thirds) of the responses were from the over 60 crowd.

### **Mostly the people who responded had been to AS before.**

Only one first time attender responded. Almost half of the responders had been to AS more than ten times—29% of those responded reported attending more than 21 times!

## Did people have an overall positive experience?

Remarkably, the respondents *unanimously* strongly agreed or agreed that they were glad they came. You might expect that anyone who'd attended AS multiple times would tend to like the AS experience. But the lack of a single dissenting voice, and the preponderance of "strong" agreement to the positive evaluation is remarkable.

People also mostly agreed or strongly agreed that the worship was deep, with a scattering of neutral and disagree responses.

## Scheduling AS over a weekend helpful for you?

Mostly people who attended this session (which included the weekend) either liked the schedule to include a weekend or didn't care one way or the other.

Agree or strongly agree—39

Neutral or no opinion—34

Disagree or strongly disagree—5

## Quiet Room, Community Night, Monday Night Dance

Event	Number reporting attendance	Number who'd like to see this event continued
Quiet room	28	46
Community night	34	36
Monday night dance	15	23

## What affected people positively in this Annual Session?

**The responses to this open-ended question were quite varied, and worth reading (see appendix).** The most common response was worship sharing, followed closely by fellowship--talk with new and old Friends. Contact with other Friends in these two ways emerged far more strongly than the value of our shared worship (which did come in for a mention here and there). Business meetings came in for more notice—clumped together these responses constitute a strong second to the value of worship sharing and

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conversation/connection with individuals. People valued the FGC discernment process, the keynote address, the skilled clerking, the general good order of plenaries. Many other aspects of the session were mentioned—notably absent was any comment about community night or the dance.

### What changes would people like to see?

**We received three pages of thoughtful comments to this question, also worth reading in their entirety** (see appendix). Some of the repeated themes (in no particular order) were:

- Refer more business to Rep Com; fewer/shorter plenaries, focused on discernment.
- Bring back the old community night.
- Missed the children at Meeting for Memorials—bring them back, not just for the tag end.

One comment on the Quiet Room: uncomfortable chairs and lighting, hard to find. “Don’t get rid of the Quiet Room, improve it with chairs people want to sit on.”

One request to go back to the Monday through Saturday schedule.

### Feedback on food, registration, lodging, and logistics

We received a full five pages (!) of suggestions for improvement in the nuts and bolts of Annual Session, with a few words of praise for the Arrangements Committee interspersed (see appendix). Many of these comments need to go back to the Arrangements Committee, or to whoever communicates with the site about such things.

There were several mentions of transportation logistics and ride sharing. Better transportation logistics would help more people (especially travelling YAFs) attend, and would improve our carbon footprint. Do we have anyone working on these transportation issues?

There were also a couple of eloquent pleas for more plant-based foods, expressing our commitment to a lowered carbon footprint; some practical suggestions were included. These concerns could be referred by M&O to Unity With Nature—if such a committee existed. Most of the comments about the food were quite positive.

The lack of hot water was a repeated sore point. Can anything be done to help people with this apparent limitation of the site?

Others are not satisfied with the comfort of the lodging. Snafus in dorm assignment came in for a couple of mentions—gender mix-ups, and one mother-son pair assigned to a room with women who were not comfortable sharing space with the child (medications were mentioned).

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## Appendix—Answers to Open-Ended Questions

### What, specifically, affected you positively in this Annual Session?

- Bible Study & Early Quaker Writings Study
- Key note address. Talks with old and new Friends. The 12-step affinity group.
- Among many other things, the presence of David and Trish Johnson, and David's message.
- The chance to be of service and working with such sensitive, joyful, hard-working people. If I had had time to attend more Interest Groups (just 1 plus my own committee's) that would, I am sure, have been rich too.
- the depth of worship, the care and attention to process, and Sandy's spirited clerking.
- Worship sharing, Early Quaker Writing, Mealtime conversations.
- The plenary regarding FGM participation
- finishing commitment as jym co-clerk
- Worship Sharing and Bible Study are always important for me, and they were good. David Johnson and his wife were excellent! It was good to have plenary sessions conducted in good order for the most part. I am very happy that PYM is now part of FGC. We are no longer independent; we are part of Quakerism.
- Friends excitement about a witness on earthcare
- Sandy Kewman's clerking - WOW; W/S group; work with the Nom Com; seeing old Friends.
- The time I spent with the FOC, especially changing some of the sessions to daytime, which meant a lot of people could show up <3
- David Johnson Plenary
- LGBTQ worship sharing
- Some progress was made
- Worship Fellowship is always the highlight of Annual Session for me.
- The eldering and finally finding Unity around FGC affiliation.
- Friends
- The sense of spirit at this PYM and the sense of service.
- Including my mother in Memorials even though she was an attender, not a member.
- Taking the risk to be vulnerable having love reflected back.
- Bible study worship sharing
- JUST BEING WITH QUAKERS FOR NEARLY A WEEK & RELAXING IN THE PARSON'S LOUNGE - WARMTH, SOFT SEATING, OPPTY TO PLAY CARDS/INTERACT WITH YOUNGER GENERATION & OTHER FRIENDS
- Worship sharing group and early Quaker writers.
- association with fgc
- business sessions
- Worship sharing group had depth and strong connections with participants

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- as always, reconnecting with Friends old and new.
- To be honest, the best part was just spending five days with Friends who care deeply about our shared faith, about the health of their Meetings, and about how we can make a positive impact in this troubled world. I reconnected with some people I don't often see, I met some new people, and I had some conversations that offered perspectives I hadn't necessarily thought about previously.
- The experience of being part of the Quaker process
- the continued warm regard from the kitchen staff; the general lack of drama
- I felt for setting clerk handle planner is well.
- the relationships I formed
- Friendly, interesting Quakers
- Meeting others and getting to know them
- My worship sharing group was wonderful. I also like volunteering to help with arrangements. And the Bible Study was great as always.
- Tuesday morning plenary was excellent. As a day visitor I could not come to many things, including the keynote, but this session was full of information and Spirit.
- The clerking of the FGC affiliation' with clarity and compassion and love.  
Experience of being part of a worshipful nominating process
- Memorial meeting, generally spending time and building relationships with Friends from other MMs
- The atmosphere of trust, openness and commitment
- Worship sharing groups
- worship, keynote speaker, plenary flow and spirit
- PYM was revolutionary for my family. It opened doors to my marriage that we had been pounding on for some time to no avail. It brought our family together in a peaceful, supported setting. Worship sharing was powerful beyond words.
- Worship sharing; resolution of FCG affiliation question
- David Johnson's Keynote and Interest group help me somehow handle my grief.
- I felt the clerking at plenaries was good. M&O took good care of us. I really like the site.
- Depth of spirituality
- Worship sharing and encounters with old and new Friends
- The depth of the plenaries, and the skill of the Clerk.
- The keynote was a profound experience for me and I am grateful to continue attendance at annual session as an important part of my children's sense of community.
- As always I feel the small worship sharing and meeting for worship to be the most spiritual and beneficial.
- Opportunities to connect with and worship with Friends
- people, worship sharing, sight of bobcat across creek

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- Financial and spiritual support
- I attended the JYM evening session as an audience and participant and got to learn how sex and drugs are taught to junior young friends. I wish I was able to experience this when I was a teenager! It would have saved me a lot of headaches and heartaches growing up (and even into adulthood). I'm so glad that was bold enough to teach progressive values on how to handle sex, relationships, and drugs in life.
- Worship sharing group / lounge to hang out in.
- Respectful relationships
- I really felt Spirit move and my heart open as we considered the FGC affiliation proposal. I came to the Annual Session with my mind made up, and knowing my Meeting's clear wishes. I felt I was able to set that aside and wait for Spirit to move, and I felt that it did. I thought the minute was beautifully worded and moving.
- I taught in the Children's Program and had a wonderful time with my co-teacher. I also loved bringing a young person from my Meeting to attend for the first time. His mother works in our Meeting, considers herself part of our community, but works too long hours, as does her husband, to be able to attend, even on the week-end.
- community
- the Disabled in the Light group, witnessing and participating in discernment about FGC, group singing
- PYM was revolutionary for my family. It opened doors to my marriage that we had been pounding on for some time to no avail. It brought our family together in a peaceful, supported setting. Worship sharing was powerful beyond words.
- Worship sharing was deeply moving and constructively provocative. Time spent in dialogue with new and old friends was wonderful, enriching and has given me much to contemplate.
- I felt it was the most spiritually rewarding session ever.
- I felt included and supported. I appreciated having an elder. I enjoyed being with the JYM group.
- As always, the feeling of what the beloved community can be.
- my work with the children and the keynote speakers visit with them
- Seeing the children be nurturing to one another, deep spiritual sharing in worship-sharing, Sandy's worshipful focus, Walker Creek setting and opportunities for great walks, camping, sharing and witnessing the work being done in the world

### • **What, specifically, would you like to have changed in this Annual Session?**

- Don't schedule plenaries over things like the dance.
- I found that keeping up the paper sheets with the names from meeting for memorial meant for a lot of noise when the wind flapped them - making it harder to hear. Also, a projection screen got left up, hiding a name. If

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sheets are going to be left up (and I see that people like to reflect on them), maybe find a way to have them flutter less and be sure we keep them visible. My 2-cents.

- (1) Bring back the facing bench. (2) The Quiet Zone signs outside the plenary tent were on their own unequal to the task of getting Friends to enter in silence. Consider a reminder from the clerks' table and in the Daily Miracle about gathering in silence for plenaries (and why). (3) Suggestion to presiding clerk: when taking the sense of the meeting on an action, instead of asking if Friends approve, ask if anyone is not ready to approve; if no one speaks, it's approved. (4) More self-discipline in final worship session. Not sure how to accomplish this. Additional elders? More religious instruction? (5) Speaking of self-discipline, the words and conduct of certain Friends in the session in which we approved seeking FGC affiliation, while perhaps to be explained by the clouding of judgment from an excess of emotion, were inappropriate in important respects. Going uncorrected as it did by the clerk or from the floor, this misbehavior risked giving newcomers to our business a mistaken understanding about how we do things. (I may write M&O separately about this.) (6) Program scheduling suggestion: give Bible Study the morning slot, at least in alternating years.
- If only there were a way to have more spaciousness in the schedule. But I can't suggest what, if anything, to cut.
- More intergenerational activities
- I shared several concerns with committee people, and they did not get back to me. Although I was listened to in the moment, I did not believe that my input was truly valued.
- really missed the real community night - if it lasts a long time people can always just leave. last time at mt madonna, my performance was vetted ahead of time - perhaps M&O should resume that.
- It seemed to me that there was far less spoken ministry in Meeting for Worship sessions than usual. Also fewer people there?
- The plenary speaker, David Johnson, did not speak to my condition. I left this plenary wondering if I was in the wrong yearly meeting for me. He also was not a good presenter.
- Let Rep Com do some of the business so there is more time for non-business at the AS. Perhaps more reps would come to RepCom if there was more for them to do there. I would go as far as to suggest that we have 2 rep coms to do almost all the business and have the Annual Session do very little business.

And, in follow up to both Annual Session and Rep Com, I think there should be a summary of the questions that Reps should take back to their meetings.

- That these times for friends of color can happen more and more in the daytime
- more free time
- I would have liked it to be a day longer so we could have some

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unstructured time and not relegate the 4th Interest Group to early Wednesday morning.

- Community Night was a dud this year. Only children and a few disorganized adults performed. I missed the talented people who usually do funny skits, the accomplished musicians, the storytellers. I did not miss the longwinded MC - he showed up anyway. Prohibiting our talented Friends from signing up to perform did not work out very well, and I left with regret for what we all missed.
- I would return Community night to something like in the past. I was not comfortable with the way it changed this year.
- Having the children's program only come into Meeting for Memorials at the end was a nuisance and I couldn't tell that the children got anything out of being there. Also, one of the those children missed the opportunity to hear the ministry about herself and her deceased, beloved first day school teacher. Were the children (AND their parent/guardian/sponsors) given the option AND SUPPORT ahead of time to make the choice about attending or missing the Memorial? Personally I find Meeting for Memorials at AS to be one of the most meaningful parts as we hear stories about our community, even people we don't know. I have always been impressed that the children attended the whole thing -- I know it's hard for some, but not all, and just because the Coordinator gets bored doesn't mean that the children and the community should miss out on the experience.
- HMMM. I'M GRATEFUL COST WAS LOWER THAN I REMEMBER (IT'S BEEN 4 YRS SINCE I LAST ATTENDED). GRATEFUL FOR BED COMFORTER DURING COLD NIGHTS. WISH LODGING WAS A LITTLE MORE COMFORTABLE.
- Nothing
- time slot for interest groups - earlier in the day
- I felt that there was not unity about FGC affiliation, only preponderance.
- I can't think of any suggestions at the moment.
- I very much appreciate the planning and work as is
- Move back to our previous weekdays schedule where annual session begins Monday night and ends Saturday afternoon.
- I felt for setting clerk handle planner is well esp the FGC issue
- more activities involving movement! not just for YAFs. moonlight hike, walking workshop, contemplative walking. anything to connect the physical body with the surrounding environment would be amazing.
- More songbooks as singing brought in large numbers of Friends. We made do though
- I know we need to deal with race relations but it feels that we are getting to a point where people are not hearing what others say. But instead want to make sure their thoughts of how they view the world are stated in spite of others feelings. We need to be very tender and loving about these interactions as we try to talk together. Some very hurtful things were said

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that were not totally resolved during annual session. So, those feelings linger. Perhaps a member of M&O needs to attend the race relation interest groups in the future to help the facilitator when participants are not listening to each other. This happened in at least two of the interest groups that i am aware of.

- No night meetings for the nominating committee which led to meeting during plenaries and missing them
- More space for relationship building. Doing business together as a community requires actually BEING a community and it's really not possible to develop that sense of community when the bulk of the week is about reports and business meetings with issues that might be able to be handled through RepCom
- more plenary speakers, fewer or shorter business plenary sessions
- The availability of public transportation!
- More worship sharing
- No conflict with Bible Study if possible
- Slightly cooler weather?
- I think if we need more lodging options we should look into bringing some trailers on campus for the week.
- I'd like to see our Yearly Meeting speak out on issues of justice and peace, especially during this dreadful Trump era when our Quaker values are trampled upon each day.
- More inter generational sessions
- It was great that JYM session talked about ways to prevent STI. But it would have been great if the JYM session also talked about what to do if you or someone you know contracts an STI (sexually transmitted infection) and teach them the resources available in the community if such incident occurred. It would also be great to include a discussion about general symptoms of common STI so the junior young friends can develop a better awareness of their body (know when to get help) and their partner's body (prevent yourself from getting infected and informing your partner to get help).
- Quiet room had uncomfortable chairs and lighting and was hard to find. Lounge was much more comfortable. Don't get rid of Quiet Room, improve it with chars people want to sit in.
- Nothing
- This did not affect me directly, but I heard others complaining that the concerns about FGC affiliation were not heard -- that a whole side of the room was ignored while the Clerk tried to ascertain whether one Friend was going to stand in the way, and then when it seemed not, approval was pushed through. Also, after Meeting for Memorials, at least one person told me they really wanted to speak, but kept being passed up by the microphone carrier. I think M&O needs to put some attention to the people carrying the mics, and help assure that they are paying attention to the whole room.

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- nothing
- At some plenary sessions, I felt like we wasted time by hearing committees present information that had already been sent out in the advance packet. I think we need to hold firmer to the expectation that Friends will prepare for annual session by reading and digesting the information in the advance packet, and reserve annual session itself for collective worship, threshing, and discernment.
- More attenders and better planning on the available lodging versus lodging requests, especially concerning family accommodations in dorms, privacy and medical needs and gendered and / or non-gendered bathroom facilities.
- Community night was not like it has been and I missed that. Also I missed the children with us during the meeting for Memorials
- More conscious efforts to include and welcome newcomers, especially at meals. Maybe there could be some 'interest-type groups' at tables at meals with signs so shy people and new people could sit with others with shared interests and get to know them.
- the keynote speaker needs to be scheduled to see the children on Sunday because some of the children went home on Monday and missed his visit.
- 
- **Please provide any feedback you have regarding food, registration, lodging, or logistics.**
- Excellent food and service from Walker Creek staff.
- More consistently warm water in the women's showers would have been nice. I try (!) to approach life as a journey of discovery and not a judgment on whether or not what unfolds meets my expectations. The cold water didn't hurt me and I carried on. That said, it still would have been nice if it were warmer ; )
- It all worked well for me. I found the check-in process somewhat chaotic, with various stacks of handouts scattered about in a confusing way, W/S signups, maps, schedules, etc. I think everyone should just get the same packet and be done - individual sheets could be available as a secondary backup for special cases only.
- Bravo, Arrangements Committee!
- liked the lounge in carson
- The food was not as good as usual. I needed a scooter, and I got one delivered and picked up by Scootaround.
- The food was problematic. A lot of sauces were made from mixes with additives. Many of the gluten-free options contained sugar.
- Food was okay, but not great. Please continue to allow camping. There was inadequate hot water in the bath house! (like none, and often not even lukewarm)
- 1- I liked having Carson open for hanging out.  
2- All proposals should have been heard in the time spot given to the FGC Threshing. Perhaps that could not be helped this year, but we need

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to hear them all at the beginning and then have 2 listening times afterward.

3- I do not feel that the Listening time on the patio was effective. I think that we need to hear each other's concerns. This year it was a succession of one-on-one conversations that no one else knew about.

4- Do not serve those rubbery, frozen green beans ever again.

5- Is there a way to simplify the identification of vegan or vegetarian items? Jan seems to be working very hard and getting no where (she said one cook was very cooperative). Maybe we need to simplify the categories. Ideally, each dish would have a label on the glass above it, or the choices would be listed outside so we could read it as we come in the door.

6- I wonder if we could offer one or 2 Worship Sharing groups during Affinity Group Time -( Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon) Some of us have committees that meet during the day and do not get to do W/S.

7- Identify first-time attenders on their name tags - I recommend printing them in a different color.

- Great work. Maybe a little more support with rides? I know a bunch of people who showed up alone in their car. Perhaps sending an email to attenders about the responsibility of offering rides
- Food was great. More semi private rooms. Logistics were good
- food is always great, registration went smoothly for me. Noticing a lack of electrical outlets in dorms. More of us are acquiring personal electronics and medical devices.
- Things are fine
- Friends who have not identified themselves as vegetarian will take the vegetarian entree--there does not appear to be anything that can stop that. So the WC Kitchen staff just need to prepare enough of the veggie entrees so the declared vegetarians are sure to get some.
- It's your Memorial Names printer, Paul. It took most of Saturday & half of Sunday with help to finish the names for Memorial Meeting. Mostly due to only 1 "magnum" magic marker. I think 3 would be a sufficient number in future years. I drove to Petaluma Saturday evening to buy more but the store didn't carry "magnum" size. That took 1.5 hours round trip and set back the schedule. It took 2 hours to measure & cut the paper, and the rest of the time to lay out and write the names. About half needed to be worked over with thinner tip pens to make them black enough to all match. I will be happy to do this into the foreseeable future, but I'd like to attend some of the other activities. Last year I attended a W/S group, but didn't feel I had the time this year. I started Saturday after Meeting for Worship, fortunately there were no spelling errors of the ones I completed before the spelling deadline Sunday morning. Personally, I would move the spelling deadline to Saturday noon and make big announcements at the Plenarys before that. The printing of the names is my gift to the Session and a spiritual practice for me. I take a moment with each name to honor that person

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before I begin applying ink to their name. This may be the last time their name is placed before a large group and they are honored, not everyone is spoken of during the Memorial Meeting. A couple of people have told me they take the name of their loved one home with them and keep it. I feel honored I can provide that kind of closure for them. See you next year! Remember: 3 "magnums"!

- All of these seemed ok
- LODGING IS GETTING HARDER FOR THIS OLDER BODY: BED IS LOW, BATHROOM NOT ALWAYS WORKING, BATHHOUSE SHOWERS BITTERLY COLD.
- There was confusion about registration. Even though my meeting's treasurer had sent a check it apparently was not received. There was some confusion about cabin assignments. A couple was erroneously put into a women's cabin late on the second night which caused concern for some in the cabin.
- Please have a hand washing station near the portable toilets outside the plenary tent. We have had that before. Also, the portable toilets needed service at least once during the session.
- Loved the food, was happy with lodging thought everything was handled beautifully
- We should try Pay-as-led next year.
- Food and lodging were good. The arrangements committee did a fantastic job.
- I was happy to get home to a real mattress, but Walker Creek Ranch is, after all, a camp -- not a luxury resort! PYM was absolutely worth spending a few nights on plastic!
- OKAY!  
FOOD: Excellent, both the food and the service.  
LODGING: Sequoia, with the number of lodgers, has inadequate bathing and toilets. The capacity was reduced by 1/3 since last year.  
TO THE FACILITIES MANAGEMENT: Those little nagging stickers that say, "Shorter showers save water" are particularly annoying due to the lack of shower quick shutoff valves. Quick shutoff valves save more water even than "shorter" showers. Shorter. Compared to what?
- I would like to see PYM return to Southern California even if it was once every three years.
- the snoring is out of control. i wish folks would get sleep studies and invest in cpaps. i don't know what i'm going to do next year. i may stay off site. i had my headphones jammed in my ears all night and luckily scored a pillow to put over my head, but it was incredibly challenging to not get sleep because of all the sleep apnea going on in my cabin.
- The food was very good.
- Food was mostly good; all was well
- It would have been nice to know what the food was instead of just knowing it was gluten free . It wasn't clear several times what the food

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was made of to know if it was vegan or not. For example, the breakfast meat, was it pork sausage or chicken sausage, or vegan. All I knew looking at it was that it was gluten free. Registration went well on line and at Walker Creek. I liked my lodging and my roommate. That worked out well. Logistics seemed to go smoothly to me.

- I may have missed it in the email glut, but feel I did not get info in time for early registration. When I did register on the final day I was told I was still too late. Not a big problem, just a note.
- more bathrooms in lodging would be better
- What a lot of dedicated work!!
- all good.
- It seems like it's hardest to coordinate rides \*to\* PYM. Once there, F/friends seem to be able to come together to coordinate exit strategies. I thought it would be worth considering having a sign up for folks to serve PYM by running an hourly shuttle from Walker Creek to Petaluma. Folks can take a shuttle from SFO to Petaluma, but there's no transportation from there. If PYM attendees were encourage to donate their time/vehicle for one shuttle ride (perhaps as part of registration), or even if they were given a small \$ amount off of their PYM registration for being willing to make a shuttle run to Petaluma, it would help. I saw a lot of Young Adult Friends from Southern CA posting on FB that they could get to the airport, but no one had a ride from there. I'm not sure how many of them actually ended up attending.
- I don't think it was quite as good this year, but certainly adequate.
- All very good. Arrangements committee was amazing.
- All very good. My gratitude to those volunteers who make our annual YM gathering possible. It's hard work and should not be taken for granted.
- It's good enuff
- Sufficient housing for families who are not camping.
- Great food!
- Memorial Meeting. Three times, I stood up to be recognized and was not called on at all. Two of those times, the person with the microphone literally walked right past me. The people in my Meeting who could see this happen- and I- were quite upset because we had a person die in our Meeting who was not recognized at all. Interest groups. Also happened two times in interest groups- facilitators did not call on those they did not know, my hand was up and I was not called upon until others complained. Not a way to welcome newcomers or people who have not come every year. Quite rude and unwelcoming.
- I love the food at Walker Creek Ranch! On lodging -- at least for the semi-private rooms, can we get signage saying who is assigned to each room? I was in a room that I was expecting would be all female, and was surprised one night to realize a man was sleeping in the bed next to mine! If the default is mixed-gender, I think that is a change from past

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practice and was not communicated well.

- good food
- Having affinity groups meet in the foyers of some cabins (e.g., Cypress) made it difficult to go to bed before 10pm.
- It seems like it's hardest to coordinate rides \*to\* PYM. Once there, F/friends seem to be able to come together to coordinate exit strategies. I thought it would be worth considering having a sign up for folks to serve PYM by running an hourly shuttle from Walker Creek to Petaluma. Folks can take a shuttle from SFO to Petaluma, but there's no transportation from there. If PYM attendees were encourage to donate their time/vehicle for one shuttle ride (perhaps as part of registration), or even if they were given a small \$ amount off of their PYM registration for being willing to make a shuttle run to Petaluma, it would help. I saw a lot of Young Adult Friends from Southern CA posting on FB that they could get to the airport, but no one had a ride from there. I'm not sure how many of them actually ended up attending.
- The food was generally quite good. Writing the ingredients on the whiteboard was helpful, but it would be very nice to have this on information cards at the food stations, especially for those of us who have trouble seeing what is on a whiteboard across the room. We really need to work on the transportation logistics, if we want to increase attendance.
- Did ok with using the bathhouse for nighttime bathroom trips.
- Dorm was a problem. I was in a women's dorm. One night a mother and son stayed with us. Some of us had lots of medication. It did not seem safe with a child. Another night a married couple was placed with us. They were moved the same night, but some of us really did not want any males or couples or children there for safety and because of boundary issues.

With food: I really wish there would be strong encouragement about choosing a low carbon foot print (i.e., vegetarian or vegan) meal plan with a meat meal plan reserved for people with special needs diets. I would ask that beans kidney, garbanzo, etc.) be part of a salad bar for every lunch and dinner. I loved the sweet potato 'fries', the vegetarian breakfast sausages and burgers, the salad bar and the watermelon. Please be sure to have enough (we ran out) soy and other nut milk at the tea and coffee stations. Please make sure to include plain black tea bags (there were none the first 3 days). Thanks.

- I am very concerned that the clerk of arrangements said that we are moving to a Southern California location in 2021. She said we are having trouble with having enough bathrooms and that the Walker Creek rooms are not handicapped accessible enough. For those who need a less rustic setting, I suggest that we book some rooms at a local hotel and run a shuttle to PYM for those friends who need a personal bathroom and a handicapped accessible room. Day's Inn in Novato has 57 rooms, free breakfast and free wi-fi. for about the same cost as our

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most expensive PYM accommodations. In the past, we ran a shuttle for the campers, why not run one to Novato for those who need it?

We seem to forget that the cost of moving to a So. Cal site puts us \$25,000 in debt every time ( I was on finance committee for the last fiasco). The sites there cost a fortune. There is no camping available. We always say more people from So. Cal will come and they never do. It would be way cheaper to subsidize hotel rooms in Novato rather than make the campers camp off campus. It also alienates the younger people to have awful camping.

We have agreed to pay a subsidy to everyone who has to travel more than 200 miles. Are we going to pay that subsidy to all the folks from Northern California

driving down South? And what about the HUGE ecological footprint we are going to create by having everyone drive down there. We spent many years forgetting that all those people driving a long distance to PYM is a cost to our environment. We need to remember it now that the planet is getting really bad.

One more factor: in my experience, having worked with the children's program in LaVerne, Chico, Redlands, San Diego, Claremont, Mount Madonna and Walker Creek, moving the program to Southern California is a nightmare and a big mistake. It is really difficult to re-organize the children's program in a new site.

There is no nature accessible to children like there is at Walker Creek.

We are trading a natural environment for cement. What are we teaching our children to value?

- It is past time to consider our witness in what we eat. Meat consumption has a significantly adds to climate disruption, the meat provided at PYM is raised by torture (at least in the case of pork). It's not a matter of forcing vegetarian values on everyone—but at LEAST we can give up breakfast sausage and bacon. Very few people have actual health needs for concentrated protein at every meal, though they may like it. Many people eat more meat at PYM than in their normal diets. Very sad witness. Also I would like to see the practice of one simple meal ( beans and rice) like they do at NPYM. This sad witness i our world makes me not want to come. Let people eat how they want at home, but the sources and quantity of PYM meat feels morally wrong. Thank you for everything and sorry for late eval