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FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISION COMMITTEE REPORT

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**TUESDAY 8/2**
- **Check In**

**WEDNESDAY 8/3**
- **Representative Committee**
  - 8:45-11:00
- **Breakfast**
  - 7:00-8:15

**THURSDAY 8/4**
- **Worship**
  - 8:15-9:30

**FRIDAY 8/5**
- **Fellowship**
  - 8:45-11:00
- **Working Sessions**
  - 9:45
  - To 11:00 a.m.

**SATURDAY 8/6**
- **Meeting for Worship**
  - 11:15 a.m.
  - To 12:00 noon

**SUNDAY 8/7**
- **W-F Groups**
  - 8:15-9:15

- **PLENARY VIII**
  - 9:30-10:45
  - Mtng for Worship
  - 11:00-12:00

**MORNING Meeting for Healing Journal Writing**
- 8:45-11:00

**ENRICHMENT Unity with Nature Walking**
- 11:15 - 12:15

**Committees**
- 12:05

**LUNCH**
- 12:15-1:30

**PYM BEGINS**
- 1:45-3:15
- **Plenary V**
  - 3:30-5:15
  - **Memorials**
  - 3:30-5:15
  - **Interest Groups**
  - 3:30-5:15
  - **Daily**

- **All is Quiet II**
  - 11:00 a.m.
  - 9:30 - 10:45
  - **Daily**
  - 10:30-12:00

- **Hiroshima Walk**
  - 12:10-1:45

- **Evaluation**
  - 11:00-12:00

- **EXIT**

**DINNER**
- (5:30 - 6:45)

- **Rep-Com**
  - 7:00-9:00
  - **M & O**
  - 7:00-8:30

- **Sharing Groups**
  - 8:45-10:30
  - DAILY

- **All is Quiet**
  - 11:00
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<td>M &amp; O/Sub Com</td>
<td>on-going</td>
<td>9:15-10:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>6 Meetings and the Mentally Ill</td>
<td>M &amp; O/Sub Com</td>
<td>on-going</td>
<td>9:15-10:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>7 Caregivers</td>
<td>M &amp; O/Mar. Mossm</td>
<td>on-going</td>
<td>9:15-10:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>8 Open sharing - Social Order</td>
<td>Soc. Order Com</td>
<td>4-Aug</td>
<td>9:15-10:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>9 Intergenerational Exchange</td>
<td>Young Friends</td>
<td>4-Aug</td>
<td>9:15-10:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>10 on-going sharing groups</td>
<td>see above</td>
<td>4-Aug</td>
<td>9:15-10:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>11 Latin &amp; So. American connection</td>
<td>Brian Vura Weiss</td>
<td>4-Aug</td>
<td>9:15-10:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>12 Closet Mystics</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>5-Aug</td>
<td>9:30-10:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>13 John Woolman School: New</td>
<td>JWS</td>
<td>5-Aug</td>
<td>9:30-10:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>14 Principal and Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>15 On-going sharing Groups</td>
<td>see above</td>
<td>5-Aug</td>
<td>9:30-10:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>16 Women &amp; Fertility</td>
<td>Social Order</td>
<td>5-Aug</td>
<td>9:30-10:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>17 On-going Sharing Groups</td>
<td>see above</td>
<td>6-Aug</td>
<td>9:45-10:45</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
This committee was appointed at Representative Committee 1992 at a time when PYM Friends could not see where or when the Annual Session might be held in 1992, in 1993 or subsequently. The charge was to "consider the planning for PYM '93 and following". Another committee was charged specifically with planning for PYM '92, even cancelling it if necessary.

The committee on Right Holding of PYM has continued to meet, since it has been apparent that Friends have had long-standing concerns about the Yearly Meeting. Mostly, the concerns brought to us did not clearly belong to any other committee and Friends had not found a way for them to be heard. Whenever possible, we have forwarded or referred these concerns to existing committees, usually with recommendations based on the "threshing" we have done. A partial list is appended in order to show the variety of issues on which Friends would like consideration. We have given careful attention to matters brought before us and when no existing committee seemed appropriate, we have brought recommendations to Representative Committee or to the Annual Session of PYM.

During the 3 years of our existence, we have helped Friends clarify their wishes for PYM. When it became clear that written reports were preferred to oral reports made during Plenary sessions, we worked with the Clerk, the Secretariat, and committees to build a new way of presenting the work of committees. The booklet you are now using is a part of the present solution.

We were asked to examine the role and work of the Secretariat. As a result, we recommended the new method of dealing with reports, a new year-long role for the Secretariat, and we have opened a discussion with Finance Committee as well as other Friends about a more equitable sharing of the costs of mailings and printings.

In response to many communications, we have encouraged the Clerks to continue to try to make the Plenary sessions worship experiences where sharing is deep and real. Friends who have attended for several years will have experienced changes resulting from that emphasis.

We recommended to Representative Committee in March, 1994 that consideration be given to the Right Sharing of financial resources among PYM Meetings. A few of our smaller Meetings have little or no financial reserve and cannot afford to send a Representative either to Representative Committee meetings or to PYM Annual Session. The matter was referred to Finance Committee and Registrars were directed to include on the Registration Form a space for contributions to the new "Scholarship Fund". (RepCom Minute # 9, Paragraph 3, March, 1994 refers to this decision.) Further consideration of this matter seems desirable among PYM Friends.

It seemed to us last year that there was considerable interest in a permanent site for PYM. When we recommended to Friends in a plenary session that the search for real property be re-initiated and a fund be re-established, the Meeting did not find unity. However, it was referred to Sites Committee and they have been working on three aspects: 1) to identify
within such an area, and 3) to ascertain how committed Friends would be to the financial and oversight responsibilities involved in owning our own PYM site.

At the present time, it seems that Pacific Yearly Meeting is launched into the new decade with courage for change. Many of the concerns brought to us which involve the role and function of Representative Committee. We have seen that these relate both to relatively simple changes and to deeper substantive issues and we have recommended to M & O that they, too, devote some time to threshing the whole concept of "Representative Committee". We have offered to take primary responsibility for an Interest Group, if they wish us to, or to work with them in any way they may see fit. If M & O does not feel led to work on this at present, the PYM Clerk plans to request an Interest Group and we have agreed to conduct it as a threshing session on the role and concept of Representatives, Representative Committee itself, and its relationship to PYM.

Appointments by Monthly Meetings to the position of Representative need to be discussed among us so that we may reach a shared understanding of the expectations accompanying this duty. Additionally, the relationship of membership to the appointment of Committee Clerks and even membership on committees is not clear. It is another issue which needs to be held in the open, healing honesty of the Light.

These are all issues which need to be addressed, which trouble many Friends, and which sometimes interfere with the loving process of good business procedure. In fact, there is much work still to be done to respond to problems which trouble the good health of PYM.

Last year, we were led to suggest that Friends "season" the concept of a "Half-Yearly Meeting" until August, 1994. (See Plenary Attachment H, p.3 of 1993 PYM Minutes for details.) To experiment in some way with an urban meeting may yet seem desirable.

Several concerns came to us about the quality of individual Friends' experiences during Annual Sessions. These seemed to be appropriate for M & O. Recognizing how many details of our lives together have been assigned to M&O, we recommended to them that they begin to consider dividing the committee into one on Ministry and one on Oversight. Another suggestion which was forwarded to them is that there be a committee which has as its sole charge the oversight and care of the Annual Session, with M&O continuing under the charge to care for the whole of Pacific Yearly Meeting throughout the year and in its constituent Meetings.

We also recommended to M&O that they consider the creation of a sub-committee to continue the sort of work we have been led into. Its primary charge would be to consider long-range issues related to PYM and to be a "listening committee" for Friends to address with concerns not directly appropriate to any other committee. When requested by the Presiding Clerk, it would meet to consider the general "right holding" of the Yearly Meeting.

There are communication issues which will probably need continuing attention. How we talk together, whether between Meetings, between PYM
communication is needed, is a matter for general concern. This is a structural issue, in part, and needs to be considered in that aspect. It is also related to present technology. All Friends today are facing questions about when technology facilitates the proper conduct of Friends' business and when it may weaken our commitment to the shared search for unity in the Light. Friends everywhere are probably at the beginning of an important dialogue on this topic.

We of this committee have served for 3 years. While we are clear that the work is not finished, it also seems clear to us that we, as a committee, should be laid down. However, it is apparent that the work we have been doing has not come under the purview of any other committee. In one sense, we have been acting as the "elders" of the Yearly Meeting, giving time to considerations of "good order" and for the well-being of the Meeting itself and of all who attend and/or comprise it.

We had considered recommending a Standing Committee to continue the work of the Right Holding Committee. However, it seemed more fitting that M&O should give guidance, especially since the link we had hoped for between the two committees sometimes was missing if one person could not attend a meeting. And yet, the structure of M&O itself and the lack, in this Yearly Meeting, of an "Executive Committee" make any additional load on M&O cause for a thoughtful overview of that committee itself.

With this report, we believe that we have accomplished as much as possible under the charge we were given. We therefore recommend that the Committee on the Right Holding of Yearly Meeting be laid down at this time.

On behalf of the Committee,

Jane Walters Peers, Clerk

Committee members: (Others have served at times.)

Andrea English
Anne Friend
Mark Koenig
Jane Mills
Steve Birdlebaugh
Ellie Huffman
Diana Lockard
Jane Peers
Ellie Foster
Walter Jones
Jennifer Mahal
Lowell Tozer

Topics brought to the Committee on the Right Holding of Yearly Meeting:

Cost of Annual Session......Ageism at PYM......Sexism at PYM......Junior Friends......Young Friends......Cost and quality of food......Luxury of accommodations......The Daily Miracle and simplicity......communication between Y.M., Monthly Meetings, committees, and individual Friends ...... Representative Committee: structure, function, cost......Spiritual nurture of adults ......Should PYM offer basic education in Friends' business practices? ......Keynote speaker, "invited guest", or others whose costs are borne by PYM......Travel expenses in general......Bulletin Boards...... Role of Representatives......Relationships among programs during Annual Session, such as Children, Y.F.s, Junior Friends and adult plenaries, etc......fellowship and friendliness among Friends......"Steering Committee"......"Executive Committee"......timing of Annual Session: When? For how long? ......Impact of technology......
Dear Friends,

The Howard and Anna Brinton Memorial Visitor was established in 1975 to invite a Friend or two to "travel among us in the ministry and help us grow the new dimensions required to live more fully in the life of the Spirit". North Pacific Yearly Meeting and Intermountain Yearly Meeting joined in this endeavor.

Now, almost 20 years later the Brinton Visitor Committee feels privileged to announce that Robert Vogel, of Orange Grove Monthly Meeting and past Clerk of PYM, has agreed to serve as the Brinton Visitor for the 1995-'96 visitations.

Following the 1994 Sessions of PYM Bob will be leaving in September for the Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre which is one of the Selly Oak Colleges in Birmingham England. Bob will serve as Friend in Residence for the Autumn and Spring terms, returning in April 1995.

Upon his return the Committee will meet with Bob to plan his schedule and itinerary and to discuss the thoughts current in his life. They will possibly be some of those things growing out of his experiences at Woodbrooke which he will wish to share with the Meetings and Worship Groups of PYM.

As many of you know the scope of the Brinton Visitor Program has grown dramatically since its 1975 inception. The first Brinton Visitor, Edwin Morgenroth, travelling in the 1976-'77 visitations met with about 40 Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups and Friends Gatherings. In our last two series of visitations more than 90 visits were scheduled. Both of these series of visitations were unfortunately interrupted by unforeseen events early on in the schedules.

A commitment demanding this amount of time and energy is really quite prodigious. The Committee is currently in dialogue with NPYM and IMYM exploring ways in which we might restructure the Program.

For this particular series of Visitations Bob will plan to travel primarily to the Meetings and Worship Groups in PYM.

We will bring you further news after Bob returns from England.

In Friendship,

Joan Johnson, Clerk
Brinton Visitor Committee
and its members
Leonard Dart, Claremont Meeting
Martha Dart, Claremont Meeting
Dear Friends,

Following is a brief report of our work since last summer. There will be lots of additional news to report to the annual session of Pacific Yearly Meeting in August. We will have an interest group for those who would like to get involved or just want more details of the work and the changes in Moscow. We are also planning to make the very successful "Silent Auction" of last year an annual event.

A lot has happened since the November 8 meeting at Pendle Hill. About 20 Friends gathered at that time to share what we were doing in our own projects in the Former Soviet Union and to see whether we could find unity regarding the establishment of a Friends Center in Moscow.

For our discussions, Mary Moehlman of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting prepared a draft of a description of such a center and suggestions for how it might be organized. We found enthusiastic unity in supporting the concept of a Center with a three pronged focus: 1) support for the spiritual growth of the fledgling Friends groups, 2) technical assistance to the grassroots organizations beginning to develop, and 3) coordination and communication regarding the various individual projects in the area.

The details of the organizational structure we felt would be better left in the hands of a smaller group to develop. We nominated a few Friends present at the meeting to carry this work forward under the name of the International Interim Governing Board. The individuals named to that board are Julie Harlow (convener) of Pacific Yearly Meeting, Alan Pleydell of London Yearly Meeting, John Shuford of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, John Slater of New York Yearly Meeting, and Gregg Lamb of North West Yearly Meeting.

The first task of this group was to engage the participation of the yearly meetings in Europe who have had projects or interest in this area and to explore how FWCC might participate. Since November, Alan has had a series of meetings and discussions involving the European Friends, German and Sweden Yearly Meeting and Hans Weening of FWCC, Europe and Middle East Section, are eager to participate.

A general meeting of the Interim Board has been called for July 16-20 in Moscow. At this time we hope to make considerable progress toward setting up the long range oversight / governance structure of the Friends Center. FWCC has put the Center on the agenda for the Triennial Meeting.
which will take place in New Mexico in August. It is only with broad international support and participation that such an ambitious project can be successful.

In the meantime, the East West Relations Committee (EWRC) of Pacific Yearly Meeting is sponsoring a staff person to begin ground work in Moscow. Kay Anderson arrived in April and is working with the two British Quakers, Patricia Cockrell and Chris Hunter, who replaced Peter and Roswitha Jarman in January. Together they developed a proposal for a grant from the European Union which would fund a nondenominational grass roots assistance program. The Mennonites are eager to assist with the financing of this program, but want the Quakers to be in charge of its organization and operation. The Russian group that would be involved is called the Movement Against Violence. We will know in July if our proposal was accepted by the European Union.

Kay has located a nice sized apartment in central Moscow to be used as the Friends Center office and library. Because the Russian owner knows of and supports the work of Quakers, she will give us a 2 year lease at less than $700 a month, about one-half of the market value.

Julie will be traveling this summer to publicize and fund raise for the Center and its programs. She will have an interest group at Friends General Conference and at Intermountain Yearly Meeting. She has developed a video that can be sent to individuals or monthly meetings. This video will explain the history of the work of the EWRC and the development of the concept of the Friends Center Moscow and the connections with grass roots organizations there. We hope that it will be used as a fund raiser and fill in many details that we cannot address in our flier.

We sincerely hope that you continue to share our interest in this work and will find openings to support this project.

Sincerely,

Julie Harlow
for EWRC / PYM and the
International Interim Governing Board of Friends Center Moscow
1163 Auburn Dr. Davis, CA 95616
916-753-6826
e-mail: theharlow@aol.com
June 1994

**Moscow Office** Kay Anderson has been working in Moscow for 2 months. She has met a young woman in Moscow who knows of the work of Quakers and is pleased that her flat would be used as a Friends Center. She is willing to lease it to us for 2 years at about one-half of the market value. It is a good sized 3 room apartment in the heart of central Moscow and near a metro station. The details of the contract are being worked out and Kay should be able to move into the apartment by mid June.

**Moscow Meeting** The Friends group in Moscow now numbers over 20 regular attenders and they have begun the process of registering as an official religious organization. This is an exciting step in their development and should lead to their ability to invite guests to visit, to open a bank account, to locate a more adequate space for worship for the 25-35 who usually attend, and will enhance their ability to advertise their meetings.

**Moscow Board** Julie Harlow will participate in a meeting of the International Interim Governing Board in Moscow in July under the auspices of Friends World Committee on Consultation, Europe and Middle East Section (FWCC / EMES). This board hopes to accomplish much of the work towards establishing the long term governance structure. Julie will be going to Friends General Conference and Intermountain Yearly Meeting this summer to publicize and fund raise for the Center and its work.

**Moscow Action** Kay has met with many grass roots organizations in Moscow and we have sponsored our first volunteers to work with them. We now have contacts with women's groups, charity programs, educators, health workers, disabled groups, and many others. We have volunteers in the process of being matched with Russian groups.

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**Moscow Money** All of this progress means that our needs for funds are increasing. In addition to the expenses indicated above, we have also been asked if we can assist in the travel costs for Interim Board members from other Yearly Meetings. Contributions for this purpose should be clearly earmarked.

**Moscow Connection** All library materials, questions, suggestions for volunteers or contacts, inquiries from prospective volunteers, and, of course, your tax deductible contributions can be sent to

Julie Harlow  
1163 Auburn Drive  
Davis CA 95616  
phone: 916-753-6826  
email: theharlow@aol.com

Checks should be made payable to:  
EWRC/PYM

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**FUNDING IS NEEDED NOW**

- send whatever contribution you are able to
- ask your Meeting to consider a special gift at this time
- consider organizing a fund raising event in your Meeting

If you are going to Russia for any reason, please let us know. You could relay letters or participate in our program.

If you would like to show a video about the history of the development of the Center, one will be available by June 15.

contact: Nancy Samelson  
841 Esplanada Way, Stanford, CA 94305  
415-857-9287
The Faith and Practice Revision Committee invites Friends of Pacific Yearly Meeting to join them in preparing the basic Testimonies of Friends for the Book of Discipline, 1999.

The Committee has spent an arduous and rewarding year consulting with Friends Meetings, conferring together, then exchanging drafts of what we have come to feel are the compelling tenets of our Quaker faith and practice.

These testimonies as we have developed them are attached to this report. Please know we consider these only working drafts. We have been concerned to bring the ideas into some clarity, knowing we still have work to do in wording them, finding titles for some, adding thoughts which have been left out, discovering more apt quotations, breathing life into them.

Please read these Testimonies as you find time, consider what they are saying about how Friends hope to live their lives, then offer us suggestions for the work.

The Committee foresees completing a section of the new Faith and Practice to include Testimonies, Queries and Advices, and perhaps a very brief history of the Society of Friends. This section could conceivably be excerpted and used by inquirers into the faith and practice of Friends as instruction, and by us or by those who come after us as guide and reminder.

Several opportunities will be offered at Yearly Meeting for responses to the Testimonies. Some will be presented for brief response at a plenary session; an open meeting of the Faith and Practice Revision Committee will offer more time for suggestions. Committee Members will also be present at all working sessions to note comments and to consider implications for this section of the book.

Ellie Foster, clerk,
EQUALITY

Equality is the earliest Quaker social testimony. Even before Friends became pacifists, they were dismissed from the army for refusing to treat officers as superior. George Fox and other early Friends demonstrated their conviction that all persons were of equal worth by refusing to take off their hats to those who claimed higher rank, and by addressing everyone with the singular “thou” (or “thee” in America) rather than the honorific plural “you”.

The testimony of equality arises from a holy expectation that there is that of God in everyone, including those from widely differing stations and life experiences. Planning to travel among Native Americans, John Woolman wrote,

“Love was the first motion, and then a concern rose to spend some time with the Indians, that I might feel and understand their life and the spirit they live in, if haply I might receive some instruction from them, or they be in any degree helped forward by my following the leadings of Truth amongst them. ...”

John Woolman, 1763

The conviction that each person is equally a child of God opened way from the beginning for women to experience leadership in the Society of Friends. That women as well as men ministered in Friends meetings was a cause for ridicule and vilification by others, and many later suffragists and champions of women’s rights were Friends or took their inspiration from Quaker tradition. Likewise, through a long and often painful process, Friends divested themselves of slaves and adopted corporate positions against slavery one hundred years before the Emancipation Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln.

The testimony of equality was also expressed by William Penn in the founding of the State of Pennsylvania, which invited people of diverse races and backgrounds to participate in a “Holy Experiment,” one of the first truly “multicultural societies” in what later became the United States.

Friends recognize that inequalities persist throughout society, and that difficult work remains to rid themselves and the Society of Friends from invidious discrimination and prejudice, based upon gender, class, race, age, sexual orientation, physical attributes, and other false hierarchies. Both in the public realm — where Friends may “speak truth to power” — and in intimate familial contexts, Friends’ principles require witness against injustice and inequality wherever they exist.
The spirit of divine love compels us to be peacemakers. We are all children of God, each with a share of the light. Our first allegiance is to God, and if this conflicts with any compulsion of the state, we serve our country best by remaining true to our higher loyalty.

In response to a false accusation in 1661 that Friends were involved in an armed insurrection, George Fox declared,

"We utterly deny all outward wars and strife and fighting with outward weapons, for any end or under any pretence whatsoever. And this is our testimony to the whole world. ... The spirit of Christ, which leads us into all Truth, will never move us to fight and war against any man with outward weapons, neither for the kingdom of Christ, nor for kingdoms of this world."

George Fox. 1661

In accordance with this testimony, Friends encourage reconciliation and active nonviolent resolutions to conflict based upon love and concern for the well-being of all. Friends have traditionally supported those who are conscientious objectors to military service, while holding in love, but disagreeing with, those members who feel that they must enter the armed forces.

Recognizing that violence and war typically arise from inequality and exploitation of the powerless, Friends address the causes of war by working to correct social injustice, and by strengthening institutions and processes that provide nonviolent alternatives to military force. We testify against structural violence implicit in unjust disparities of wealth and poverty, discrimination on the basis of race, sex, age, class, sexual orientation, and other false hierarchies, and exploitation of weaker nations by more powerful nations. Friends also search the seeds of war in ourselves, as John Woolman implores,

"Oh that we who declare against wars, and acknowledge our trust to be in God only, may walk in the light and therein examine our foundation and motives in holding great estates. May we look upon our treasures, the furniture of our houses, and our garments, and try whether the seeds of war have nourishment in these possessions?"

John Woolman 1763

Friends' principles require cultivation of peace at all levels: within oneself, within one's family, in one's community and nation, and internationally.
COMMUNITY

"Friends are most in the Spirit when they stand at the crossing point of the inward and outward life. And that is the intersection at which we find community. Community is a place where the connections felt in the heart make themselves known in bonds between people, and where tuggings and pulling of those bonds keep opening our hearts."

Parker Palmer, 1977

The Religious Society of Friends arose as a community of the Spirit, centered in regular, shared worship. From this corporate spiritual experience sprang a loving social community that, while not immune from struggle and conflict, supported Friends' growth as individuals, their care for one another, and their work in the larger world.

At its best, the meeting community offers the joys of companionship, resources to care lovingly for those in need, and a corporate testing and support for leadings of the Spirit. Recognizing the realities of the various stages of life, Friends seek to respond to each appropriately, with caring respect. Our children bring their own wisdom and gifts to our gatherings. Our Quaker communities are most vital when they encompass childhood and age, sickness and health, unity and disagreement, play and work.

Friends seek to remember to "answer that of God" in one another, to remind each other of that divine center, and to nurture and minister to all members of the community.

The Quaker community extends beyond our home meetings, to quarterly and yearly meetings, and further. Historically, Friends have maintained contact with the larger world of Quakers through intervisitation, home hospitality, and participation in the wider gatherings of Friends. Such participation often results in a deepening of the individual's commitment and a quickening in the sense of community at the home meeting.
"Life from the center is a life of unhurried peace and power. It is simple. It is serene. It is amazing. ... it takes no time but occupies all our time."

Thomas Kelly, Testament of Devotion, 1941 (last paragraph)

Simplicity is the right ordering of our lives, placing God at the center. Possessions, activities and behavior that distract us from that center are shed and we focus on what is important.

In the seventeenth century Friends saw the rituals and elaborate ceremony of the church as distractions from true religious experience. Seeking to emphasize substance rather than form, they gathered to worship simply in silence. Emphasizing inward experience, Friends have no outward sacraments.

In their concern for simplicity and the avoidance of frivolity, early Friends devalued art and music. These attitudes eventually gave way to recognition that music and art can support a fullness of life in the Light. Simplicity need not entail meagerness or crudeness. A simple rendering of speech, writing, or artifacts often enhances that which is genuine and unmaskst that which is not.

Friends today continue to value lives and households that reflect simplicity in life that centers on the spirit and allows time for faithfulness to chosen concerns. Maintenance of a simple life needs continuing personal examination and corporate refinement. When simplicity of life is lost, the cause is often not only worldly distractions, but also our own choices in taking on too much activity. Friends’ testimony on simplicity invites us to return to the spirit, so that we may discern what is appropriate for us.

"... Simplicity, when it removes encumbering details, makes for beauty in music, in art, and in living. It clears the springs of life and permits wholesome mirth and gladness to bubble up; it cleans the windows of life and lets joy radiate. It requires the avoidance of artificial or harmful social customs and conventions but it opens wide the door to cultivate and express to all sincere cordiality, kindness and friendliness. This sort of simplicity removes barriers and eases tensions. In its presence all can be at ease. ..."

INTEGRITY

Integrity calls us to wholeness. When our lives are centered in the Spirit, we become whole, our beliefs and our actions are congruent, our words dependable.

Speaking the truth has been a Quaker principle from the beginning. Friends believe in truth telling under all circumstances and at all times. Historically, this testimony manifested itself in the refusal to take oaths, because oaths implied a double standard in which the truth was not always told. In addition, truth telling led to a one-price system in merchandising, rather than bargaining. Integrity also points us toward fairness, respecting our neighbor as ourselves; thus Friends have opposed gambling, as based on exploitation or the taking of undue advantage of others.

"Gambling, or making a profit out of the inevitable loss and suffering of others, is the antithesis of that love for one's neighbor on which our Lord insisted."

London Yearly Meeting, 1959

Friends believe in speaking truth, simply. Plain speech avoids emotional or misleading language, or language that detracts from the discernment of God's will. Respect for truth leads us to examine our methods in all things and to protest using ends to justify means.

Commitment to truth requires authenticity and veracity in following one's conscience, illumined by the Inner Light. When we depart from truth, we separate ourselves from God. Thus integrity is not simply a habit of speech, but more importantly, a way of life in which we align ourselves increasingly with God's will.
"True unity may be found under great apparent differences. This unity is spiritual, it expresses itself in many ways, and we need divine insight that we may recognize its working. We need forbearance, sympathy and love, in order that, while remaining loyal to the truth as it comes to us, we may move forward with others to a larger and richer experience and expression of the will of God."

London Yearly Meeting, 1916

Friends believe that it is possible for the human spirit to be in direct communion with the divine in the conduct of business. Friends seek to make decisions that are in harmony, or unity, with God's will. The process of individuals submitting themselves to the corporate revelation of God's will forms the basis of Friends' approach to unity in arriving at decisions.

Unity is expected to emerge where the search for decisions is conducted in a spirit of worship: God's will should be discerned where there is prayerful corporate search. The process requires that Friends contribute their individual leadings and take part in the developing spiritual insight of the meeting. In weighing decisions, due weight is given to tradition, to the leadings of seasoned Friends, the Bible, and other inspired writings.

The experienced meeting waits for this unity, returning to silent worship when difficulties arise. If no unity is found, postponement for reconsideration provides a later opportunity to arrive at unity.
In 1694 George Fox said that he had come in spirit through the flaming sword into the paradise of God: "All things were new, and all creation gave an other smell unto me than before. ..."

Early Friends' belief in a "New Creation" offers a distinctive, hospitable context for an evolving testimony on Unity with Nature. God speaks to us through all things and beings, calling us to honor and revere the natural world. William Penn's openness to the New Creation led him to share a respect for nature and an encouragement to observe and learn from it:

"It were happy if we studied nature more in natural things, and acted according to nature, whose rules are few, plain, and most reasonable. ..."

William Penn. Some Fruits of Solitude. "Education"

Friends have shared in a growing awareness of the interdependence of all things and all beings, and of the appropriate, reciprocal relationship of human beings in this integrated universe. In our daily lives and in all of our decisions, we are called to live with respect for the earth and its resources, mindful of the consequences of our choices. Friends work to improve the land, the atmosphere, and the waters. We support efforts to heal the wounds so long inflicted by failure to recognize and affirm the relatedness of all creation.

"The earth we share is limited in its capacity to support life and to provide resources for our survival. The environment that has provided sustenance for generations must be protected for generations to come.

We have an obligation, therefore, to be responsible stewards of the earth, to restore its natural habitat where it has been damaged and to maintain its vitality."

Friends Committee on National Legislation, 1997
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING  
Ministry and Oversight Committee  

Report to Yearly Meeting

The Members of the committee have been: Connie Jolly (BE), John Mackinney (BE), Karen Morgan (RF), Margaret Mossman (BE), Kimi Nagatani (OC), Robert Noble (SD), Helen O'Brien (WH), clerk, Brian Vura-Weis (IV), Tom Whiteman (ST).

During the past year the committee has met twice, in February in the north at Berkeley and in June in the south at Whittier. We have been fortunate to have had Ellie Huffman, the presiding clerk, with us for both meetings.

The number of subcommittees still stands at seven. The subcommittee, Workshops on Quaker Process, was laid down. A new subcommittee, Sexual Minorities was set up.

A brief accounting of the subcommittees follows:

Worship Fellowship. Valerie Milleron, clerk. The organizing of the groups is going forward and the committee is developing queries which will be helpful in the dialogues.

Special Funds. Oversight of Fund for Concerns and Sharing Fund, assistance with Student Conscience Fund. Margaret Mossman, clerk. This year four requests for assistance have been made, three to the fund for Concerns and one to the Sharing Fund. Two of the requests to the Fund for Concerns were withdrawn by the applicants. The third request was granted as was the request for Sharing funds. Making these grants leaves very little money in both the Fund for Concerns and the Sharing Fund. Meetings will need to think in terms of replenishing these funds.

As requested the committee has also worked on establishing guidelines for awarding funds to assist in attendance at yearly meeting.

Brinton Visitor. Joan Johnson, clerk. There has been further attempt at consultation with North Pacific Yearly Meeting and Intermountain Yearly Meeting as to whether the program should be made geographically smaller if it is to be handled by one visitor. No decision has yet been made. The committee has chosen Bob Vogel as the next Brinton Visitor. He will begin the visitation program sometime after his return from Woodbrooke in the spring.

Big Island Preparatory Meeting Oversight. Helen O'Brien, clerk. The annual visitation was made to the BIPM retreat in January. A meeting was also held in Honolulu with the Honolulu Meeting oversight committee. BIPM has problems of geography; assets of youth, vitality, enthusiasm; occasionally wishes for some older, weighty resident Quakers. Several members are planning to attend PYM this year. In general things seem to be going well. The group feels they should continue for the time being as a preparatory meeting.
Meetings and the Mentally Ill. Pat Williams, clerk. Consultation with monthly meetings on call is the committee’s task. They plan to have a browsing space at yearly meeting and to have the books purchased with special funds available.

Sexual Abuse and Harassment. Becky Newman, clerk. Having prepared and distributed a pamphlet and a handbook, having perhaps accomplished a basic educational job, the committee has raised questions about its future—size, task, etc.

Sexual Minorities Krista Barnard, clerk. This subcommittee was established in 1993. The tentative charge to the committee is organizing informational activities at PYM, working to create a welcoming environment at PYM for Friends of sexual minorities, act as a clearing house for monthly meetings with lesbian, gay and bisexual concerns, reporting to PYM on the state of lesbian, gay and bisexual concerns in the PYM region. The committee has planned to distribute a questionnaire to monthly meetings to gather information concerning AIDS and concerning sexual minorities in the monthly meetings.
The Subcommittee on Sexual Abuse of the Ministry and Oversight Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting wishes to bring the following items to the attention of PYM Friends.

I. THE PAMPHLET When Quaker Solidarity is Broken: In 1992, our subcommittee prepared a pamphlet addressing the issue of sexual harassment and abuse in the Quaker community. The first draft of this pamphlet was used at PYM in 1992 and then circulated for comment within the yearly meeting. A second draft, reflecting comments we had received, was made available at PYM in 1993. Copies were at the Registration Desk and were given to Young Friends and to Junior Yearly Meeting. The Handbook for Monthly Meetings on Sexual Abuse and Harassment, which was distributed to all meetings, included several copies of the pamphlet and a copy on white paper which could be used by each meeting to make its own additional copies; room was left on the last page of the pamphlet for meetings to add additional information, such as whom Friends should contact locally if they had problems. We expect to issue a final version prior to PYM of 1994, and to make copies available there. If they find it useful, Friends are encouraged to display copies of this pamphlet in their meeting houses, to make it available to members and attenders, and to discuss it in their monthly meetings.

II. HANDBOOK FOR MONTHLY MEETINGS ON SEXUAL ABUSE AND HARASSMENT: In 1993, our subcommittee prepared a Handbook for Monthly Meetings on Sexual Abuse and Harassment. The handbook is in white, vinyl, loose-leaf binders—the sort which have clear, vinyl pockets on the outside. An orchid-colored cover sheet was inserted into the vinyl pocket on the front of the notebook. The notebook includes the following sections:

(1) Introduction and Charge to the Committee

(2) Suggested Queries on Sexuality, Harassment, and Abuse

(3) Copies of the pamphlet *When Quaker Solidarity is Broken*

(4) A Report from La Jolla Meeting on how it began its dialogue on sexual harassment and abuse

(5) A Report from Cambridge Monthly Meeting (Massachusetts) on The Abuse of a Meeting Child

(6) A Draft Document on Human Sexuality from an adult education program of New England Yearly Meeting

(7) Sources of Help

(8) Bibliographies on Sexual Abuse and Harassment
Copies of the **Handbook** have been given to: (1) All monthly meetings, preparative meetings and worship groups in the yearly meeting; (2) To the clerks of the committees on Ministry and Oversight of the yearly meeting and our two quarterly meetings; (3) To members of the Subcommittee on Sexual Abuse; and (4) To the Presiding Clerks of the Yearly Meeting and our two Quarterly Meetings. Friends are encouraged to find out where their meeting's **Handbook** is kept and to examine it carefully, to see if it meets the needs of their meetings. Meetings which find it useful are asked to be sure that members and attenders are aware of and have access to this resource.

Questions about this report may be addressed to M & O, or to the clerk of the Subcommittee: Becky Layfield Newman, 36 Butler Street, Irvine, CA 92715-2124, 714-786-1669.
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
of the RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Preliminary Nominating Committee Report 6 June 1994

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING OFFICERS

PRESIDING CLERK (1YR)
95 Ellie Huffman BE

ASSISTANT CLERK (1YR)
95 Andrea English ST

RECORDING CLERK (2YRS)
95 Peter Milbury CH
96 Jim Summers LJ

REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE
Recording Clerk (1YR)
95 Keith Wedmore SF

READING CLERK (1YR)
95 Krista Barnard SF

STATISTICAL CLERK (3YRS)
95 Bruce Folsom SF

CO-TREASURERS (3YRS)
95 Phyllis Jones RG
95 Walter Jones RG

CO-HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST (3YRS)
95 Mary Warren WH
97 .................

ARRANGEMENTS CLERKS (2YRS)
95 Steve Sharpless RG
96 .................

CO-REGISTRARS (3YRS)
96 Eric Sabelman PA
97 Eric Moon BE

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING COMMITTEES

MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
95 Helen O'Brien WH, Clerk
95 Kimi Nagatani OC
95 Robert Noble SD
96 Margaret Mossman BE
96 Brian Vura-Weis IV
96 Tom Whiteman ST
97 Joan Johnson WW
97 John Mackinney BE
97 .................
BULLETIN COMMITTEE
  95 Molly Bishop RF
  96 Arden Pierce PA
  96 Rob Roy Woodman DA, Clerk
  97 Pat Daggerty OG
Two NPYM Reps. ??
Ex Officio: Editor

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM COMMITTEE
  95 Terry Mackenzie SL/OG
  95 Rebecca Tillberg WH
  96 Marka Carson ST
  96 Randall Carpenter OG
  97 Katy festinger DA/MN
  97 ............
Ex Officio: Present and immediate past children's program co-ordinators

EAST-WEST RELATIONS COMMITTEE
  95 Julie Harlow DA
  95 .................
  95 ................
  96 Karen Lawrance LJ
  96 Peggy Thompson SC
  96 Carl Anderson ST
  97 Marlene Fitzwater SA
  97 Robert De Saeger SA
  97 ............

FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISION COMMITTEE
  95 Ellie Foster SC Co-Clerk
  95 Steve Smith CL
  96 Lincoln Moses PA
  96 Bob Vogel OG
  97 Eleanor Engstrand SC
  97 Marilee Eusebio DA
  *Jane Peers LJ
  *Kitty Barragato OG Co-Clerk
  *Aimee Elsbree CL
  *Stratton Jaquette PA
  *Kim Lacey SF
  *Laura Magnani BE
Ex Officio: Historian/Archivist
* To serve for the duration of the revision process.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
  95 Anne Davenport CL
  95 Vanita Blum BE,
  96 George Mills PA
  96 Shan Cretin WW
  97 Laura Cornell ST
  97 ............
Ex Officio: Treasurer, Statistical Clerk
FRIEND IN THE ORIENT COMMITTEE
(A joint committee of PYM & NPYM)
95 Helen O'Brien WH
95 Jimmy Choi LA
95 Olivia de Haulleville PA
95 Bob Vogel OG
95 Bob Stauffer HO
97 ..............

HOLDING CORPORATION COMMITTEE
95 Robert Young OG,
95 Margaret Mossman BE
96 Harry Bailey GV
96 David Tappan OG
97 Steve Birdlebough SA
97 ..............
Ex Officio: PYM Clerk, Treasurer.

JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING
95 Liz Amen DE
95 ..............
96 Barbara Babin PA
96 Jim Kratzer FR
97 Eric Moon DE
97 ..............
Ex Officio: High School Advisors
Jr. High School Advisors
Jr. Yearly Meeting Clerk
Jr. High School Clerk

PEACE COMMITTEE
95 Gladis Innerst LJ
95 Carol Mosher BE
95 Sandra Gey BE
96 Joel Gazis-Sax PA
96 John Salyer LJ
96 ................
97 ................
97 ................
Ex Officio: Clerks of CPQM &
SCQM Peace Committees;
Correspondents of unaffiliated
Meetings; one of FCNL Reps.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE
95 Maria May WH
95 Gerry Maynard ST
95 Val Milliron CH
97 Kate Carpenter OG
97 ..............
SECRETARIAT COMMITTEE
  95 Ron Sax PA, Clerk
  96 Mike Ingerman MA
  97 Miriam Berg BE
  Ex Officio: Assistant to the Clerk

SITES COMMITTEE
  95 Prudence Myer SB
  96 Mark Koenig CH
  96 Pat Wolff OG
  96 Joy O'Connell RG
  97 .................
  97 .................
  Ex Officio: Present and Immediate-Past Arrangements Clerks

SOCIAL ORDER COMMITTEE
  95 Ernest Bicknell BE
  95 Bard McAllister IV
  96 Diana Lockard CL
  96 Leon Ray SD
  96 Bob Segalman SA
  Ex Officio: Clerks of CPQM & SCQM Social Order Committees;
Correspondents from unaffiliated Meetings

UNITY WITH NATURE COMMITTEE
  95 .................
  95 Robert Young OG
  95 Robert Chatfield PA
  96 Ernie Hartley SA
  96 Elizabeth Brown SA
  96 .................
  97 .................
  97 Sharon Gates OG
  97 David Mackenzie OG
  Ex Officio: EarthLight Editor & Treasurer, FCUN Reps.

WIDER FELLOWSHIP AMONG FRIENDS COMMITTEE
  95 Jeanette Norton OC
  96 Anne Friend LA
  97 .................
  Ex Officio: Representatives to:
  EFI, FCC, FUM, RGAM, YFNA, &
  one FWCC Representative
PYM REPRESENTATIVES

AFSC CORPORATION MEMBERS
95 Harry Bailey GV Convenor
96 Lincoln Moses PA
97 Maria May WH
97 .............

EVANGELICAL FRIENDS (2YRS)
96 Bob Vogel OG

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION
95 Carolyn Stephenson HO
96 Kimi Nagatani OC
96 Eric Moon SF
97 .............
97 .............

WILLIAM PENN HOUSE (FCNL)
95 .............

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON UNITY WITH NATURE
95 Michael Dunn IV
96 Tom Farley PA

FRIENDS GEN. CONFERENCE (2YRS)
96 Langdon Elsbree

FWCC - Section of the Americas
95 Bob Barns GV
95 Steve Birdlebough SA
96 Rolene Otero OG
96 Janet Leslie CH
97 .............
ANNUAL REPORT OF PYM PEACE COMMITTEE: AUGUST '93 to AUGUST '94

The Peace Committee met on November 6, '93, in La Jolla, and held a telephone conference on May 8, '94. A Mailing was sent to Monthly Meetings in February, '94, containing information on Nevada Test Site Witnesses, Friends Peace Teams, Computer Networks, the PYM Student Conscience Fund, Yugoslavia peace projects, and Queries on Intervention in Other Nations.

NEVADA TEST WITNESS

PYM did not sponsor a separate Friends Witness at the Test Site this year due to the Moratorium. Opportunities for Witness with the Nevada Desert Experience March 10-13, and the Shoshones (et al.) April 1-3, were publicized. Approximately six Friends attended the March weekend and at least ten Friends attended in April. China's announcement in fall '93 that it would conduct a nuclear test provided a rationale for the US to resume testing. A letter was drafted at the Nov. Committee Meeting (by Martha Fort & Simeon Hyde) asking President Clinton not to resume testing in the U.S.

Next year in '95 will be the 50th Anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Committee plans to ask Yearly Meeting for active planning and participation in Witness marking this Anniversary.

QUERIES AND PYM WORKING SESSION ON HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER NATIONS

New Queries were developed and distributed to Monthly Meetings in Feb, '94. Nancy Nye of FCNL leads a Working Session at PYM, August, '94, on Intervention in Other Nations and the Friends Peace Testimony. This topic grows out of a Minute from La Jolla Meeting, considered and approved as amended by S. Ca. Quarterly and forwarded to PYM last spring ('93).

FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS

The Committee followed and publicized developments in the Steering Committee established at Friends General Conference, July '93. In November the Steering Committee met in Phila. and decided not to organize its own Peace Teams but to encourage Friends in peacemaking projects which already exist. In San Francisco, "Peaceworkers," directed by David Hartsough, has offered workshop/trainings each month to encourage service in the U.S. or abroad with various organizations. A five-day Training took place at Ben Lomond July 24-29th. U.N. Volunteers have developed projects for nonviolent peacemakers in Africa and former Yugoslavia. An Interest Group on Peace Teams and Peacemakers is offered at Yearly Meeting, '94. Closer to home, an Interest Group on Peacemaking Within Our Monthly Meetings at Yearly Meeting, '94, explores how we resolve conflicts among ourselves.

ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE

The Peace Committee sent an Errata in its February mailing, explaining that Alternatives to Violence Project and Hands of Peace are two separate organizations, the latter having registered in 1993 in California to conduct AVP-style workshops. A mini-workshop on AVP and AVP techniques is offered at PYM '94.

INTEREST FROM PEACE TAX FUND

$1000 in interest from monies placed in this PYM Fund by War Tax Resisters was donated to "life-affirming activities" according to guidelines. Donations were sent to: the National Peace Tax Fund, Peace in the Balkans, Peacemakers, PYM Fund for Concerns, Friends Center-Moscow, & Osijek Peace Center-Croatia.

MINUTES No Minutes were received by Peace Committee for PYM consideration by 6/94.
Dear Friends,

The Sites Committee wishes to thank the many Friends who responded to our invitation to join us in the search for an appropriate site in which to hold PYM. Almost all the sites suggested had been investigated either recently or by past Sites Committees. We explored all new suggestion and re-investigated some facilities previously contacted to see if any change might have occurred. We do appreciate your help and wish we could report more positive findings.

The situation facing PYM in regards to a site continues to be difficult. There are many factors that compound our deliberations but essentially our problems are threefold:

1. Many attractive and comfortable sites are too expensive for us.
2. The policies of some facilities are not consistent with Friends ways and beliefs.
3. The single most significant barrier to finding that "ideal site" is our wish to camp. It grows increasingly more difficult to find facilities that will permit camping or even tenting.

In our search we have found that some facilities who in the past were willing to consider camping are no longer able to do so. A different climate concerning issues of insurance seems to play a role. We recently found a private college in northern California that was willing to discuss tenting, but they have not been successful in securing the approval of the city council. One beautiful camp in southern California suggested by a Friend would welcome camping but is so heavily booked by long term groups we would be unable to make a reservation even years in advance. Also, most camps large enough to accommodate 500 plus people have their own programs during the summer months. And so the search goes on.

The report of the Committee on the Right Holding of Yearly Meeting prepared and distributed prior to the 1993 Sessions of PYM informed us that 79.46% of Friends who responded to the survey their Committee had sent out to Friends in PYM were in favor of finding a permanent site. Thus the Committee stated, "In order for this search to move forward, we recommend that Sites Committee be charged to explore the opinions of Friends as widely as possible, as well as the physical possibilities of permanent site locations. Sites Committee would be charged to make a progress report to the August 1995 Session of PYM... Sites Committee would be reminded of the possibility of appointing subcommittees as it sees fit".

An Interest Group held at PYM 1993 to explore Friends thoughts concerning the securing of a permanent site indicated considerable interest. Following Yearly Meeting Sites Committee sought clarity from the Right Holding of Yearly Meeting Committee and then met in March to initiate formation of the subcommittee that would undertake the study. This committee will be composed of:

Harry Bailey, GV
Herbert Foster, SC
Michael Ingerman, MA
Walter Jones, RG

Mark Koenig, CH, Convenor
Joy O'Connell, RG
Charles Orr, LJ
Edwin Stephenson, RF

We will look forward to their report during the Sessions of PYM 1995.

Joan Johnson, Clerk of Sites Committee
TREASURERS REPORT - MAY 1994

The responsibilities of the Treasurers of Pacific Yearly Meeting include receiving and distributing funds according to guidelines and budgets approved by the yearly meeting, administering special funds, keeping records associated with these funds, participating on the Finance Committee and reporting twice a year to Representative Committee and plenary sessions of PYM. The statistical portion of this report will be available in August, in conjunction with the Finance Committee's presentation of a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 1995 which starts on October 1, 1994.

The money to run yearly meeting activities comes from the Monthly Meetings, which have a per capita assessment. This pays for expenses of officers and committees, part of the travel expense of PYM delegates to Quaker organizations, token donations to some Quaker organizations, and other approved expenses. Good business practice recommends that there be a reserve of uncommitted funds equal to our annual budget. The present budget for Fiscal Year 1994 totals $47,400, and there is a current balance of $45,500 in uncommitted funds. Because the uncommitted balance was higher than needed in recent years, the Finance Committee recommended transfers of over $5000 from these reserves for the last two years' budgets. Continuing to drain the reserves will not be responsible now so we should either cut expenses or raise the assessment again this year.

During the past year the Treasurer has addressed a problem that unnecessarily complicates the job. There is a tendency on the part of a few individuals and Meetings to lose track of correspondence and checks. Some fees for attendance at last August's sessions were not paid until December or January. Meetings have reported that they don't know what their assessment is, and our bank account statements show that some checks are either outstanding for months or lost completely. To address this situation, at least in part, two steps have been taken. Finance committee and Representative Committee approved that any "stop payment" fees deemed necessary may be subtracted from the face value of replacement checks. Also, since we are given only a general mailing address for each meeting we will now stamp ATTENTION: TREASURER on letters that may otherwise be mislaid.

Thanks are due to those who make our task easier and enjoyable. We are especially appreciative of committee clerks who promptly send names, addresses and receipts for committee members who are due reimbursement of travel and other expenses. Special recognition should go to those clerks who read and make themselves familiar with the reimbursement guidelines that are sent to them each fall.

In planning for future budgets it is important to consider how much of a travel budget each committee needs. With our far-flung membership it should be the responsibility of Nominating Committee, committee clerks and those who accept committee positions to notify the Finance Committee of unusual needs.

Friends may contact the Treasurers for information about how to donate to special funds of PYM. These include the Fund for Concerns, Sharing Fund, Brinton Visitor fund, Peace Tax Fund, Student Conscience Fund and special funds for projects of the committees on East-West Relations, Unity with Nature, and Friend in the Orient.
June 8, 1994

TO: Monthly Meeting Clerks
    Monthly Meeting Representatives to PYM
    PYM Committee Clerks
    PYM Officers

Planning for the Annual Gathering of Pacific Yearly Meeting includes each of us assuring that our part of the work is completed in a timely manner. I am writing to advise you of some items that will be needed, and hoping that Reports for inclusion in the Documents in Advance have already been sent to Steve McNeil, Secretariat, (1611 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, CA 94612-2141).

Following Representative Committee the YM schedule was revised, it will be included in the Documents in Advance. A single schedule including the activities of Junior Yearly Meeting, Young Friends and the Yearly Meeting, is being prepared for use at YM.

A new session is scheduled to describe the events during the week. This will occur at approximately 4:30 p.m. on August 3rd, following Plenary One and the social hour. Committee Clerks will have about five minutes each to describe Plenaries, Interest Groups or activities that they are sponsoring. We will also meet visiting Friends who are anticipated to be among us, at this time.

Monthly Meeting Clerks and Representatives are requested to be sure that Memorial Minutes and State of the Meeting Reports are forwarded to Helen O'Brien, Clerk of Ministry and Oversite (13719 E. Tedemory Dr. Whittier, CA 90602). In addition, encourage persons with talent to come to Yearly Meeting prepared to share music, poetry, dance, readings, etc., within the context of special Meetings for Worship in the spirit of the Performing Arts. This will be in addition to our family night where all types of performances are invited.
Monthly Meetings are again strongly encouraged to hold advance Meetings to discuss the Documents in Advance and to prepare for participation in Yearly Meeting. A glossary to describe the different types of sessions will be provided as part of the Documents in Advance. We are especially hopeful that first time attenders will have an opportunity for this preparation.

Questions should be directed to me at (916) 626-1524, or to Andrea English, at (510) 848-5202.

The experience at Yearly Meeting will be what we make it, individually and as a whole. Let the spirit shine through all that we do to prepare for a spiritually rich time together.

With Peace and Love,

Ellie Huffman, Clerk
PYM GLOSSARY
A Description of the Types of Meetings which will be held at Pacific Yearly Meeting

Interest Groups: Interest groups are presented under the sponsorship of Yearly Meeting Committees or Organizations. They bring current concerns, activities, updates, and issues for those interested to learn more about the work of the Committee and what is currently happening around the issues the committee is associated with. In some cases the Interest Group will teach techniques or practice methods of action related to a special interest, i.e. conflict resolution.

MEMORIALS: A Meeting for Worship for the purpose of celebrating the lives of members and attenders of Meetings who have passed away during the past year. Conducted by Ministry and Oversight, the Meeting invites participants to share, as led, their experiences with the persons being memorialized.

MORNING ENRICHMENT: Informally gathered groups, usually not very large, gather in designated areas to join together in an enrichment they enjoy. The Meeting for Healing is conducted as silent worship, focused on holding persons in the Light to support healing in their lives. Unity with Nature often sponsors special excursions that include walking and observing nature. Walking is enjoyed by some, who gather to walk together. Journal Writing is an individual activity which may be shared with others, or the techniques may be shared. Space is planned to encourage those who wish to do journal writing to have a special place for that purpose.

PLENARY SESSIONS: The whole body of those present are invited to gather in a worshipful manner for the conduct of business, or for a special presentation prepared or arranged by a committee. Other activities are not scheduled during plenary sessions.

REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE: Made up of Representatives of each Monthly Meeting, Yearly Meeting Officers and Yearly Meeting Committee Clerks, Representative Committee does interim business of the Yearly Meeting in March of each year, and meets again at the Yearly Meeting to conduct specified parts of the business of the
Yearly Meeting. All sessions of the Representative Committee are for the purpose of doing Yearly Meeting Business.

**SHARING GROUPS:** Sharing groups are generally made up of persons with a specific personal interest in the topic by which the Sharing Group is identified. These groups may discuss and share deeply personal and confidential issues, or may give an opportunity for persons with similar interests (i.e. high tech.) to gather to discuss their interests and to discover others with the same interest. No decisions or actions are anticipated, although a sharing group may be the place where concerns are first generated to be carried forward for other types of sessions or actions.

**WORKING SESSIONS:** For purposes of this Yearly Meeting a limited number of Working Sessions (3) are offered at one time to allow a large group of Yearly Meeting attenders to participate in discussion of an issue that is of current concern to Friends. The objective is to share perspectives on the issues across what may be varying perspectives. The sessions will include some presentation on the subject by the sponsoring group, followed by an opportunity for response by attendees. Although the practice of speaking only once may not be applied in these sessions, it is important to be sure that as many as possible have the opportunity to participate and that Friends offer their views in the spirit of good order. No decision making or "minuting" is expected from these sessions.

**WORSHIP-FELLOWSHIP:** Small groups gather for an hour and a quarter to worship and respond to queries provided by the Ministry and Oversight sub-committee on Worship-Fellowship. Speaking out of the silence, participants share from their own experience, faith and beliefs, allowing an opportunity for each to respond to the query. Discussion or the giving of advice are inappropriate in these sessions which are maintained as confidential sharing among those present.