The annual gathering of Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends began at 7:30 p.m. in the dining hall at Gordon Hall Conference Center in Chico, California, with a period of silent worship.

OPENING MINUTE, PYM 1996, read by Eric Moon, Clerk:

PYM 96-1  Welcome, Friends. We are met--again--here in Chico, this year for the 50th annual sessions of Pacific Yearly Meeting. Fifty years is not old as Yearly Meetings go; New England Yearly Meeting, the oldest, is looking forward to its 350th year.

So is there anything special about being fifty? In a human life, this may be an occasion for taking stock, for celebrating accomplishments, for consolidating earlier work, for remembering. Some people at fifty are enjoying their children--now grown and gone--and PYM has its children, North Pacific and InterMountain Yearly Meetings, in whom we still may take some vicarious pride.

On this, our golden anniversary, we are still together--despite the distances, the heat, the differences, the inevitable disappointments. In our tightlipped Quaker style, we have quarreled, and we have forgiven one another dozens of times, and we have always come back home again. Welcome home...

ROLL CALL

Andrea English, Assistant Clerk, called the roll of our constituent Meetings and worship groups. Friends were present at that time from the following Monthly Meetings, Preparative Meetings and Worship Groups:

Monthly Meetings:

Apple Seed  Orange County
Berkeley  Orange Grove
Chico  Pacific Ackworth
Claremont  Palo Alto
Davis  Redding
Fresno  Redwood Forest
Grass Valley  Reno
Guatemala  Sacramento
Honolulu  San Diego
Humboldt  San Francisco
Friends were also present from Corvallis and Eugene (OR) Meetings, Sandy Springs (MD) Meeting, and from the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), Friends Bulletin, and the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC).

STATISTICAL REPORT

Betty Miller, Statistical Clerk, presented her report (Attachment A) for the year May 1, 1995 to April 30, 1996. Current membership is 1,513, down slightly from last year. Sixty-one percent of our members are in College Park Quarterly Meeting, thirty-one percent in Southern California Quarter, and eight percent have no Quarterly affiliation.

ARRANGEMENTS, REGISTRAR, TREASURER

Eric Moon reminded Friends to bring their registration packets to all plenaries because they include schedules and minutes that will be useful. The tentative schedule was reviewed, and schedule updates will be available daily.

Steve Sharpless, Arrangements Clerk, made announcements and answered questions regarding PYM and Gordon Hall housekeeping, the dining room, and other helpful rules and guidelines.

Eric Sabelman, Co-Registrar, reported that 433 Friends are signed up for PYM this year, about the same as last year.

Phyllis Jones, Co-Treasurer, reminded Friends of the new procedures for travel expense reimbursement for officers and representatives, who will be reimbursed after attending PYM if they have signed the appropriate list.
YOUNG FRIENDS

Lauren Keeler, Clerk of Young Friends, reported that Young Friends will be involved in both JYM and PYM activities, and that Friends of all ages are invited to be involved in Young Friends’ activities.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Rhea Farley coordinator, introduced Children’s Program staff, reviewed schedule, policy, and locations, and answered questions. She also noted that, since there are no Children's Program activities scheduled for the evenings, parents may wish to cooperate on childcare.

JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING

Allen Edgar, Clerk of the JYM Committee, reviewed the JYM schedule, PYM guidelines for supervision of the young people, introduced staff, and answered questions. Parents and sponsors were encouraged to attend morning worship with their teenagers.

Barbara Babin reviewed the "Respectful Relationships" program on the agenda for JYM.

MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Margaret Mossman, Clerk of Ministry and Oversight, directed Friends' attention to the section in the registration packet on "Building Community". Friends are asked to support JYM and Young Friends by making the same kind of commitments to responsible behavior that we ask of them. M&O reminds parents that the Children's Program cannot take over their responsibilities to their children. She reviewed procedures and policies relating to worship and community building.

SECRETARIAT

Larry Perry reported that Secretariat will primarily be supporting the Recording Clerks. Miracles (daily updates) will be produced as needed, and information on interest groups or schedule changes needing to be published should be cleared with Assistant Clerk Andrea English before being given to Miracle editor Claire Gorfinkel.

WORSHIP-SHARING

Betty Miller, clerk of the Ministry and Oversight Subcommittee on Worship-Sharing, introduced SubCommittee members and reviewed procedures, locations, and schedule for worship-sharing groups.

Meeting closed, following a period of silent worship, at 9:10.

James Summers, Recording Clerk

Eric Moon, Clerk
Our first morning plenary began with silent worship at 9:00, with Eric Moon presiding.

EPISTLES

Recording Clerk Lowell Tozer read excerpts from the epistles from New England Yearly Meeting, Lake Erie Yearly Meeting, and Britain Yearly Meeting.

MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Clerk Margaret Mossman noted that this week marks the 50th annual gathering of Pacific Yearly Meeting and gave us an overview of events leading up to that first meeting in Palo Alto, 8-17-1947. Members of Ministry and Oversight Committee read excerpts from Monthly Meeting State of the Meeting reports, years 1946-1970, from the PYM archives at Whittier College.

Following these glimpses of the past, we turned our focus to the present as Bob Vogel offered his views on the state of our society, based on his visits to 32 Meetings and worship groups in PYM 1995-96, as our Brinton Visitor. He noted the slight decline in membership over the past 10 years. He highlighted our needs: to encourage and prepare ourselves more rigorously for vocal ministry; to give serious attention to outreach including use of media, follow-up with visitors, and dialogue with Friends churches; and to strengthen ties between Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups, and PYM. He suggested that PYM release more seasoned Friends as Brinton Visitors, perhaps for shorter terms. (Brinton Visitor report included as Attachment B.)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Clerk Gary Wolff presented 52 nominations, which will be posted today and considered for approval later this week.

NAMING COMMITTEE

Leonard Dart presented names of Friends suggested for 3-year terms of service with the Nominating Committee: Jim Coats of Davis Meeting, Ingrid Petersen of Claremont Meeting, Gary Wolff of Orange Grove Meeting (to a second 3-year term), with Gary to serve as clerk for the coming year.
MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Clerk Margaret Mossman read the names of this year's Epistle Committee: Ellie Huffman, Helen O'Brien and Janet Leslie. Margaret talked about how M&O plans to bring to plenary the draft minute circulated by the Subcommittee on Sexual Minorities, titled Equality of Marriage Rights; Friends' concerns with the draft will be considered in an interest group on Wednesday afternoon. The Subcommittee wants to hear especially from Friends with reservations.

AD HOC COMMITTEE TO HELP FRIENDS DISCOVER THEIR LEADINGS CONCERNING A PERMANENT SITE

Jane Peers, convenor of the ad hoc group of five Friends we asked last August to solicit from our Meetings and worship groups their responses to the idea of a permanent location for PYM, owned by a small corporation independent of PYM, reported. They had found no clear leading but a wide continuum of views on the question. (Attachment C)

The Permanent Site Subcommittee judged the Cambria site too expensive to remodel, and the Badger site has been taken off the market. There is a temporary hold on the Federal process of assigning parcels at the decommissioned Fort Ord, between Monterey and Salinas. This lack of immediate possibilities may free Friends to think more broadly about potential uses of a site. Many imaginative uses for a site have been put forth. In addition, Claremont Meeting forwarded a set of questions about the relationship between the proposed corporation and PYM itself (attached as page 4 of Attachment C).

A threshing session will be held on permanent site issues Wednesday afternoon, and interest groups will meet on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

CLOSING

Rolene Otero spoke in our closing worship, reading some thoughts on how we might bring more joy and openness to the authentic moving of the Spirit into our plenaries. (Attachment D)

Sally Davis, Recording Clerk
PLENARY III

Meeting began with silent worship at 10:15, with Eric Moon presiding.

EPISTLES

Lowell Tozer, Reading Clerk, read excerpts from the 1995 epistles of Northern Yearly Meeting and New York Yearly Meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jean Malcolm, Clerk of Finance Committee, brought forward two recommendations from Finance Committee.

PYM 96-2 Friends approved augmenting East West Relations Committee's FY1996 budget by $50, the money to come from increased interest income.

Friends were also asked to consider augmenting the Friends Bulletin FY 1996 funds by $500 to assist with increased costs related to changing editors, by reducing the amount of the outstanding PYM loan to Friends Bulletin by $500. Finance Committee and board members of Friends Bulletin present were asked to clarify this request and bring it back to plenary.

FRIENDS UNITED MEETING (FUM) TRIENNIAL REPORT

Stratton Jaquette, our PYM observer at FUM, briefly characterized FUM as mostly evangelical, mostly pastoral Friends, many of them converts from earlier missionary work. He talked about some of the diversity within FUM, including some Meetings that belong both to FUM and to Friends General Conference.

Stratton characterized FUM as being near the center of American Quaker belief and practice, with PYM, as a yearly meeting, pretty much at the liberal end of that spectrum. Business is conducted in FUM by representatives from Yearly Meetings, rather than by all Friends attending. The language and customs differ from those of PYM, including, noticeably, what we would consider exclusive or sexist language. FUM holds both programmed and unprogrammed worship every morning during their sessions. A new Western Association of the Religious Society of Friends has been formed to allow Whittier Friends Church or other Friends to continue their affiliation with FUM, since Friends Church Southwest's withdrawal from FUM. After some discussion, FUM continues to associate with both the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches.

Stratton carried our loving greetings to FUM, and brings back many loving greetings from Friends there.
SITES COMMITTEE

Eric Moon reviewed the history of our choice of Craig Hall, Chico, for this year’s gathering, with the presumptive decision to meet at CalPoly in San Luis Obispo next year. Mark Koenig, Clerk of Sites Committee, noted the changes using the CalPoly site would require. He reminded us that we would meet the second, rather than the first week of August, that it would cost about $10/person/day more, and that amenities such as swimming would be limited. These are the costs of choosing a more central venue for PYM. Some reservations about this decision were expressed, and Friends were reminded that travel costs for Friends traveling from the south have represented a considerable additional assessment.

FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISION COMMITTEE

Clerk Laura Magnani reported on the process of being in search for articulation of our faith and practice, which has so far gone on for six years. The written report from this committee was included in registration packets, and is attached (Attachment E). Friends are reminded that the deadline for responding to the draft advices and queries has been extended from September, 1996 to March, 1997. The committee is simultaneously working on several topics, including marriage. The Committee invited discussion on issues surrounding divorce especially, and how our Meeting communities might support couples who are experiencing difficulties in their relationships or are separating.

Friends spoke of their experiences in their own relationships and in their Meetings. We were reminded of the value of remaining inclusive when divorce or separation occurs, not ignoring couples whose commitment is not legally recognized or is otherwise less obvious, and of including any children involved, in our care. We were reminded of the importance of not taking sides or interfering, but also of the importance of recognizing when egregious harm has been done to one of the parties, and the necessity of creating a safe place in meeting for victims. We were cautioned to maintain enough space not to be part of the problem, and to not let our own agendas and issues intrude. Friends acknowledged that considering divorce requires careful consideration of marriage and what it means to take a relationship under the care of the meeting. It was considered that a separation may be part of both partners' spiritual journeys, and that we need to envision another way of separating, one that could recognize the spiritual integrity of both journeys, and assume that the couple does not stop loving each other in some way, or stop being in relationship.

Ellie Huffman, another member of the committee, closed by speaking of the calling of the meeting community and loving individuals to respond to these needs in a way that is supportive but not intrusive.

Meeting closed with brief silent worship at 11:45.

James Summers, Recording Clerk

Eric Moon, Clerk

3-2
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
Eighth Month 7, 1996
Gordon Hall Conference Center, Chico, California

PLENARY IV

Our plenary began in silent worship promptly at 1:00 p.m.

EPistles

Recording Clerk Lowell Tozer read a cover letter that accompanied Britain Yearly Meeting's general epistle and excerpts from an epistle from the Senior Young Friends of Intermountain Yearly Meeting.

FRIENDS BULLETIN CORPORATION

Pat Daggerty, Arden Pierce, and Rob Roy Woodman, PYM members of the now autonomous Friends Bulletin Corporation Board, reported briefly on the upcoming change in editor. Nancy Yarnall was thanked for her five years of service with special appreciation expressed for the depth of her spiritual commitment to the position. Anthony Manousos of PYM was selected and will begin as editor November 1st, 1996.

UNITY WITH NATURE COMMITTEE

In the absence of clerk Bob Stauffer, treasurer Robert Schutz reported that Earthlight was the only active project of the Committee this year. He highlighted its recent articles on science and religion and on the impact of global economics on the environment. He noted that the Earthlight editor Paul Burks is donating a large portion of his time as his ministry to the religious community and the world. Earthlight, not supported financially by PYM, seeks the support of individual subscribers.

SAN FRANCISCO FRIENDS MEETING

Jack DeBeers described their new Meetinghouse, purchased two years ago, and noted the Meeting's excitement over AFSC's upcoming move into the building once remodeling is completed. Meeting's outreach to community groups has increased markedly since their move downtown, and they have attracted new members and attenders. He invited Friends and Meetings to share in the heavy costs of the remodeling by sending checks to San Francisco Friends Meeting, Inc., 65 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.
AD HOC COMMITTEE TO HELP FRIENDS DISCOVER THEIR LEADINGS
CONCERNING A PERMANENT SITE

Convenor Jane Peers invited Friends to talk individually with members of the ad hoc committee: Jean Walton, Joy O'Connell, Tom Farley, and Steve Birdlebough. She summarized suggestions offered to date for uses of a permanent site during the 51 weeks a year that PYM is not in session.

She then opened a time for threshing, inviting brief sharing by as many Friends as possible, and posed the query, "Would owning and operating a site increase or decrease our ability to minister to the world?"

Friends listened attentively to expressions of personal enthusiasm and support for acquiring a permanent site. Doubts about costs, in dollars and Friends' energies, were voiced by some. Three raised the question of whether a site might better be located proximate to either our northern or our southern demographic center, rather than to some halfway point, given the possibility of an eventual further subdivision of PYM.

Sally Davis, Recording Clerk                   Eric Moon, Clerk
PLENARY V

Meeting began with silent worship at 10:10 a.m.

EPISTLES

Lowell Tozer, Reading Clerk, read excerpts from the 1995 epistle of the Yearly Meeting of Aotearoa/New Zealand.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Phyllis and Walt Jones, Treasurers, presented the PYM interim financial report for the period Oct. 1, 1995 to July 20, 1996, explaining several items. The report is attached (Attachment F).

PYM 96-3 The Treasurer's interim report for 1995-1996 was accepted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jean Malcolm, Clerk, presented a proposed budget for FY1997, the fifth column on Attachment F, the Treasurer's report. Jean explained several proposed budget increases and decreases. This proposal will be considered for approval later this session. The committee asked that unspent Friends Bulletin funds (line item 5271) be placed in a travel fund for the Bulletin.

PYM 96-4 Friends approved transferring any funds for travel to Friends Bulletin Board meetings, unspent at the end of any fiscal year, to a reserve account to be established for that purpose.

NAMING COMMITTEE

PYM 96-5 Friends approved appointing Gary Wolff, Ingrid Petersen, and Jim Coats to the Nominating Committee, terms to expire in 1999. Gary will continue as clerk for the current year.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Gary Wolff, Clerk, presented several new nominations for offices and committees. The names are included in the report attached (Attachment N). The Committee also included nominations for an Arrangements Committee to support the Arrangements Clerks in the report. Nominating Committee has reviewed past guidelines and practices, including those on term limitations for committees. The Guidelines are included as part of Attachment G.
EAST WEST RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Karen Street, Clerk, reviewed the history of the establishment of PYM East West Relations Committee, the charge to the Committee, and the recent history of the Committee's work. Her remarks, and a questionnaire about Friends experience traveling in former East Bloc countries are attached (Attachment H).

Julie Harlow showed a few slides from the Committee's work in Moscow, and invited Friends to a more complete showing later in PYM. Ellie Huffman reported on the formation and work of the international board of Friends House Moscow. Friends are asked to continue their generous spiritual and financial support. Julie then shared some moving experiences from her last trip to Russia, reminded us of previous efforts of Friends in Russia, and shared a hopeful vision of the future of Friends in Russia. The full reports from Ellie and Julie are part of Attachment H.

MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Margaret Mossman, Clerk, presented the Minute on Equality of Marriage Rights written and circulated for seasoning among Monthly Meetings by the Subcommittee on Sexual Minority Concerns. She reminded Friends that marriage is many things, but that among other things, it is a bundle of civil rights extended by the state to those who are married, and that the proposed minute focuses on those. Friends are reminded to be tender with each other in dealing with this topic, and are asked to consider if this minute has been sufficiently seasoned to be addressed at this time.

Several Friends spoke, some speaking to the urgency of this issue, others to urge us to more careful consideration of substance and wording. Friends are asked to season this matter further, and to consider where the seasoning process should go from here.

Meeting closed after a brief period of silent worship at 11:30.

James Summers, Recording Clerk
Eric Moon, Clerk
PLENARY VI

This special plenary, remembering our members and attenders who died during the past year, gathered in quiet worship. We were lead by our Ministry and Oversight Committee (Joan Johnson, John Mackinney, Val Milliron, Margaret Mossman, Brian Vura-Weis, Elaine Wadle, and Tom Whiteman), who took turns reading poems and groups of names.

simple disbelief sometimes ----
inconceivable not to see him again
missing wing-tucks --- talking in the night
someone to complain to
hard --- finding recipes that want to share
remembering Uganda----
who'll speak Luganda with me now?
Wanting him to see R. and share in her growing up
when will there be joy in the morning again?
Who will ever love, care about my body
the C. section scar going down
wanting ---- fiercely---- for him to know things
believing — if it's important for HIM
that he know those things,
then he already does----
does this world matter to his spirit now?

He lived in it so fully once---
hard to find things with his handwriting
a list of gifts to Kim---begun while I
was in the hospital
hard days --- these
flood of bright aching memories
hard to realize ----- no more gifts from him
my birthday coming----
no more gifts for him-----
yet finding things I would love to give

...Sandra Hayward Anderson,
Endings and Beginnings

DOROTHY BONNER, Santa Barbara
KELLY BRADY, Pacific Ackworth
CHARMION COTTON, Monterey Peninsula
ELIZABETH FREY, Orange Grove

Here in this place, in this time without belief
Keep the channels open to each other's grief,
Never accept a death or life as strange
To its essence, but at each second be aware
How God is moving always through each flower
From birth to death ...

...Mary Sarton

BARBARA FRIDELL, Santa Barbara
RUTH HARTSOUGH, Redwood Forest
THOMAS HUNT, Guatemala
The months go by like water in a waterfall.
Now the Autumn is fading away.
A cricket cries in the stillness.
And I am sad and lonely.

...anonymous (6th Dynasty)

PAUL JOHNSON, Santa Barbara, attending Redwood Forest
BILL KAUTZ, Honolulu
CHESTER KEENEY, Redwood Forest
VIRGINIA LEINAU, Santa Barbara

With you part of me hath passed away,
For in the peopled forest of my mind
A tree made leafless by this wintry wind
Shall never don again its green array.
Chapel and fireside, country road and bay
Have something of their friendliness resigned,
Another, if I would, I could not find
And I am grown much older in a day.
But yet I treasure in my memory
Your gift of charity and young heart's ease,
And the dear honor of your amity
For these once mine, my life is richer with these,
And I scarce know which part may greater be --
What I keep of you, or you rob of me.

...George Santayana

CHARLES LEWIS, Redwood Forest
JO MASLAND, Marin
SUZANNE PEABODY, Santa Cruz
BETTY PECKHAM, Redwood Forest

We bereaved are not alone, We belong to the largest company in all the world-the company of those who have known suffering. When it seems that our sorrow is too great to be borne, let us think of the great family of the heavyhearted into which our grief has given us entrance, and inevitably, we will feel about us their arms, their sympathy, their understanding.

Believe, when you are most unhappy, that there is something for you to do in the world. So long as you can sweeten another's pain, life is not vain.

...Helen Keller
Jesus said: "Where I am, there you will also be." Here is a great truth put in the simplest way. For the Christian, heaven is where Jesus is. We do not need to speculate on what heaven will be like. It is enough to know that we will be for ever with Him. When we love anyone with our whole heart, life begins when we are with that person; it is only in their company that we are really and truly alive. It is so with Christ. In this world our contact with Him is shadowy, for we can only see through a glass darkly. It is spasmodic, for we are poor creatures and cannot live always on the heights. But the best definition of it is to say that heaven is that state where we will always be with Jesus, and where nothing will separate us from Him any more.

...William Barclay

I share with you the agony of your grief,
The anguish of your heart finds echo in my own.
I know I cannot enter all you feel
Nor bear with you the burden of your pain;
I can but offer what my love does give:
The strength of caring,
The warmth of one who seeks to understand
The silent storm-swept barrenness of so great a loss.
This I do in quiet ways,
That on your lonely path
You may not walk alone.

...Howard Thurman

HELEN VAN ARX, Redwood Forest
WINSTON WEBBER, La Jolla
EDWARD WRIGHT, Monterey Peninsula
I know not what the future hath
   Of marvel or surprise,
Assured alone that life and death
   His mercy underlies.

No offering of my own I have,
   Nor works my faith to prove;
I can but give the gifts He gave,
   And plead His love for love.
...

I know not where His islands lift
   Their fronded palms in air;
I only know I cannot drift
   Beyond His love and care.
   ...John Greenleaf Whittier

Peter Wright, Guatemala
Robert Young, Guatemala
Franklin Zahn, Los Angeles

The meeting for memorials closed with a period of silent worship.
PLENARY VII

Meeting began with silent worship at 10:10 a.m.

EPISTLES

Lowell Tozer, Reading Clerk, read excerpts from the epistles from Indiana Yearly Meeting and Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative). Ben Pink Dandelion from Britain Yearly Meeting, Ellen Gonzales from Mexico City Meeting, Loren Lacelle from Guatemala, Margaret Sorrel and Lynn Waddington from North Pacific Yearly Meeting were welcomed.

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING EPISODE

Ellie Huffinan, Clerk, introduced the other members of the Epistle Committee, Janet Leslie and Helen O'Brien. She then read the first draft of the proposed 1996 Epistle of Pacific Yearly Meeting.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Gary Wolf, Clerk, presented several additions and changes to the preliminary report, which will be considered for final approval this afternoon.

FRIEND IN THE ORIENT COMMITTEE

Leonard Dart, Clerk, reported on the activities of the committee, noted several changes that are taking place, and outlined plans for the coming year. Communication technology is making communication easier, and ties to the Orient, especially Korea and other countries of the Pacific Rim, remain important, but Friends are increasingly looking toward Latin America, too. The committee report is attached (Attachment I).

FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION

Jan Tappan, Convenor of PYM's Representatives to FWCC, reported on upcoming Triennial in July of 1997 in Britain, and presented a series of questions to be considered beforehand on the subject of our identities as Friends. She announced an interest group to help gather responses from PYM for FWCC. She also relayed several moving accounts of the work and trials of Friends around the world, including stories of discrimination, harassment, and abuse of women within the Society of Friends. She presented a draft minute proposed by women at FWCC, requesting that PYM to ask Friends to address these issues. The report and queries are attached (Attachment J).
Friends approved the following minute and will send it to the FWCC Interim Committee in London and to FWCC Section of the Americas in Philadelphia:

Pacific Yearly Meeting rejoices in our Quaker testimonies on equality affirming mutual respect. We have learned that, in Yearly Meetings and Quaker institutions, there have been some occurrences of sexual discrimination, harassment and abuse. Quakers are often inappropriately silent about these issues.

We all need to help each other find ways to name injustices among ourselves and to deal with them right. Pacific Yearly Meeting asks Friends gathered at the 1997 Triennial to minute their encouragement to all Yearly Meetings and other Quaker groups to find ways to discuss these issues and to share what Friends discern to be good practice.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jean Malcolm, Clerk, proposed a minute augmenting the Friends Bulletin budget by $500.

Friends approved augmenting the Friends Bulletin budget by reducing the amount of the loan outstanding from PYM by $500.

She also noted and explained several changes in the budget as proposed.

Friends approved the proposed budget for FY97 (Attachment F).

Friends approved reducing the PYM per member assessment from $31 to $30. The assessment for Mexico City will remain at $15 per member.

Friends approved transferring $250 from reserves to cover the augmentation of the Friends Committee on Unity With Nature funds approved in the 1997 budget.

SITES COMMITTEE

Eric Moon, PYM Clerk, reminded Friends of our decision to hold PYM at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo next year during the second full week in August.

Meeting approved holding Pacific Yearly Meeting 1997 at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, the second full week in August.

PERMANENT SITE COMMITTEE

Jane Peers, Clerk, introduced a draft minute encouraging creation of an independent corporation to select, purchase and operate a site permanently available to PYM. The committee's rationale and the proposed minute (Attachment C-5) will be considered at our next plenary.
EQUALITY OF MARRIAGE RIGHTS

Eric Moon, Clerk, reminded Friends of the process by which the proposed Minute on Equality of Marriage Rights has been seasoned, and reminded Friends that we are considering this matter in worship. Although most Friends were substantially in unity with this minute, other were deeply troubled. We were reminded that one of our primary charges is to love one another, even to love our enemies, that equality is an old and basic testimony of Friends, and that we must examine our prejudices and let them fall. Junior Yearly Meeting Friends returned early from their camping overnight to present us with their minute on this question:

*Junior Yearly Meeting has reached unity in supporting same sex marriages. We reached this conclusion at a business meeting after two hours of deep worship-sharing. In our decision of unity, Junior Yearly Meeting urges Pacific Yearly Meeting to support the loving bond of marriage between two people regardless of their gender.*

Other Friends had substantial reservations about wording or substance of the draft Minute on Equality in Marriage. Particularly strong feelings were expressed: some felt that serious criticism had neither been encouraged nor adequately heard; some wanted to wait until more Meetings had seasoned the minute. One Friend felt that this minute did not support spiritual sexual discipline and that it mixed sacred with economic matters inappropriately. Carl Anderson and Val Milliron asked to be recorded as "standing aside" to let this minute proceed. Consideration of this minute will be carried over to the next plenary.

Plenary VII concluded with worship, with Friends still prayerfully searching for unity on this matter.

James Summers, Recording Clerk

Eric Moon, Clerk
PLENARY VIII

Meeting opened with silent worship at 1:00. A large number of JYM Friends were present.

EPISTLES

Lowell Tozer, Reading Clerk, read excerpts from the epistles from Central and Southern Africa Yearly Meeting and from Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING EPISTLE COMMITTEE

Ellie Huffman read a revised draft of the PYM epistle. The final version (Attachment P) will incorporate the outcomes of several outstanding items of business. The final reading of the epistle will be at the beginning of closing meeting for worship tomorrow.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Friends approved the nominations proposed (Attachment N), with thanks to our Nominating Committee and to the Friends who will serve.

REGISTRAR

Registrar Eric Sabelman reported on attendance at PYM by Meeting and by age distribution (Attachment R). He also reviewed policies on money owed and refunds.

LATIN AMERICAN FRIENDS

Friends interested in Latin America – Carmen Broz, Ellen Gonzales, Janet Leslie, Brian Vura-Weis – have offered to function as an informal working group to report to Representative Committee next March on Friends’ projects in Latin America and possible proposals for future work.

PERMANENT SITE

Jane Peers, Clerk, brought forward the minute Friends were asked to consider at Plenary VII (Attachment C-6). Zac Moon, Clerk of JYM, and Anna Morgan, one of next year’s clerks, supported strongly by Junior Friends present, presented a minute from JYM supporting the acquisition of a permanent site for PYM:
After deep consideration, JYM has reached unity on the subject of a permanent site. JYM feels that a permanent site would be beneficial in the long run. We are concerned that if we do not find a permanent location, it will become increasingly difficult to find a suitable site. We believe it would be profitable in the years to come, and therefore we may have extra funds for those in need. As the future of PYM, JYM would like a place that we could call home. We would be able to create a community that will last for generations to come.

Junior Yearly Meeting of Pacific Yearly Meeting

In the discussion that followed, several pragmatic objections were discussed. We were particularly concerned about Friends spending money on a permanent site if that generosity resulted in decreased support for our existing Quaker organizations and ministries. There was also some concern about PYM's oversight role during setup and operation of this facility. Marion Givens stood aside to allow the progress of this minute.

PYM96-13 Friends approved the following minute:

Pacific Yearly Meeting approves the formation of a non-profit California corporation to further the work of establishing a permanent site for its annual session and for other uses. Pacific Yearly Meeting also requests its Nominating Committee to bring forward names of nine (9) Friends willing to serve on the initial board of directors.

MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Margaret Mossman, Clerk, opened our continuation of the discussion on the minute on Equality of Marriage Rights. Friends agreed, in the interest of clarity, to change the word "sex" to "gender" throughout. Margaret acknowledged that there are Friends who think this minute does not go far enough, as well as Friends who may feel it goes too far. She clarified that this minute does not address all issues of marriage, but is narrowly restricted to the control that the state exercises over certain specified legal rights and advantages associated with marriage. She reminded us that our decisions should, at best, reflect unity in this gathering, rather than our individual likes or dislikes. Eric Moon reminded us that we come informed by our discussions in Monthly Meeting, but that we are not a federal body of instructed delegates bound by Monthly Meeting decisions.

Several Friends again expressed frustration with the seasoning process, either that members of sexual minorities continued to suffer while the process moved slowly, or that the process was moving too fast for all to be heard. The difficulty and value of following individual leadings while maintaining unity with the group was recognized. We were reminded that the reason Friends support marriage is that it is given us by God, and reminded that we are considering this issue for all of us, not for "them". Sonda Beal asked to be recorded as "standing aside" to allow this minute to progress.

8-2
Pacific Yearly Meeting approves the following Minute on Equality of Marriage Rights.

As Quakers, some of the reasons we recognize marriages are to affirm the individuals in their choice, to support loving families, and to strengthen our spiritual community. It is also fundamental to Quaker faith and practice that we honor the equality and integrity of all human beings.

Therefore, it is our belief that it is consistent with Quakers' historical faith and testimonies that we practice a single standard of treatment for all couples who wish to marry.

Given that the State offers legal recognition of opposite-gender marriage and extends significant privileges to couples who legally marry, we believe that a commitment to equality requires that same-gender couples have the same rights and privileges.

Therefore, we believe that the State should permit gay and lesbian couples to marry and share fully and equally in the rights and responsibilities of marriage.

Our hearts leapt with joy as we sensed a condition of unity among us. We acknowledged, at the same time, some tender and brave Friends among us who continued to hold very carefully considered reservations. We committed ourselves to move forward together in love and obedience as we seek to hold up that of God in our most intimate decisions in life.

While recognizing that our minute above speaks to the narrower issue of marriage rights, Friends also wanted to record our appreciation for Junior Yearly Meeting’s work and minute on same gender relationships.

The clerk offered to meet at rise of meeting with any Friends still concerned about the process by which we reached this afternoon’s decisions, or with the decisions themselves. Friends were also invited to a “listening project” sponsored by the Subcommittee on Sexual Minorities. Meeting closed at 3:15 in silent worship, in a spirit of reconciliation and recognition of the difficulties with which today's decisions were made.

James Summers, Recording Clerk

Eric Moon, Clerk
STATISTICAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR MAY 1, 1995 TO APRIL 30, 1996.

College Park Quarterly Meeting in May 1996 welcomed MENDOCINO MEETING a new monthly meeting. Information regarding Mendocino's members will appear in next year’s report. Mailing information however is listed with the attachments for Monthly Meetings. We rejoice with Friends in Mendocino. Big Island and Napa-Sonoma continue as Preparative Meetings. Hemet Meeting is in the process of being laid down, and returning to Worship Group status.

To reflect recent changes, one attachment lists percentages of membership: Independent (no Quarterly affiliation) 8% (118 members; 3 Meetings, 1 Preparative Meeting, 5 Worship Groups), Southern California Quarterly Meeting 31% (477 members; 14 Meetings; 9 Worship Groups); College Park Quarterly Meeting 61% (918 members; 20 Meetings 1 Preparative Meeting, 10 Worship Groups).

Current membership is 1,513. This is a net loss of 23 members. Several large meetings have released inactive members this year.

In your service,

Betty L. Miller,
Statistical Clerk
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING STATISTICS, APRIL 30, 1996

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This report is for the statistical year May 1, 1995 - April 30, 1996.

Note: Mendocino Meeting was approved as a new Monthly Meeting in May 1996, and therefore not listed above.
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APPLE SEED Meeting  
Sebastopol Senior Center, 167 No. High St., Sebastopol, CA  
mail: P.O. Box 1135, Sebastopol, CA 95473-1135  
Clerk: Rick Troth  707-874-3821  Term to: 12/31/96  
PYM Rep.: Rick Troth  Term to: 8/31/96  
Observer: April DuBois  707-875-2340  Term to: 8/31/96  
Worship: 10 AM

BERKELEY Meeting  
2151 Vine St, Berkeley, CA 94709  
Clerk: Paul Mackinney 510-528-2468  Term to: 5/31/97  
PYM Rep.: Liz Amen 209-527-5322  Term to: 5/31/97  
Observer: Fred Gey 510-524-4080  Term to: 5/31/97  
Worship: 11 AM

CHICO Meeting  
2603 Mariposa, Chico, CA  
mail: P.O. Box 3769, Chico, CA 95927  
Clerk: Peter Milbury 916-343-5273  Term to: 4/30/97  
PYM Rep.: Linda Rowell  
Observer: Peter Milbury  
Worship: 10:30 AM

CLAREMONT Meeting  
727 W. Harrison Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711  
Clerk: Diana Lockard 909-624-6011  Term to: 4/30/97  
mail: 877 Ottawa Dr., Claremont, CA 91711  
PYM Rep.: Anne Davenport 909-626-3106  Term to: 4/30/97  
mail: 365 W. San Jose, Claremont, CA 91711  
Observer: not appointed as of 7/96  
Worship: 9:30 AM

DAVIS Meeting  
345 L Street, Davis, CA 95616  
Clerk: Josselyn Fairchild 916-753-7971  Term to: 7/01/97  
PYM Rep.: Jim Coats 916-735-6594  Term to: 8/31/96  
Observer: Alice Henry 916-622-3504  Term to: 8/31/96  
Worship: 10 AM

DELTA Meeting  
American Friends Service Committee Center, 2nd, 3rd & 4th weeks  
445 West Weber Ave., Stockton, CA  
mail: c/o Clerk, 408 E. Loretta, Stockton, CA 95207  
Clerk: Elizabeth (Betsy) Huling 209-478-8423  Term to: 6/09/97  
PYM Rep.: Betsy Huling  
Observer:  
Worship: 10:30 AM

FRESNO Meeting  
2721 San Joaquin Avenue, Fresno, CA  
Call for 5th week  
mail: c/o 2721 San Joaquin Ave, Fresno, CA 93721  
Clerk: Lowell Barnett 209-435-0618  Term to: 4/30/97  
mail: 5304 N. Colonial Ave., Unit 101, Fresno, CA 93704  
PYM Rep.: Jim Kratzer 209-224-8518  Term to: 4/30/97  
mail: 789 East Fairmont Ave., Fresno, CA 94704  
Observer:  
Worship: 10 AM  
Term to: 8/31/96
GRASS VALLEY Meeting 13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA 95959 Worship: 9:45 AM
Clerk: Eve Hall 916-265-3164 Term to: 6/30/97
PYM Rep.: Megan Black 916-272-3936 Term to: 6/30/97
Observer: Lois McClure Smith 916-663-3539 Term to: 6/30/97

GUATEMALA Meeting Worship: 11 AM
In homes, call for location in GUATEMALA 1st & 3rd weeks
mail (courrier service): c/o clerk: Lacelle L-180, 7907 NW 53rd
Street, Suite 409, Miami, FL 33166
Clerk: Loren Lacelle telephone: unk. Term to: 6/01/97
PYM Rep.: Loren Lacelle
Observer:

HEMET Meeting Worship: 9 AM
43480 Cedar Avenue, Hemet, CA 92544
mail c/o Clerk, 43480 Cedar Avenue, Hemet, CA 92544
Clerk: Ann Rush 909-927-7678 Term to: open
PYM Rep.: not appointed as of 7/96 Term to:
Observer:

HONOLULU Meeting Worship: 10 AM
2426 Oahu Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96822
Clerk: Keith Crook 808-944-0749 Term to: 4/30/97
PYM Rep.: Polly Pool 808-235-6500 Term to: 9/01/96
mail: 46-082 Pu'ulena St. #1213, Kaneohe, HI 96744
Observer: Sabina Swift 808-521-7053 Term to: 9/01/97
mail: 1640-D O' o Lane, Honolulu, HI 96817

HUMBOLDT Meeting Worship: 11 AM
1920 Zehndner, Arcata, CA 95521
mail: P.O. Box 4786, Arcata, CA 95521
Clerk: Ross Mackinney 707-442-5280 Term to: 5/31/97
PYM Rep.: not appointed as of 7/96 Term to:
Observer:

INLAND VALLEY Meeting Worship: 10 AM
Call for location
mail: P.O. Box 7554, Redlands, CA 92373
Clerks: Michael Dunn 909-682-5364 Term to: 6/30/97
& Alan Rhodes 909-682-8379 Term to: 6/30/97
mail: 250 E. Blaine St., Riverside, CA 92507
PYM Rep.: Brian Vura-Weis 909-796-6379 Term to: 6/30/97
mail: 26519 Beaumont Ave., Redlands, CA 93373
Observer: Linda Dunn 909-682-5364 Term to: 6/30/97
mail: 250 E. Blaine St., Riverside, CA 92507

LA JOLLA Meeting Worship: 10 AM
7380 Eads Avenue, La Jolla, CA 92037
Clerk: Dianne Wepsc 619-755-3203 Term to: 5/01/97
PYM Rep.: Aibi Reed 619-263-1266 Term to: 5/01/97
Observer:
LOS ANGELES Meeting
4167 S. Normandie Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90037
Worship: 11 AM
Term to: 4/30/97
Clerk: Juliet Wright 213-295-0733
PYM Rep.: Anne Friend 213-737-3256
Observer: Mary Dixon
Term to: 4/30/97
Term to: 4/30/97
MARIN Meeting
177 East Blithedale Avenue, Mill Valley
mail: P.O. Box 1301, Mill Valley, CA 94942
Worship: 10 AM
Term to: 4/30/97
Clerk: Mark Farmer 415-924-6633
PYM Rep.: Louise Aldrich 415-491-0113
Term to: 4/30/97
mail: 57 Meadow Dr., San Rafael, CA 94903
Observer: not appointed as of 7/96
Term to:
MARLOMA-LONG BEACH Meeting
Huntington School, 2935 Spaulding, Long Beach, CA
mail: P.O. Box 3674, Seal Beach, CA 90740
Worship: 10 AM
Term to: 6/30/97
Clerk: Raymond Soares 310-514-1730
PYM Rep.: Helen Gutkin
Term to: 6/30/97
Observer:
Term to:
MENDOCINO Meeting
Caspar Shul (old Caspar Church), Old Highway One, Caspar, CA
mail: P.O. Box 1003, Mendocino, CA 95460
Worship: 10 AM
Term to: 12/31/96
Clerk: Katy Festinger 707-964-8114
PYM Rep.: Ellen Gonzalez 525-563-0809
Term to: 12/31/96
Observer:
Term to:
MEXICO CITY Meeting (Casa de los Amigos)
Ignacio Mariscal 132, Colonia Revolucion, 06030 Mexico, D.F., MEXICO
mail: P.O. Box 789, Pacific Grove, CA 93950
Worship: 11 AM
Term to: 2/28/97
Clerk: Shirley Jaster
PYM Rep.: Ellie Huffman 408-664-0331
Term to: 2/28/97
Observer: Jack Huffman
Term to: 2/28/97
MONTEREY PENINSULA Meeting
O'Donnell Library, 155 Van Buren Avenue, Monterey, CA
mail: P.O. Box 789, Pacific Grove, CA 93950
Worship: 11 AM
Term to: 6/30/97
Clerk: Judy Harmer 714-846-8967
PYM Rep.: Kiki Nagatani 714-870-6379
Term to: 6/30/97
mail: 5711 Rogers, Huntington Beach, CA 92649
Observer: Margaret Mints 714-509-7217
Term to: 6/30/97
mail: 19191 Harvard Blvd., Unit 45B, Irvine, CA 92715
ORANGE COUNTY Meeting
Harbor Area Adult Day Care, 861 Hamilton, Costa Mesa, CA
mail: 1927-A Harbor Blvd., Suite 343, Costa Mesa, CA 92626
Worship: 11:30 AM
Term to: 5/31/97
Clerk: Judy Harmer 714-846-8967
PYM Rep.: Kiki Nagatani 714-870-6379
Term to: 5/31/97
mail: 5711 Rogers, Huntington Beach, CA 92649
Observer: Margaret Mints 714-509-7217
Term to: 5/31/97
mail: 19191 Harvard Blvd., Unit 45B, Irvine, CA 92715
ORANGE GROVE Meeting
526 E. Orange Grove Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91104
Worship: 11 AM
Term to: 6/30/97
Clerks: Jean Lester 818-577-1691
PYM Rep.: Sharon Gates 714-645-8956
Observer: Terry MacKenzie 805-528-6487
mail: 336 Highland Dr., Los Osos, CA 93402-3714
PACIFIC ACKWORTH Meeting  
6210 Temple City Blvd., Temple City, CA 91780  
Clerk: Cal Edinger 818-280-6335  
PYM Rep.: Cal Edinger  
Observer:  
Worship: 11 AM  
Term to: 4/30/97  
Term to: 4/30/97  
Term to:  

PALO ALTO Meeting  
957 Colorado Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94303  
Clerk: Stratton Jaquette 415-941-9562  
PYM Rep.: Arden Pierce 415-494-1631  
1997 Rep: Tom Farley 415-366-1818  
Observer:  
Worship: 11 AM  
Term to: 8/31/97  
Term to: 8/31/96  
Term to: 8/31/97  

REDDING Meeting  
Home of Jones Family, 3825 Canterbury Drive, Redding, CA  
mail: P.O. Box 991665, Redding, CA 96099-1665  
Clerk: Walter Jones 916-223-5405  
PYM Rep.: Marie Hubbard 916-241-6906  
Observer:  
Worship: 10 AM  
Term to: 5/01/97  
Term to: 5/01/97  
Term to:  

REDWOOD FOREST Meeting  
2 locations:  
Meetinghouse: 1647 Guerneville Road, Santa Rosa, CA  
Friends House: 684 Benicia Drive, Santa Rosa, CA  
mail: P.O. Box 1831, Santa Rosa, CA 95402  
Clerk: Jane Mills 707-539-6517  
PYM Rep.: Karen Morgan 707-938-8350  
mail: 17266 Buena Vista Ave., Sonoma, CA 95476  
1997 Rep: Nancy Curdts 707-542-4586  
Observer:  
Worship: 10 AM  
Term to: 8/31/98  
Term to: 8/31/97  
Term to:  

RENO Meeting  
YWCA (back door), 1301 Valley Road, Reno, NV  
mail: c/o 497 Highland Avenue, Reno, NV 89512  
Clerk: Dorothy Goetz 702-787-1655  
mail: 1625 Severn Dr., Reno 89503  
PYM Rep.: Dorothy Goetz  
Observer: Dan Richards  
Worship: 10:30 AM  
Term to: 4/30/97  
Term to: 4/30/97  
Term to:  

SACRAMENTO Meeting  
Stanford Settlement, 450 W. El Camino, Sacramento, CA  
mail: P.O. Box 163677, Sacramento, CA 95816  
Clerk: LuRetta Fairman 916-454-5964  
PYM Rep.: Sally Davis 916-486-1025  
Observer: Walter Kersey 916-456-5444  
Worship: 10 AM  
Term to: 4/30/97  
Term to: 4/30/97  
Term to:  

SAN DIEGO Meeting  
4848 Seminole Drive, San Diego, CA 92115  
Clerk: Jean Malcolm 619-287-4127  
PYM Rep.: Lowell Tozer 619-672-3610  
Observer: Alison Lawrance  
Worship: 10:30 AM  
Term to: 4/30/97  
Term to: 4/30/97  
Term to:  

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Meeting  
15056 Bledsoe, Sylmar  
mail: P.O. Box 922378, Sylmar, CA 91392  
Clerk: Ken Hurst 805-270-9707  
PYM Rep.: George Rudenko 818-367-3273  
Observer:  
Worship: 11:30 AM  
Term to: Open  
Term to:  
Term to:
SAN FRANCISCO Meeting
65 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103
Clerk: Joan Runyon 415-435-0390
PYM Rep.: Keith Wedmore 415-383-7540
mail: 5 Cornelia Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941
Observer: not appointed as of 7/96
Worship: 11 AM
Term to: 4/30/97

SAN JOSE Meeting
1041 Morse Street, San Jose, CA 95126
Clerk: Lea Frey 408-356-5698
PYM Rep.: Chet Spurrier
Observer: 
Worship: 10 AM
Term to: 6/30/97

SANTA BARBARA Meeting
Marymount School, 2130 Mission Ridge Road, Santa Barbara, CA
mail: P.O. Box 40120, Santa Barbara, CA 93140-0120
Clerks: Ron Jones 805-569-4052
Nancy Michelson 805-687-0655
Noel Cragg 805-964-1892
mail: 6244 Aberdeen Ave., Goleta, CA 93117
Observer: 
Worship: 10 AM
Term to: 6/30/97

SANTA CRUZ Meeting
117 Union Street, Santa Cruz
mail: P.O. Box 813, Santa Cruz, CA 95061
Clerk: Lonna Merklinghaus 408-426-9276
PYM Rep.: Betty De Valcourt 408-423-8785
Observer: Walter & Tracy Sullivan 408-336-8333
Worship: 10 AM
Term to: 6/30/97

SANTA MONICA Meeting
1440 Harvard Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404
mail: P.O. Box 5065, Santa Monica, CA 90402
Clerk: Shan Cretin 310-393-7660
PYM Rep.: Shan Cretin
mail: 402 15th St., Santa Monica, CA 90402
Observer: not appointed as of 7/96
Worship: 10 AM
Term to: 6/30/97

STRAWBERRY CREEK Meeting
as of 9/1/96: Shelton School, 3339 M.L. King, Jr. Way, Berkeley
mail: P.O. Box 5065, Berkeley, CA 94705-0065
Clerk: Joyce Samati 510-465-0598
PYM Rep.: Beth Wrightson 510-271-0724
mail: 729 Rand Ave. Apt. B, Oakland, CA 94610
Observer: 
Term to: 9/30/97

VISALIA Meeting
17208 Avenue 296, Visalia, CA 93292
Clerk: Charlene Caudle 209-732-3786
PYM Rep.: William Lovett
Observer:
Worship: 10:30 AM
Term to: 12/31/97

WHITLEAF Meeting
Whittier College, Admin.Bldg, Philadelphia & Painter Sts., Whittier
mail: P.O. Box 122, Whittier, CA 90608
Clerk: Helen O'Brien 310-698-2503
PYM Rep.: Maggie Hutchinson 310-804-2133
mail: 9325 Walnut, Bellflower, CA 90206
Observer: Helen O'Brien 310-698-2503
Worship: 9:30 AM
Term to: 5/31/97
PREPARATIVE MEETINGS:

BIG ISLAND Preparative Meeting
Worship locations rotate, call for location
mail: c/o Wheeler Gerrish P.O. Box 282, Laupahoehoe HI 96764
Clerk: Wesley Voth 808-889-5800 Term to: 1/20/97
mail: P.O. Box 1462, Kapa'au, HI 96755
PYM Rep.: " Term to: 8/31/97
Observer: Term to:
Under the joint care of Honolulu Monthly & Pacific Yearly Meetings

NAPA-SONOMA Preparative Meeting
Magic Years Preschool, 1777 Laurel Street, Napa, CA
mail: c/o Wilcox, 57 Chapel Hill Drive, Napa, CA 94559
Clerk: David Kearney-Brown 707-226-2064 Term to: open
PYM Rep.: Marianne Kearney-Brown " Term to: open
Observer:
Under the care of: Redwood Forest Meeting

WORSHIP GROUPS: (if not meeting weekly, then time listed refers to numbered weeks, e.g. 3rd weeks = 3rd Firstday of the month)

Amador County Worship Group
Home of Bunting family
mail: c/o Bunting, 10730 Bonnefoy Dr., Jackson, CA 95642
Correspondent: Judy & Peter Bunting 209-223-0843
Under the care of: Delta Meeting

Atascadero Worship Group
Worship: 10:30 AM
Pre-worship sharing: 9:45 AM
Home of Irene Wade, 10080 Old Morrow Road East, Atascadero, CA
mail: c/o Anderson, 7030 Union Road, Paso Robles, CA 93422
Correspondent: Holly Anderson 805-239-9163
Under the care of: Delta Meeting

Bishop Worship Group
Call for location & time
Worship: evenings
Alternate weeks
mail: c/o Scheidlinger, 393 Mt. Tom Rd., Bishop, CA 93514
Correspondent: Carla & David Scheidlinger 619-873-8439
Under the care of: Reno Meeting

Chula Vista Worship Group
Home of Barbara Mahal
mail: c/o Mahal, 1411 Eagle Peak, Chula Vista, CA 91910
Correspondent: Barbara Mahal 619-421-0294

Conejo Valley Worship Group
Worship: 10:30 AM
Thousand Oaks Community Center
1st, 3rd & 5th weeks
2525 Moorpark Blvd., Thousand Oaks
mail: c/o Johnson, 2224 Thorsby Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91361
Correspondent: Joan Johnson 805-495-9753
Under the care of: Orange Grove Meeting

Hayward Area Worship Group
Worship: Monthly
Call for location & time
mail: c/o Glines, 22566 Fifth Street, Hayward, CA 94541
Correspondent: Elsa Glines 510-582-2076
Hermosillo Worship Group
Worship: inactive
Call or write for information
mail: Felipe Salido 32, Hermosillo, Sonora, MEXICO
Correspondent: Eric Kreckler (011) 526-237-0142

Kaua‘i Worship Group
Worship: Call for location & time
mail: c/o Douthitt, P.O. Box 1361, Lihue, HI 96766
Correspondent: Lucy Douthitt 808-274-3311 (days)

Lake County Worship Group
Worship: 2 PM
Methodist Church, First & Main, Kelseyville, CA 2nd & 4th weeks
mail: c/o Christwitz, 7700 Kelsey Creek Dr., Kelseyville, CA 95451
Correspondent: Barbara Christwitz 707-279-9566

Las Vegas Worship Group
Worship: 5 PM
First Christian Church monthly potluck last FRIDAY 6 PM
101 So. Rancho Drive, Rm. 4, Las Vegas, NV
mail: c/o Morton, 3417 E. Cheyenne Ave. #139, Nc. Las Vegas NV 89030
Correspondent: Mary Morton 702-898-5785
Under the care of: Inland Valley Meeting (under Reno on 4/30/96)

Los Osos Worship Group
Worship: 10:30 AM
Call for location
mail: c/o Lauser, 429 Binscarth Street, Los Osos, CA 93402
Correspondent: Murry Lauser 805-528-1249

Maui Worship Group
Worship: 10:30 AM
Call for location
mail: c/o Jean Norman 760 Kihei Road #616, Kihei, HI 96753
Correspondents: John Dart 808-878-2190 / Jean Norman 808-879-9125

Molokai Worship Group
Worship: FRIDAYS 5 PM, potluck follows
Call for location
mail: S.R. Box 338-C, Kaunakakai, HI 96748
Correspondent: Claud Sutcliffe 808-558-8923

Noe Valley/Bernal Heights Worship Group
Worship: 10 AM
185 Lundy’s Lane, San Francisco, CA
mail: c/o Morris, 555 Moscow Street, San Francisco, CA 94112
Correspondent: Markley Morris 415-586-1782
Under the care of: San Francisco Meeting

Ojai Worship Group
Worship: 10 AM
514 Vista Hermosa Drive, Ojai, CA
mail: c/o Hubler, P.O. Box 793, Ojai, CA 93024
Correspondent: Jane Hubler 805-646-3200
Under the care of: Santa Barbara Meeting

San Luis Obispo Worship Group
Worship: 9:30 AM
Cal Poly Christian Center, 1486 Foothill Bl., San Luis Obispo, CA
mail: c/o Alexander, 30 El Mirador Court, San Luis Obispo 9340
Correspondent: Anna Alexander 805-594-1859
South County Worship Group  
Call for location & time  
mail: c/o Child, 240 Snyder Avenue, Aromas, CA 95004  
Correspondent: Linda Child 408-726-2093  
Under the care of: Santa Cruz Meeting  

Southern Humboldt Worship Group  
Call for location  
mail: c/o Andrews, P.O. Box 877, Redway, CA 95560  
Correspondent: Bill Andrews 707-923-3377  

Tahoe Worship Group  
Call for location  
mail: c/o Lovett-Adair, 1027 Turnback Trail, So. Lake Tahoe, CA 96151  
Correspondent: Melissa Lovett-Adair 916-542-9462  
Under the care of: Reno Meeting  

Ventura Worship Group  
Call for location  
mail: c/o 340 N. Dos Caminos Avenue, Ventura, CA 93003  
Correspondents: Jim Mangis & Marion Holzworth 805-641-1770  
Under the care of: Santa Barbara Meeting  

West Marin Worship Group  
Freitas Center  
Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Olema, CA  
mail: P.O. Box 69, Olema, CA 94950  
Correspondent: Mary Golden 415-669-1500  

West Valley Worship Group  
Call for location  
mail: c/o Peattie, 23311 County Road 88, Winters, CA 95694  
Correspondent: Noel Peattie 916-662-3364  
Under the care of: Davis Meeting  

Willets Worship Group  
Call for location  
mail: c/o Marshall, 485 Raymond Lane, Willets, CA 95490  
Correspondent: Dianne Marshall 707-459-1911  

Windward Oahu Worship Group  
Call for location  
mail: Part of Honolulu Meeting, additional mailings unnecessary  
Correspondent: Polly Pool 808-235-6500  
Under the care of: Honolulu Meeting  

Worship:

South County Worship Group  
Worship:

Southern Humboldt Worship Group  
Worship: 9:30 AM  

Tahoe Worship Group  
Worship: 10 AM  

Ventura Worship Group  
Worship: 10:30 AM  

West Marin Worship Group  
Worship: 11:30 AM  

West Valley Worship Group  
Worship: 9:30 AM  

Willets Worship Group  
Worship: 11 AM  

Windward Oahu Worship Group  
Worship: 9:45 AM  

Under the care of: Santa Cruz Meeting  

Under the care of: Santa Cruz Meeting  

Under the care of: Santa Barbara Meeting  

Under the care of: Reno Meeting  

Under the care of: Davis Meeting  

Under the care of: Honolulu Meeting  

A-10
Brinton Visitor Report to PYM 1996

In the next ten to fifteen minutes I have been asked to offer the State of Society as observed through visits to Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups in Pacific Yearly Meeting from May to December 1995. During the year, as your Brinton Visitor, I have visited 64 Meetings in Pacific and North Pacific Yearly Meetings. Today, I will only be sharing my observations of what I discovered in PYM. I visited 32 Meetings and Worship Groups, week-end retreats in Nevada and Hawaii, plus two weeks of visits on four islands in the Hawaiian Islands.

I should say, at the outset, that these are my own limited observations. It is not possible in a 24 hour visit to both share and learn the state of each meeting. With this caveat, let me share some of my impressions.

I wonder if Pacific Yearly Meeting is in decline, especially in Southern California, where 3 Monthly Meetings (Westwood, San Fernando, & Hemet) and 2 Worship Groups have been laid down. In Northern California there are three new meetinghouses (San Francisco, Redwood Forest, and Reno); and several are raising funds for Meetinghouses.

According to our Statistician, the YM experienced a net loss of 23 members since our 1995 YM. 61% of PYM’s membership of 1513, not including children and non-members, come from College Park Quarter; 32% from Southern California, and 7% from Nevada and Hawaii. I was curious to see how our membership has changed over the years. In 1986, ten years ago, we had a membership of 1507. 1507!! Today it is 1513. So, in ten years, we have a net gain of 6 members.

I am indebted to Joan Johnson, Pat Diensfrey, and to Big Island Friends for arranging my schedule. Although I had offered a few subjects, I generally began the meeting with a question period. I have found that the questions folks ask are one indication of
the things that matter to Friends. I have tabulated the responses as follows:

16 meetings wanted to discuss the worship experience and Quaker Spirituality.
14 were concerned with Quaker decision making process, how we conduct our meetings and discern the will of God or a true leading.
10 meetings wanted to discuss our peace testimony from an international perspective, and at least 5 were wrestling with the problems of violence and conflict resolution.
Outreach and problems of a small meeting or worship group was the subject of 11 Meetings wanted to discuss.
5 Meetings were curious about the wider family of Friends throughout the world
5 were concerned on how we can build community.
4 others listed religion and social action and Christocentric v Universalist issues.
Here are some of the impressions that grew out of the visits:

Vocal Ministry. In many meetings there is little vocal ministry and few references to God, Jesus, and the Bible. How to encourage vocal ministry was one of the retreat topics where we evaluated the paper on "Leadership Among Friends" by Ron McDonald who urges that we prepare ourselves more rigorously for the spoken ministry. The Christocentric/Universalist controversy affects the language that we use. Britain YM's new Faith and Practice helps us to see that one category does not exclude the other. It notes on the one hand that Universalism is by definition inclusivist, and that from the beginning the Quaker Christian faith has had a universal dimension. In both ends of California there has begun Friends Christian Fellowship groups that study the Bible and feel comfortable in using Christian spiritual imagery. In order to encourage Friends to share in vocal ministry, some meetings have introduced "After thought" periods at the rise of Meeting in which worshipers have an opportunity to share their spiritual inspirations.

Meetings for Learning. Several meetings have sponsored courses, Quakerism 101
and Quakerism 202 and week-end retreats; others have invited individuals to share their spiritual journeys; two that I know of have tapped the resources of Pendle Hill on the Road; and at least one meeting has an "out to lunch" time in nearby restaurants one Sunday a month to strengthen the fellowship. One of our larger Meetings has encouraged acquaintances through organizing the membership into Friendly 8's. Outreach. Many Friends find opportunities to express their social concerns through Quaker organizations, like the AFSC, FCNL, FCL, and AVP. I found very little follow-up with visitors, and there seems to be little interest of understanding, and hardly any contact with Friends churches in the area. There was considerable interest in the leaflet prepared in the Los Angeles area, "What? There are Quakers in Los Angeles?" and the publication in the local press of a telephone to learn the location and times of worship of Friends in the area. One small meeting prepared and presented six TV programs on Quakers; and in a few cases, the press and radio were able to cover some of my meetings. I would urge Friends to take advantage of traveling Friends and future Brinton Visitors to arrange media coverage. However, in an amusing incident, we were reminded to spell out the words and not use our alphabet soup. The news release announcing one of my meetings noted that I had been a C.O. in World War 2. The newspaper proudly announced that I had been a Commanding Officer in World War 2. A correction was published a day or so later. In at least one meeting, the task of taking care of the needs of members took priority over community involvement. Meetings for Business & Good Order. Because of continuing changes taking place in our meetings, care needs to be taken to instruct ourselves in Clerking, Minute Taking, reaching the sense of the Meeting (not consensus), what is and what is not the items to take to Meeting for Business. I was told of a number of incidents where good order was not followed, where there was confusion in distinguishing the differences between unity and unanimity -- all resulting in unhappiness and on a few occasions,
resignations. Decisions of property upkeep, the color of the rug or curtains on the
window, may reveal the lack of community. I am sure that God does not care very
much about these mundane questions. There are some things we simply must leave
to committees, and be grateful and accept their decisions. I also learned of
unresolved personality conflicts that sometimes result when good order is not
followed. Unfortunately, we do not do very well when these conflicts surface, and we
need to do our homework in conflict resolution.

Relationships between Yearly and Monthly Meetings. I wonder how many Monthly
Meeting Clerks are here at this Yearly Meeting . . . During the course of the year I
have visited Friends Meetings in New England, Philadelphia & , more recently in the
North Pacific YM area. I was interested in discovering what we can learn about church
government and especially the relationships between the Yearly Meeting and its
Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups. In New England, for instance, the Yearly
Meeting's Ministry and Oversight Committee is made up of representatives from each
Monthly Meeting as well as officers and at large members. North Pacific YM stays very
close to its constituent Monthly and Quarterly Meetings. It has a Steering Committee
that meets four times a year. And all items that come before the Yearly Meeting must
have been seasoned by the local meeting. There was only one item that came to the
floor from an interest group: the proposal to receive funds to rebuild the Black
churches in the South. Because of this process, there are much fewer items coming to
the business sessions of North Pacific YM than are the practice here. PYM might want
to take a look at our governance to see if ways can be found to strengthen
relationships between our local Meeting and the Yearly Meeting.

The Importance of Visits. Although Quarterly Meeting's Ministry and Council members
do make visits to local meetings, often when problems arise, other than the occasional
Brinton Visitor, there are few Friends called to the traveling ministry. Time and again
have I heard the observation and plea: "The Meeting is in transition. One of our problems is aging. Leaders are moving away. Many attenders and few members need seasoned and experienced Friends. We need and welcome visits."

The Brinton Visitor program is but a small and welcome approach. In the last year, the three YM's raised about $5,000 to release Marge Abbott to visit in Intermountain and me to visit in Pacific and North Pacific Yearly Meetings. I would hope that we could release and fund more Friends to carry on this work throughout the year. One of our former Visitors felt that the current program was too much of a strain on the visitor, while not denying its worth.

So dear Friends, these are some of my observations and thoughts on this last year's Brinton visits. I want to thank the Yearly Meeting for releasing me for this ministry and pray that many other Friends may be released so that the message and witness of Friends may be strengthened.
Shared Leadings on a Permanent Site for PYM

Report of the PYM Ad Hoc Committee to "open the opportunity for Monthly Meetings to share their leadings concerning the development of a permanent site for PYM's annual gatherings and other uses" (name taken from the PYM95 minutes establishing the committee)

Friends throughout Pacific Yearly Meeting have been considering the matter of a permanent site for PYM over many years. When it became clear that no rented site had been found to fit us in all of our requirements and desires, the issue of owning a site which could be developed according to our specifications began to be discussed.

In the August 1995 sessions, Friends found it very difficult to separate discussion of (a) ownership in the abstract from (b) consideration of specific sites. Our ad hoc committee was created to try to help Friends in their search, with the narrow focus on "leadings". We sent out a letter trying to give a clear statement of the purpose of discussions Friends were asked to hold: that is, to examine our spiritual development and management of any piece of property, wherever it might be found. Holding our Yearly Meeting in the Light, Friends also considered the consequences, both spiritual and practical, of such an undertaking.

During the past year, we have had responses from 20 Meetings and worship groups and from 15 individual Friends. Additionally, at least three discussions were held during sessions of the two Quarterly Meetings. This report attempts to summarize the results and what they seem to mean.

Without going into a statistical analysis, it is quite apparent that Friends have had no clear leading up to this time. There is not unity among us, either to guide us into ownership or to cause us to refuse it. Friends are spread along a wide continuum, from (a) great enthusiasm and vision about the benefits and uses, for PYM, but also for Friends in general and for many sectors of the wider community, all the way to (z) great discomfort with the idea of ownership of property and with the commitment of our resources to such an endeavor.

6/28/1996
Few Friends are at either extreme. It was very hard for Friends to separate the concept from a specific site, and many of the issues raised had to do with location or topography. It was also hard to separate the spiritual from the practical, financial questions.

However, the exercise has been valuable in that our thinking about the possibilities has become both broader (in that we have seen many more beneficial applications) and deeper (in that we have examined ourselves and our motivations rather closely). It became clear that many Friends have long cherished hopes for Friends' involvement in ecological and environmental projects. Several new concepts were brought forward. One consideration which has surfaced in many guises is the matter of the future of PYM.

At present, however, we have a new freedom to examine this matter. Neither of the two sites considered last August is available to us now. With the tremendous amount of work done by the Permanent Sites subcommittee of the Sites Committee and the feasibility study presented to Representative Committee in March, most of the possible uses of any site have been examined. Basically, the result of that feasibility study seems to indicate that it would probably be feasible for a group of people to develop a site which would encompass the need of PYM and also serve other populations so well as to be financially sound. Our committee points out that such a group would need to be willing to give generously of time and initial capital. The issue of the relationship between that group and PYM itself would need to be carefully explored. Any group that would set out to develop a permanent site would need to be motivated by clear objectives, with specific concepts of the uses of the site in a larger vision than one week per year by PYM, and those objectives and concepts would need to be clearly articulated.

All Meetings should have a copy of that study by the subcommittee of Sites Committee, since it was distributed to all Representatives and Friends present in March. We recommend that Friends look it over again with particular reference, not to the site for which was developed, but to the range of uses discussed. Pages 13 and 14, "Potential Uses," may be particularly helpful. Having no specific site in view, Friends have a wonderful opportunity to consider seriously whether or not we are led to look for a place where such work could be carried out.

6/28/1996
This committee suggests that Friends continue to discuss the questions about the uses of a site and try to establish priorities among those uses. Many of them are for ourselves: for study camps for Quaker children, a "home place" for Young Friends, and uses by specific groups among us, such as Monthly or Quarterly Meetings, gay and lesbian groups (who are sometimes are not welcome in other facilities: we need to be clear about their welcome to use ours), "leadership training" sessions for Friends,"theology conferences," and other conferences and meetings. Beyond ourselves, options include ecologically sound development with use as a demonstration facility for "outside" groups, nature study camping for school groups, environmentally responsible living for Elderhostel groups, facilities for other religious groups whose requirements are similar to ours, and other ideas. Almost all of the visions are based on a rural setting, with development using ecologically responsible techniques, designs and architecture.

With so many ideas, Friends have much to explore! However, freed from any particular site, we may be able to ask ourselves more clearly whether or not PYM, or any group of Friends within PYM, has a clear leading to pursue the search.

The findings from the past year's discussions among us did not demonstrate such a clear leading. It seems that PYM Friends should continue to seek together at this deep level. We may have been led now into the discussion we should have had before even beginning to consider any specific site. This committee has hope that Friends will come to the 1996 PYM sessions prepared to talk together in honesty and love. Through this mutual search, extending into local Meetings, the way may become clear to Friends throughout PYM.

Submitted by the committee:
Jane Peers (clerking), Steve Birdelbough, Tom Farley, Joy O'Connell, Jean Walton.
TO: Pacific Yearly Meeting, Eric Moon, Clerk  
FROM: Claremont Monthly Meeting, Diana Lockard, Clerk  
July 28, 1996  
RE: Questions Related to PYM Permanent Site  
Dear Friends:  
Members of our Meeting have considered this year the several questions sent us by Jane Peers' ad hoc committee and also have studied the lengthy Feasibility Study circulated by the Permanent Site subcommittee of the Sites Committee. We are grateful for the hard work done by these committees to help us consider the complex issues that face our Yearly Meeting in regard to a permanent site. We acknowledge the complexity, and do not see easy solutions.  
Most recently we have looked at the proposed minute regarding the formation of a non-profit corporation which the Permanent Site subcommittee has indicated it plans to bring before PYM plenary session. (See page 18 in the committee report.) We believe there may be value ultimately in the formation of such a corporation, but we see some critical questions which PYM needs to consider before taking up this minute or any similar later revision which might be proposed.  
These questions arise from the need for clarity about the relationship between the proposed corporation and PYM itself:  
1) The report suggests that PYM's nominating committee name the board of directors of the new corporation. What will be the desired qualifications of the members of the new board? Will the nominations be subject to PYM approval?  
2) Once selected is the Board independent of PYM, or are some of its decisions subject to PYM approval? If so, which ones? The actual purchase of a site? The hiring of a manager?  
3) How are funds to be handled? The report says that the board of directors will have the responsibility to raise the funds; it also says that the PYM Treasurer should be authorized to negotiate private loans. Who actually would be borrowing the money? Who would be taking the inevitable risk in this effort?  
4) Many believe that our years of searching have demonstrated that the "perfect" site we have looked for does not exist. What do we give up? How is that decision to be made? In the board of directors or, after committee seasoning, in PYM plenary?  
5) The successful development of a permanent site will need a larger vision than simply making available a place for our oneweek yearly meeting session. Should that larger vision for the site be articulated and understood before a corporation is formed to develop a site?  
We appreciate the efforts that have been made to bring the monthly meetings into the consideration of the permanent site question.
To Pacific Yearly Meeting, 1996

Introduction:
In order to provide a home for the PYM annual session, Friends have long sought a permanent site. This search has occupied many Friends for over a generation. At this time, our vision has expanded, causing us to hope for a site which will provide a home for PYM activities, but also further our ministry to the world and establish a center for continuing outreach.

After much discussion and seasoning in Monthly and Quarterly Meetings and at sessions during PYM '95 and PYM '96, it now appears that there is interest among Friends in moving ahead to try to develop a permanent site to be owned by a corporation which is to be formed by Pacific Yearly Meeting but wholly independent of it. In order to get the process started, it is important to form a corporation whose relationship to the Yearly Meeting would be carefully set out at the beginning. This action of forming the corporation is to be undertaken with the clear realization that the corporation can be dissolved at a later date.

The PYM Nominating Committee is to be asked to bring forward names for approval for appointment to the Board of Directors of the corporation. Friends are urged to seek out Friends who would be competent and who wish to serve. The Board should consist of varied Friends, some with a business background, some who can help design the development of the site and some having the vision of the ways in which the site may serve to heal some of the hurts of the world. Suggestions of names should be given to the Nominating Committee. Friends who feel led to serve should also let that be known to Nominating Committee.

The task during the coming year will be to establish a corporation, draw up by-laws, and go through the procedures necessary to move the project forward. The legal formation of the corporation can begin prior to any further PYM action. A report should be made to PYM '97 and each succeeding year.

Until the corporation is formed, the Board of Directors functioning, and a Treasurer selected after the manner of Friends, the PYM Treasurers are to be requested to accept contributions for the Permanent Site Fund, already established. Once the corporate structure is in place, all financial matters relative to the corporation are to be handled by the corporation, which will be responsible for accounting, handling of assets, and indebtedness.
In view of the above history and with the considerations mentioned, the two committees; that is, the "Permanent Site Committee of the Sites Committee" and the "Ad hoc Committee to Help Friends Discover Their Leadings Concerning a Permanent Site" recommend the following Minute to the Yearly Meeting:

Eighth Month 9.

"In Plenary Session VII of Pacific Yearly Meeting, 1996, Pacific Yearly Meeting approves the formation of a non-profit California corporation to further the work of establishing a permanent site for its annual session and for other uses. Pacific Yearly Meeting also requests the PYM Nominating Committee to bring forward the names of nine (9) Friends willing to serve on the initial Board of Directors."

Submitted on behalf of the two committees

Members of the Permanent Site Sub-committee Mark Koenig, Clerk, Walter Jones, Joy O'Connell, Chuck Orr

Members of the Ad hoc committee to help Friends discern their leadings: Jane Peers, Clerk, Steve Birdlebaugh, Tom Farley, Joy O'Connell, Jean Walton
STARTING FROM JOY

Joy. It is the greeting of unconditional love that my dog lavishes on me each time I come to the door. It is the breath of wind hinting that rain is around the bend, the face of a crocus coming out of a bed of brown. It is the gushing of mud between your toes after a good rain. It is the first fuzzy peach, the heady scent of lemon blossoms on a zephyr wind. It is fresh eggplant cooking in olive oil and ginger—well maybe not the eggplant.

It is the sunset that stops all the cars. Its whales cavorting off the coast that remind us we haven’t damaged the environment so much there’s no hope. It is when you finally hear the crickets after the kids are in bed and the cat is fed. It is that moment when you catch your breath to hear a newborn’s first cry, a violin quartet when you can hear the harmonics. It is the first time you look deeply into someone’s eyes and find yourself tumbling in. It is the recognition of that part of you I have always known, will always see if I just remember to look for it each time we meet.

Joy. It is the spark that is lit each time we go back to our touchstone. It is like a laser light hitting and splitting out into a rainbow of colors. It is that memory we carry in our breast pocket next to our hearts of the time when we were in the mountains, or in a concert and felt our soul lift and float away. It is the bubbling up of the spirit attuned to the Love of God.

This first plenary coming together is the curtain, a moving inward to a different time and space. A different dimension of reality. Efficiency and frenzy can be left in the hall along with whatever else is hanging on the back of your mind. If you have brought a burden with you, give it to God for a day. Today turn in that worry for joy. For today, take a pass on that voice telling you to find a video game, a drink or a smoke. None of them compare to the joy you can experience if you make room.

This is the space for the casting off of hard protective gear, and the opening to the contagion of joy that comes when we catch the spark. We have been told, “Wherever two or more of you are gathered in my Name, there shall I be.” That’s us. We are the church, the temple. This is become a sacred place because we have gathered here for a sacred purpose. We are the Religious Society of Friends come to be together in the Light of God, as a renewal and a reminder of what is the beginning, the basis of our being. God is with us, the Christ spirit is here and the spirit of Elijah. The Presence is available to each one of us for the asking.

If you only look at the world intellectually, it sucks. There is much to be depressed about, much good work that needs doing. In plenaries, we gather in worship for the purpose of holding special issues in the light. But when we come to a plenary focused on an agenda, it gets in the way of having a gathered meeting. If we save whales, feed the homeless, write to politicians, or accomplish great things in plenary but do not honor the light of God as that spirit moves within
and among us, then we have failed.

I used to think gathered meetings at yearly meeting were an impossibility because of the size of the group. It was at the annual gathering of Friends World Committee on Consultation that I first experienced a gathered meeting with three hundred other Friends.

Plenary business doesn't bring back the juices when life sucks you dry. It is not issues which bring us back together year after year: it is the power of corporate worship, of making together a joyful noise to God. It's like we're threads of light which, when banded together, become more brilliant. We can illumine more when we take the time to straighten out the kinks, open and align ourselves to be receptive to the Will of God. We move forward in right action after the reunification, the reunion back to what in fact is one body.

So when do we get that sense of the presence of God, of those experiences which let us know we are one body, we belong together as Friends? It is the reaching out to the light within each person as they cross your path. It is in hugging trees. It is when you are deemed worthy of a hug by a two year old. It is making time to listen to life's gems from someone who no longer moves so quickly. It is stopping the internal chatter to listen with your inner ear, that feeds your soul.

You can tell we're coming together when you begin to sense a message in meeting for worship, but haven't formed the words and someone else stands and says it perfectly. You know it in Worship Fellowship when you're sitting in the presence of Friends, and you look up smiling between your tears. You know it when you begin to perceive the deep peace and slow moving presence of a tree you have been sitting with. It comes in the plenary of Memorials when your inner ear catches a refrain from a cacophony of voices overhead rejoicing in the regathering to honor those who no longer share this physical plane with us. It comes when you catch yourself in love with the whole wide world.

We have been told to enter God's temple with joy and Thanksgiving. This week, start from the sacred, wake up with a prayer of Thanksgiving. Take joy before your coffee. Invite God into your conversations, your decisions. Look for the light in those you meet, both the human and plant types. Be open to the define presence, the mystical. Make the connection to the joy which is yours for the asking.

We gloss over the reasons for our nickname, "Quakers". But early friends were swept away body and soul. That kind of rapture is your birthright: it is where you rightfully belong. And so I quote Dorothy White who in 1662 wrote to Friends:

"...that Life may fill your vessels, that bowls of compassion and tenderness may flow one into another, that every Soul may swim in the fulness of Love, that all may be filled with the eternal Power, that the new Wine of the Kingdom may be poured from vessel to vessel, that all your Cups may over-flow with the Consolation of God."

[Signature]

D-2 8/5/96
Report from the Faith and Practice Revision Committee
July 1996

It has been a rich and productive year for the Faith and Practice Revision Committee. We have continued our practice of appointing committee members to serve as liaisons with Monthly Meetings and are finding that a useful avenue for listening to ideas and concerns. These liaisons change from time to time, so a current list is included in this report for easy reference. Meetings are encouraged to schedule a time, each year, to meet with their liaisons to keep up-to-date on revisions under consideration, or problems you have discovered in the current Faith and Practice.

This year the Committee has met twice, as a total group, and one or more times in subcommittees. The subcommittees have worked on specific sections of the book. This year the subcommittees worked on membership, marriage, Nominating Committee, and decision making respectively. (There is also a subcommittee on Advices and Queries, which will resume working after the draft has circulated for a year.) We have found that the subcommittee format is advancing our work significantly. The work of these committees also helps isolate unresolved issues, and one such issue will be explored at this year's PYM session. We found as we worked on the section on marriage that a number of aspects were unresolved. The one we are bringing forward is the issue of divorce. What is the role of the Meeting in relationship to a couple undergoing separation or divorce? Should the Meeting appoint a "clearness committee?" What are the ramifications on the children? Can a divorce be "under the care of" the Meeting? Should the Meeting offer to arbitrate issues between estranged couples? These issues will be explored at the F&P plenary session, and followed up in an interest group.

The Committee will also have an "open meeting", during interest group time, where Friends can bring any concerns about the Faith & Practice to us. We have hosted such an open meeting each year for the past eight or ten and we welcome Friends participation.

After release of draft Advices and Queries at PYM 1995, we have been receiving very thoughtful responses from Friends throughout the Yearly Meeting. Many issues recur in these responses, but perspectives often diverge. For example, we realize the need to have a consistent voice, however Friends differ on which form they prefer. This partly relates to the question of how the queries are used - for personal devotion? for corporate discernment? As a way of assessing the Meeting's health? If the queries never use the first person, are we letting ourselves off the hook, somehow?

Although Friends initially reacted strongly against some language in the 1985 version, we are finding that by issuing a new draft, 1985 suddenly carries great appeal.

Many have concerns that this version is silent on the Christian basis of our beliefs. Others are very appreciative at what they see as the openness and inclusiveness of the draft. We are finding that inclusiveness to one person is often
exclusive to others. Some Friends feel left out if not specifically mentioned. Others feel singled out when the language is too specific.

All in all it is important to say that there is very little new language in this draft. We relied not only on the 1985 and 1973 editions of the PYM Discipline, but on queries and advices from Britain, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New England, North Pacific and elsewhere.

It is important to stress the limited nature of this draft. It is only one small section of the F&P. It will be supplemented by a section on Testimonies, as well as the main body of the Discipline. Many people noticed that the section on simplicity, or equality was "missing." Although the Committee believes that both concerns are covered in depth in the substance of the Advices and Queries presented, they are themes which will be explicitly lifted up in the section on Testimonies. Nevertheless we will reconsider the categories represented in this draft, and we will revisit the question of whether categories in the section on Testimonies, should be duplicated as categories in the Advices and Queries.

The deadline for receiving input on the Advices and Queries will be September 15, 1996, a year and a month after the draft was introduced. After September 15, a subcommittee of the F&P Revision Committee will sort through all the responses we have received - giving greatest weight to those that are in writing and represent group agreement, for example, responses from a committee or a Meeting.

Laura Magnani, clerk


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Santa Barbara Conejo Valley Mexico City Reno
Ojai San Diego Palo Alto
Willits La Jolla Sacramento
Maui Orange County N. San Luis Obispo
Las Vegas

Kim Laura Marilee Ellie
Marin Fresno Davis Grass Valley
San Francisco Berkeley Redding Monterey
San Luis Obispo Visalia Chico Santa Cruz
Strawberry Creek Delta Apple Seed
Los Ojos

Bob Young Madge Stratton Aimee
Pacific Ackworth San Jose Honolulu Claremont
Inland Valley E-2 Humbolt Santa Monica
Hemet Big Island Whitleaf
# PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING of the RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

## TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

### INTERIM REPORT Oct. 1, 1995 to July 20, 1996

### REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column 1 Budget</th>
<th>Column 2 Actual</th>
<th>Column 3 Budget</th>
<th>Column 4 Actual</th>
<th>Column 5 Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4100 Miscellaneous Contributions</strong></td>
<td>$300.</td>
<td>$274.18</td>
<td>$300.</td>
<td>$269.28</td>
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<td><strong>4101 Contributions from Member Meetings</strong></td>
<td>47,417.</td>
<td>47,418.00</td>
<td>47,200.</td>
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<td><strong>4104 Interest on Invested Capital</strong></td>
<td>1,800.</td>
<td>1,590.59</td>
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<td>1,846.21</td>
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<td><strong>Transfer from (to) Reserves</strong></td>
<td>-518.</td>
<td>-6,607.11</td>
<td>-2,000.</td>
<td>-17,928.33</td>
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### EXPENSES

#### GENERAL EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Column 1 Budget</th>
<th>Column 2 Actual</th>
<th>Column 3 Budget</th>
<th>Column 4 Actual</th>
<th>Column 5 Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>5201 Friends Bulletin Subsidy</strong></td>
<td>$7,400.</td>
<td>$7,400.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5202 Clerk's Travel and Discretionary</strong></td>
<td>700.</td>
<td>700.00</td>
<td>700.</td>
<td>700.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5203 Expenses of the Officers</strong></td>
<td>1,200.</td>
<td>996.54</td>
<td>1,200.</td>
<td>574.55</td>
<td>1,000.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5204 PYM Minutes</strong></td>
<td>2,000.</td>
<td>1,374.14</td>
<td>2,000.</td>
<td>1,045.36</td>
<td>1,900.</td>
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<td><strong>5206 Young Friends Scholarships to PYM</strong></td>
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<td>850.</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td><strong>5207 Equipment Purchase Account</strong></td>
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<td>0.00</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
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<td><strong>5208 Travel to Representative Committee</strong></td>
<td>11,000.</td>
<td>8,326.03</td>
<td>9,900.</td>
<td>2,841.78</td>
<td>9,900.</td>
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<td><strong>5209 Expenses of Young Friends Officers</strong></td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>100.</td>
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<td><strong>5210 Audit Account</strong></td>
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#### COMMITTEE EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<th>Column 3 Budget</th>
<th>Column 4 Actual</th>
<th>Column 5 Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>5225 Bulletin Committee</strong></td>
<td>$1,100.</td>
<td>$1,100.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5226 &quot;Faith &amp; Practice&quot; Revision Committee</strong></td>
<td>2,500.</td>
<td>2,452.51</td>
<td>2,500.</td>
<td>1,774.69</td>
<td>2,500.</td>
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<td><strong>5227 Religious Education Committee</strong></td>
<td>450.</td>
<td>157.14</td>
<td>350.</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5228 Finance Committee</strong></td>
<td>335.</td>
<td>335.00</td>
<td>350.</td>
<td>285.96</td>
<td>350.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5229 Friend in the Orient Committee</strong></td>
<td>200.</td>
<td>157.14</td>
<td>200.</td>
<td>177.92</td>
<td>200.</td>
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<td><strong>5230 Junior Yearly Meeting Committee</strong></td>
<td>600.</td>
<td>281.67</td>
<td>400.</td>
<td>285.96</td>
<td>400.</td>
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<td><strong>5231 Ministry and Oversight Committee</strong></td>
<td>2,800.</td>
<td>1,941.34</td>
<td>2,800.</td>
<td>442.32</td>
<td>2,500.</td>
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<td><strong>5232 Nominating Committee</strong></td>
<td>1,200.</td>
<td>1,200.00</td>
<td>900.</td>
<td>547.40</td>
<td>900.</td>
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<td><strong>5233 East-West Relations Committee</strong></td>
<td>400.</td>
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<td>250.</td>
<td>200.00</td>
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<td><strong>5234 Peace Committee</strong></td>
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<td>281.67</td>
<td>900.</td>
<td>638.09</td>
<td>900.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5235 Sites Committee</strong></td>
<td>1,500.</td>
<td>1,485.79</td>
<td>1,500.</td>
<td>518.03</td>
<td>1,500.</td>
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<td><strong>5236 Secretariat Committee</strong></td>
<td>100.</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>100.</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>100.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5237 Social Order Committee</strong></td>
<td>650.</td>
<td>122.55</td>
<td>650.</td>
<td>367.04</td>
<td>450.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5238 Children's Program Committee</strong></td>
<td>200.</td>
<td>17.50</td>
<td>200.</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td><strong>5240 Ad Hoc Committees</strong></td>
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<td>100.</td>
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<td>200.</td>
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<td><strong>5241 Committee Supplemental Travel Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>0.</td>
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<td><strong>5242 Wider Fellowship among Friends Committee</strong></td>
<td>900.</td>
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<td>900.</td>
<td>326.48</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5243 Unity with Nature Committee</strong></td>
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<td>750.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUBTOTAL: COMMITTEE EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>$11,378.96</td>
<td>$12,550.</td>
<td>$5,377.93</td>
<td>$12,500.</td>
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</table>

As of October 1, 1994 the financial activities concerning Pacific Yearly Meeting's annual sessions are reported on a separate schedule (see page 4). This gives a more understandable account of the separate income and expenses involved. "Accounts receivable" and "Accounts payable" items were separated between the two budgets as of October 1, 1994. Funds used to set up the new "Session" accounts were borrowed from and are due to the general budget.
## EXPENSES - CONTINUED

### SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column 1</th>
<th>Column 2</th>
<th>Column 3</th>
<th>Column 4</th>
<th>Column 5</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORGANIZATIONS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5215 Friends Committee on National Legislation</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5225 Friends Committee on Legislation</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>250.00</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>300.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5235 Friends World Committee for Consultation</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,200.00</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5245 Quaker Office at the United Nations</td>
<td>400</td>
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<td>400</td>
<td>400.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5256 William Penn House, Washington, D.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5257 Young Friends of North America</td>
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<td>200</td>
<td>200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5260 A.F.S.C. 1/4 ea. Hawaii/Pasadena/bookstore/Oakland</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5261 Friends House Moscow (Дом Дружбы в Москве)</td>
<td>700</td>
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<td>700</td>
<td>700.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5262 &quot;Friends Bulletin&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5263 &quot;Earthlight&quot; (see note #1 below)</td>
<td>500</td>
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<td><strong>SUBTOTAL: SUPPORT OF FRIENDS ORG.</strong></td>
<td>$5,100</td>
<td>$5,100.00</td>
<td>$12,400</td>
<td>$11,900.00</td>
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### CONFERENCE TRAVEL, PYM DELEGATES/LIAISON

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<th>Column 1</th>
<th>Column 2</th>
<th>Column 3</th>
<th>Column 4</th>
<th>Column 5</th>
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<td><strong>CONFERENCE TRAVEL, PYM DELEGATES/LIAISON</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5271 &quot;Friends Bulletin&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$176.00</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>5274 Evangelical Friends International</td>
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<td>350.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5275 American Friends Service Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>5276 Friends Committee on Legislation</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5277 F.C.N.L &amp; William Penn House</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5278 Friends General Conference Central Committee</td>
<td>300</td>
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<td>350</td>
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<tr>
<td>5279 F.W.C.C., Section of the Americas</td>
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<tr>
<td>5280 Friends United Meeting (triennial)</td>
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<td>350.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5281 Gen. Reunion of Friends, Mexico (every 18 months)</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5282 Friends House Moscow</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>600.00</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5283 Friends Church, Southwest Yearly Meeting</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5286 Friends Comm. on Unity with Nature</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>450.00</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5287 Friends World Comm. Triennial</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>1,350.00</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5288 Young Friends Travel and Scholarships</td>
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<td><strong>SUBTOTAL: CONFERENCE TRAVEL</strong></td>
<td>$7,100</td>
<td>$6,749.99</td>
<td>$7,600</td>
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### TOTAL EXPENSES

<table>
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<th>Column 3</th>
<th>Column 4</th>
<th>Column 5</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$50,035</td>
<td>$42,675.66</td>
<td>$47,550</td>
<td>$23,755.16</td>
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### EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ITEMS ON PAGE THREE

1. Accounts Receivable includes loans to the PYM Session Budget and to Friends Bulletin and overdue 1995 assessments. Reductions include payments of overdue Meeting assessments which had not been received as of 9-30-94. Friends Bulletin also made a payment of $200, reducing their outstanding loan to $1,049.17. Earthlight loan of $500 was paid from PYM reserves on 3-4-95 by action of the Representative Committee.

2. Fund located in separate account. Contributions are earmarked for the specific account and are not available for general PYM use.

3. Reserve fund for future publications; under control of Representative Committee per PYM minute 89-4. Income received from the sale of Faith and Practice copies is added to this fund. (Used for Advices & Queries in 1995.)

4. Travel reserves are funds set aside for future travel costs that PYM has already agreed to pay; some groups meet every two to three years, but we budget a portion of the cost each year. Young Friends Travel and Activities Reserve has a cap of $2,500 per PYM minute 92-4.

5. These are the only funds available for general PYM use. Beginning with 10-1-94 the Registrar's Checking Account and expenses and income connected with the annual sessions have been reported on a separate schedule (see page 4).

Phyllis G. Jones  
Walter D. Jones  
Treasurers, Pacific Yearly Meeting  

PAGE - 2
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING of the RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

BALANCE SHEET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTE</th>
<th>ACCOUNT NUMBER AND TITLE</th>
<th>BALANCE 10-1-95</th>
<th>ADDITIONS</th>
<th>REDUCTIONS</th>
<th>BALANCE 7-20-96</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 5,900.04</td>
<td>$ 60,612.03</td>
<td>$ 60,406.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>1701</td>
<td>Treasurer's Checking Accounts</td>
<td>55,125.76</td>
<td>27,269.17</td>
<td>9,629.67</td>
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<td>1704</td>
<td>Invested Capital</td>
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<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
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<td>1724</td>
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<tr>
<td>1725</td>
<td>Inventory: Faith and Practice</td>
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<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTE</th>
<th>ACCOUNT NUMBER AND TITLE</th>
<th>BALANCE 7-20-96</th>
<th>REDUCTIONS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1724</td>
<td>F.G.C. Meeting House Fund (loan)</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1725</td>
<td>Inventory: Faith and Practice</td>
<td>3,016.87</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>$ 99,264.23</td>
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LIABILITIES AND RESERVES

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<th>BALANCE 10-1-95</th>
<th>ADDITIONS</th>
<th>REDUCTIONS</th>
<th>BALANCE 7-20-96</th>
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<tr>
<td>2751</td>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
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<td>Deferred Income</td>
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<td>2764</td>
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<td>2777</td>
<td>Committee Supplemental Travel Reserve</td>
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<td>2778P</td>
<td>Friend in the Orient Project Reserves</td>
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<td>2779</td>
<td>FWCC, Section of the Americas Travel</td>
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<td>2780</td>
<td>FSC Travel Reserve</td>
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<td>2781</td>
<td>FUM Travel Reserve</td>
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<td>Young Friends Travel &amp; Activities Reserve</td>
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<tr>
<td>2785</td>
<td>Equipment Purchase Reserve</td>
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<td>575.94</td>
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<td>Fund for Concerns (M&amp;O Committee)</td>
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<td>515.00</td>
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<td>2798</td>
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<td>3799</td>
<td>Uncommitted Reserves (General Fund)</td>
<td>42,189.71</td>
<td>41,547.33</td>
<td>23,619.00</td>
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<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</td>
<td>$ 80,683.29</td>
<td>$ 50,941.29</td>
<td>$ 32,360.35</td>
<td>$ 99,264.23</td>
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2 Special funds held separately and administered by committees.

Unity with Nature Committee reports a starting balance of $13,527.57 on 1-1-96; income of $19,568.66; expenses of $16,067.97; and an interim balance of $17,028.26 on 7-12-96.

East-West Relations Committee reports a starting balance of $22,875.62 on 10-1-95; income of $18,388.73; expenses of $12,534.76; and an interim balance of $28,729.59 on 7-1-96.

"Windows" funds, under the care of the Friend in the Orient Committee, are held in a Salem (Oregon) Monthly Meeting account. The balance as of Jan. 31, 1996 was $736.00. Since then there has been $357.00 in income and expenses of $606.70. The balance on 7-1-96 was $486.30.

For EXPLANATORY NOTES - See the bottom of page 2.
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING of the RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
TREASURER’S FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR YEARLY MEETING SESSION - 1996

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PYM SESSION INCOME</th>
<th>FY 1995 to 9-30-95</th>
<th>FY 1996 to 7-20-96</th>
<th>FY 1997</th>
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<td>Column 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Contributions</td>
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<td>Fees from Attenders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>$58,750.00</td>
<td>$53,802.19</td>
<td>$55,450.00</td>
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| PYM SESSION EXPENSES |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Registrar's Expenses | $700.00 | $321.24 | $500.00 | $465.27 |
| Secretariat's Expenses | 750.00 | 641.40 | 750.00 | 0.00 |
| Arrangements Clerk Expenses | 100.00 | 148.63 | 200.00 | 55.42 |
| Children's Program | 6,000.00 | 5,585.97 | 6,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Cost of Facilities | 48,600.00 | 45,092.52 | 44,995.00 | 3,114.32 |
| Junior Yearly Meeting | 2,000.00 | 1,428.40 | 2,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Young Friends | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 0.00 |
| Breakage | 200.00 | 0.00 | 200.00 | 0.00 |
| PYM Clerk's Invited Guests | 200.00 | 184.17 | 400.00 | 0.00 |
| Insurance | 300.00 | 301.86 | 305.00 | 301.86 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | $58,750.00 | $53,802.19 | $55,450.00 | $3,936.87 |

<table>
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<th>PYM SESSION BALANCE SHEET</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACCOUNT NUMBER AND TITLE</td>
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<td>ASSETS</td>
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<td>Registrar's Checking Account</td>
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<td>Invested Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
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<tr>
<td>LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
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<tr>
<td>PYM Session Reserve</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</td>
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PAGE - 4
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Report for Plenary V, August 8, 1996

I. Ad hoc Arrangements Committee for the August 1997 Session. The Nominating Committee recommends the establishment of an ad hoc committee to oversee the arrangements for the PYM session in August 1997 to work with the Arrangements Clerks.

II. Nominating Committee Guidelines and Practices. The Nominating Committee considered the discussion at the March 2, 1996, PYM Representative Committee regarding Friends continuing involvement in committees and developed the following guidelines and practices to guide its work:
   1) The Nominating Committee should work as a whole. Candidates for specific assignments should not be approached until the Nominating Committee has considered the situation and agreed that the appointment would be in the best interest of the Yearly Meeting.
   2) The Nominating Committee should learn about the current direction and the needs of the various committees.
   3) The Nominating Committee should consider PYM attenders as the pool of individuals from which candidates are suggested for appointment.
   4) The Nominating Committee should strive to involve new PYM attenders into the committee work of the Yearly Meeting.
   5) The Nominating Committee should use the current editions of the College Park Quarterly Meeting and the Southern California Quarterly Meeting directories, the three most recent PYM attenders lists, history of past appointments, and the Faith and Practice committee descriptions as resources for doing its work.
   6) In general, the Nominating Committee should limit the appointment of an individual to a committee or representative position to two consecutive, three-year terms. If the Nominating Committee feels it is in the best interest of the Yearly Meeting to recommend an individual to serve beyond this limitation, the Nominating Committee should report to the Yearly Meeting its reasons for the recommendation.

III. Friends Committee on Unity with Nature. The Nominating Committee recommends that the two representatives to the Friends Committee on Unity with Nature be appointed by the PYM Unity with Nature Committee from among its members.

Gary Wolff, Clerk
Nominating Committee
The East - West Relations Committee was created by this Yearly Meeting in 1983.

Due to our concern about USSR - US relations, minute 1983 - 7 said,

We believe that it is incumbent on the American people and on us as a religious society, concerned for the preservation of life itself, to seek actively the understanding and the reconciliation that must occur between the peoples of East and West. We must by all means possible nurture the shift in attitudes necessary if we are to avert the tragedy of nuclear holocaust.

For this reason, Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends establishes a committee on East - West Relations, charging this body with the continuous responsibility 1) to promote intercultural visitation, 2) to facilitate the study of all aspects of Soviet and East European society (history, culture, language, and social structure), 3) to seek opportunities to cultivate deep personal relationships of trust, 4) to engage in direct communications with persons in decision-making positions as well as with ordinary people, and 5) to draw on any available resources for creative approaches to East - West relations. Further, the Committee should explore the possibility of providing a Quaker presence in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

From the beginning the focus was on Moscow and the Soviet Union, possessor of the nuclear arsenal and the major regional power. The committee has sponsored 6 trips to the Soviet Union, over 100 people participating between 1987 and 1991. We participants were required to give slide shows and talk about our experiences upon our return, increasing the number who shared in the process.

During the last 9 years, Quaker worship groups have developed in several Russian cities, nurtured by British and American Friends. The largest group has just been recognized as Moscow Monthly Meeting by FWCC.

Quakers and peace people in the Soviet Union, particularly Moscow, desired more contact, more visits, a central place to meet visitors and each other, answers to questions about how to do things differently or better. The response to their requests has evolved into an international Quaker organization, Friends House Moscow, whose board members represent various Yearly Meetings, primarily European. But the seed and early growth of Friends House Moscow came from PYM. Their report follows mine.
The East-West Committee is restructuring itself. We now have a subcommittee, an active working group, for Friends House Moscow, to deal with nitty gritty issues, of which there are countless. If you’re interested in working on the subcommittee, contact Peggy Thompson of Santa Cruz Meeting. We as a committee are continuing the process of finding and nurturing those members of our PYM who want to reach out more broadly to the old Soviet bloc countries.

There are two questionnaires circulating. The first asks about trips to the Soviet Union - we’d like to begin again in about two years. The second asks about interest in and knowledge of the former East bloc countries- yours or others. Actually, it says USSR rather than East bloc; please change the questions on your sheet. There are many ways to go, and we’d like your company on whatever journey is ahead.

Survey forms are being collected in the display area.
JULIE HARLOW:
Friends House Moscow is open! What does it mean? We are no longer “interim”. Friends House Moscow (FHM) exists within a building. The FHM governing board, a legal charitable corporation, met June 22-25, with Ellie Huffman clerking. Fourteen Friends from the US, Britain, Norway, Moscow, and St. Petersburg worked together in several languages within the walls of the three-room flat in Moscow. We scrutinized our finances, discovering that we were operating below budget and have in hand the $70,000 needed for the first year’s operation. (Your giving has been generous – don’t stop!)

We ratified the appointment of two full-time representatives (staff), Galina Orlova from Moscow and Bonnie Grotjahn from the US. We discussed and formed policy regarding the focus of the work to be done. The best example of this is in the article “A Glimpse of Life from Friends House Moscow”, written by Patricia Cockrell. (Published on the back page of the June-July FHM newsletter, it was included in PYM registrations packets.) She describes the process of assisting Ludmila to get aid for six foster children she cares for: a process of listening, facilitating, networking, technical assistance, guidance, and encouragement.

On a more personal note, my journey to Moscow in June proved quite a bit longer than I had expected. It became a journey in time.

Ellie and I struggled with suitcases filled with donated books, onto and off of buses and subways and through the busy streets of Moscow, to reach the yellow brick building that includes the flat known to us as Friends House Moscow.

For so long a vision: now a reality.

For so long a vision: I don’t means just the five years that PYM Friends have been working on this project. I mean the sixty-five years since the last Friends’ center in Moscow closed.

When I entered our flat this summer, I was greeted by our current staff. I drank in the details of each room with awesome joy and with tremendous appreciation for all of you who have made this possible. But more tangible than the physical structure, the Spirit surrounded me: that same Spirit that led so many Quakers to witness in Russia in the past.

Their tasks required vision and tremendous courage: Daniel Wheeler counseling Czar Peter the Great about the condition of the serfs and the need for public education; inoculating Czarina Catherine the Great against smallpox; living in St. Petersburg for thirty years, draining the bogs and modeling land reform and farming techniques; all the other Friends during awful periods of famines, wars, and relocations, working with refugees to create hospitals, orphanages, schools, and cottage industries out of nothing. Then there were the two British Quaker ladies who maintained until 1931 the last presence of any Western religious organization in Moscow.

You and I are privileged and greatly blessed to be links in that chain of love and labor that connects this rich history, today’s work, and tomorrow’s hope.
Pacific Yearly meeting has had from its inception a special interest in the countries bordering the Pacific Rim. In the early days Shanghai Meeting was a part of Pacific Yearly Meeting and interest in the whole area has continued down through the years. "The need to experiment in new concepts of person-to-person relationships in a world growing closer together" led the yearly meeting to establish a Friend-in-the-Orient project, and David and Catherine Bruner were asked to serve in this capacity for a year starting in September, 1962, with headquarters in Hiroshima, Japan.

In the thirty and more years since, PYM through the FIO committee has given support to PYM Friends to represent us in Singapore, Taiwan, Southeast Asia, Hong Kong, India, Korea, China, and Micronesia. We have also brought two Asian Friends to visit among PYM meetings as Friends-from-the-Orient (Ham Sok Han and Marjorie Sykes).

Another activity which the FIO committee has undertaken is the assistance in the publication of materials which can help us (PYM) to understand more about Friends' connections with the Orient. First in 1977, the committee supported the publication of Margaret Simkin's *Letters from Szechuan*, a book of her letters written between 1923 and 1942 when she was a Quaker missionary in western China. Then in 1980 the committee supported "*Windows - East and West*", an international newsletter of Friendly concerns around the world but with emphasis on both sides of the Pacific. This has been very ably edited by Rose Lewis of NPYM. This publication continues, issuing around a thousand copies two or three times a year. It continues to be a great help in keeping us up to date on activities back and forth across the Pacific. The committee has also given support to the Darts for the writing and
publication of two books. The first was a biography of Marjorie Sykes, *Marjorie Sykes, Quaker Gandhian*, published in 1993. The second was a compilation of Marjorie's writings and talks (many given on her trip to PYM) entitled *Transcending Tradition*. Both books will be available at PYM and at the ASFSC bookstore in Pasadena.

At our last FIO committee meeting there was considerable discussion regarding the future of the FIO committee. It has been such an active committee in the past, but not so recently. Why? There is no lack of projects, but the committee itself has lost interest. A third of the committee did not respond to written or phone communication. Is this attitude true of the Yearly Meeting? It was felt that at least part of the problem was due to the change in policy of the Nominating Committee a few years ago. Previously, the FIO committee was made up of Friends who had a strong interest in the Orient and particularly the ongoing projects. They remained on the committee as long as their interest remained. This made for a large and active group. Then the Nominating Committee, and perhaps the Yearly Meeting, decided that the membership should rotate with three year terms. The result was that the most interested Friends were soon rotated off and found other activities. This has taken the momentum and enthusiasm out. We think that the Yearly Meeting should reconsider this policy regarding committees involved in projects of this kind.

We will have an interest group for the FIO Committee alumni and other interested Friends at PYM this summer. We need your interest and support.

Leonard Dart, Clerk
REPORT from FWCC Representatives -- Jan Tappan

In 1997, Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) will gather at Woodbrooke and Westhill Colleges, Selly Oak, England (near Birmingham), for the nineteenth triennial gathering of Friends from around the world. The gathering will take place in two parts: the actual Triennial, held July 23-31, and a pre-Triennial discussion and consultation on Quaker Identity, Authority, and Community to be held July 18-22.

In preparation for this pre-Triennial consultation, FWCC has prepared a list of questions for prior discussion by Yearly and Monthly Meetings. Discussion of these questions will be valuable in helping us to become clearer about our Quaker identity and sensitive to the way other Friends view their own identity. In addition, reports of our discussions will help FWCC prepare advance documents for the consultation.

We are inviting PYM responses to these questions in two ways. First, we will discuss the questions at our interest group Friday afternoon, 2:30-4:00 pm in Craig C-1. We will summarize Friends comments at this time and send them on to the FWCC. Secondly, we have placed a copy of these questions in each Meeting’s folder in the Craig lobby by the registration desk; I can provide additional copies. Please take these questions to your Monthly Meetings, discuss them, and send some report of that discussion to FWCC. It’s our chance to give other Quakers around the world a look at what we are about.

Friends, you send us, as your FWCC representatives, off to meetings of the FWCC Section of the Americas every year, and to the Triennials every three years. And we return to you each year, struggling for words to convey to you the depth of our experiences at these meetings. It’s hard, folks. At the last Triennial, 1994 at Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, each morning worship session was planned by a different group, and the depth of worship was as intense as anything we experience here at PYM. The light shines through us all, however we acknowledge it.

In another session, we heard from one African Friend from Rwanda, who escaped death at a mission when everyone around him was killed. We heard the immensely moving stories of Friends who had practiced their beliefs and Friends testimonies through amazingly difficult circumstances. Through the meeting at Ghost Ranch, and each year at the FWCC Section of the Americas meeting, we come to know, in a profound way, the truth of that line in the song, “we are one in the Spirit.”

There is one more story I’d like to tell that grew out of the 1994 Ghost Ranch gathering. A group of women met together to share, addressing the question, “How is it with thee, dear sister?” Their responses to that simple question were profoundly moving: as person after person shared their experiences, a pattern began to emerge. Women from all cultures and from all the many ways that Quakers worship shared the pain they had experienced as a result of sexual discrimination, harassment, and abuse women suffered within their Meetings or in other Quaker institutions. Some women had directly experienced sexual discrimination, harassment, and abuse; others had been unjustly accused; still others had been in Meetings where the problem became evident, and in all these cases the usual response was silence. Each woman had thought she was alone, and few were aware of any resources available to Friends for addressing these issues. This issue resonated deeply with your PYM representatives.
As the 1997 Triennial approaches, FWCC has called for minutes from Yearly Meetings on issues that YMs would like the Triennial to address. There may be other issues that PYM would like to forward, but your FWCC representatives and our Committee for Wider Fellowship Among Friends (WFAF) now bring you a proposed minute asking FWCC Triennial to encourage YMs and other Quaker institutions to begin to talk about sexual discrimination, harassment and abuse within our own Quaker groups and institutions. This is a small but significant request. In many YMs and institutions, it would be the first time such issues have ever been discussed. It's a start. Here is our proposed minute:

Pacific Yearly Meeting rejoices in our Quaker testimonies on equality affirming mutual respect. We have learned that, in Yearly Meetings and Quaker institutions, there have been some occurrences of sexual discrimination, harassment, and abuse. Quakers are often inappropriately silence about these issues.

We all need to help each other find ways to name injustices among ourselves and to deal with them rightly. Pacific Yearly Meeting asks Friends gathered at the 1997 Triennial to minute their encouragement to all Yearly Meetings and other Quaker groups, to find ways to discuss these issues and to share what Friends discern to be good practice.
Identity, Authority and Community
A Discussion and a Consultation

Issues for Friends This is an invitation to take part in a discussion of issues of concern to Friends around the globe, across the spectrum of cultures and theologies. We expect this discussion to lead to an international consultation of Friends on these issues, to take place at Woodbrooke College, Selly Oak, Birmingham, England on 18-22 July, 1997, just preceding the 19th FWCC Triennial meeting, also planned for Selly Oak on 23-31 July, 1997. This is to be a pre-Triennial gathering in which Friends will be invited to participate: a chance for meaningful connection between Triennial attendees and other Friends from the host region.

The consultation will focus on the questions printed on the other side of this sheet and others like them. They are on-going issues on which Friends have sought clarity. Friends could take part in the discussions at a variety of levels:

- Yearly meetings may wish to
  hold discussions of these questions, or encourage their monthly meetings to arrange them;
  identify individual Friends who may contribute by correspondence or attend the consultation.

- Yearly or monthly meetings could
  ask an appropriate committee to augment or adapt the questions, translate them into their own language and prepare them for group discussion;
  appoint an informed Friend who might give advice and guidance.

Friends are a diverse group who experience God in a wide variety of ways. How much diversity is legitimate? How do we recognize what is of God in our own life and practice and in the life and practice of others? How do we use the scriptures? Who has the authority to speak for the Friends community?

We hope that Friends churches and meetings will find the questions overleaf will provide fruitful basis for discussion and sharing, taking into account aspects of their own traditions and cultures.

Why the consultation? The discussion is likely to be valuable in itself by helping Friends and meetings and churches to consider and become clearer about our Quaker identity and sensitive to the way other Friends view their own identity. Feedback of reports or minutes to the consultation through FWCC will help in preparation of the gathering. Responses received by the end of January 1997 can be included in the advance documents sent to consultation participants. It may be that the result of the consultation will be to enable Friends to articulate to their fellow Quakers and to the wider Christian community the variety of authentic experience Friends have in their communities, how they identify as Friends and where their sources of authority may lie. We invite you to copy this sheet for distribution and to consider fiddling Friends to attend the consultation.

please turn over
Questions to assist Friends in discussion on matters of Identity, Authority and Community

Identity
1. What do you regard as the distinguishing features of Quakerism?

2. Is there anything that other Quakers do (in your own YM or another) that you regard as being "not really Quaker"? Or which you feel is "really Quaker", even though it is not your own practice? How do you make that decision? On what authority is it based?

3. What are the similarities and differences between these features and the practices and teachings of other churches? To which other churches do you feel closest? Why?

Scripture
4. How do you use the Bible? Is it mainly for worship and devotion? How much do you consider it when making decisions? To which parts do you give most attention?

5. Scripture sometimes leads Friends to make testimonies which other Christians cannot accept. How does your YM interpret the biblical basis for distinctive Quaker beliefs and practices, and why they are different from what other churches teach? For example, slavery seems to be accepted both in ancient Israel and in the New Testament churches.

6. What or who helps you to know what the Bible means?

Authority
7. Where does authority lie amongst Friends? How do you discern the working of the Spirit in the meeting? For example, in trying to make a decision and reach 'sense of the Meeting', would your meeting or church give most weight to scripture, Quaker tradition, the Faith and Practice of your own YM. How far do you take into account the experience of other YMs, the opinions of重量y Friends or office holders, men or women, the new ideas of younger and less experienced Friends, the report of a committee?

8. What spiritual gifts do you recognise, whether formally or informally? How are these gifts linked with ministry or with the holding of an office?

9. To whom is your church or meeting accountable? and for what? How do you show that you are accountable?

10. In what ways do learning and teaching happen among you?

Community
11. How do you recognise that God is at work in your own life? Do you see God at work in the lives of others?

12. How do you recognise God at work in other Quaker bodies? in other churches? and in society in general?

We invite you to send papers and comments arising from the discussion to your YM Office, and/or to FWCC, 4 Byng Place, London WC1E 7JH, England, if possible not later than 31 January, 1997.

and to let FWCC know of Friends who might appropriately participate in the consultation at Woodbrooke College, 18-22 July, 1997.
Friends Bulletin
PACIFIC, NORTH PACIFIC, AND INTERMOUNTAIN YEARLY MEETINGS
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Special Edition Building the western Quaker Community since 1929 August 1996

REPORT TO PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING

Friends Bulletin is the official magazine of North Pacific, Pacific, and Intermountain Yearly Meetings. We represent Friends in the West—from the Rockies to Hawaii and from Washington State to Mexico. We also have readers in Alaska, the Eastern half of the United States, Canada, and many other countries.

Friends from PYM who have written for Friends Bulletin in the past year include: Sonda Beal, Berkeley; Bob Burnett, Strawberry Creek; Grace Buzaljko, Berkeley; Ellie Foster, Santa Cruz; Margaret Fruth, Palo Alto; Dorothy Ginsburg, Los Angeles; Elsa Glines, Strawberry Creek; Melinda Glines, Strawberry Creek; George Heaton, Palo Alto; Mark Koenig, Chico; Kim Lacey, San Francisco; Robert Levering, San Francisco; Walt Lohans, Fresno; Laura Magnani, Berkeley; Barbara Malai, San Diego; Anthony Manousos, Claremont; Joy Marshall, Visalia; John McDougall, Berkeley; Valerie Milliron, Chico; Eric Moon, Berkeley; Jane Walters Peers, La Jolla; None C. Redmond, Grass Valley; Reno Friends Meeting; Nancy Salzman, Berkeley; Madge Seaver, Palo Alto; Bob Stauffer, Honolulu; Edwin Stephenson, Redwood Forest; Walter Sullivan-Hjelt, Santa Cruz; Robert Vogel, Orange Grove; Keith Wedmore, San Francisco; Margaret Crogood Wolcott, Redwood Forest; Rob Roy Woodman, Davis; and Tom Yamaguchi, Strawberry Creek.

PYM poets included Molly Bishop, Redwood Forest; Terry Hart, Santa Cruz; Sarah Rose House, Orange Grove; Mary Anne Patterson, Claremont; John Pixley, Santa Monica; and Marybeth Webster, Grass Valley.

Illustrators from PYM this year were Josselyn Fairchild, Davis; Sharon Gates, Orange Grove; Elizabeth Hennies, Davis; Mar-y-Sol Pasquier, Davis; Grace Petrygrove, Davis; Katie Shepard, Davis; Don Sims, Reno; Marybeth Webster, Grass Valley; and David Wilson, Davis.

Friends act as correspondents from each region. The current correspondents from PYM are John Fulbright, Honolulu; Bobbi Kendig, Marloma Long Beach; and Ramona Silipo, Strawberry Creek.

The Friends Bulletin Corporation was established in August 1994. The Board of Directors is made up of Friends from Pacific, North Pacific, and Intermountain Yearly Meetings. This past year it met twice in Palo Alto, California, and had two telephone conference meetings. Pat Daggerty, Arden Pierce, and Rob Roy Woodman serve on the Board from PYM.

At its last meeting, the Board of Directors of Friends Bulletin chose Anthony Manousos from Claremont Meeting to be the next editor of the magazine. He will start October 1996.

Friends Bulletin is grateful for the support of Pacific Yearly Meeting, especially its financial support. The annual subsidy payment from PYM makes it possible for the magazine to exist.

Thank you.

Nancy Yarnall
Friends Bulletin,
1620 NW Menlo Dr
Corvallis, OR 97330
(541) 757-0981.
yarnall@peak.org

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Meeting ____________________________

Contributions to Friends Bulletin are tax deductible and most welcome. Please mail to Friends Bulletin, 1620 NW Menlo Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330.
The process for the Religious Education Committee was somewhat experimental this year. The Clerk, having spent three years on Finance Committee, had noted how much time, effort, and money is spent in arranging long distance meetings and traveling to those meetings. The idea of expending our energies closer to home and using old fashioned means of communication seemed workable.

The Northern California members of the committee met at Quarterly Meeting. The clerk of the committee planned to meet the southern members at Representative Committee. It didn't quite work because the clerk was unable to attend Rep. Com. We missed the opportunity for everyone to share ideas at one session.

However, we were able to get out one letter to all Meetings and WGs asking for First Day School success stories to share with others. One Newsletter was sent to all Meetings and WGs reporting on those successes and enclosing miscellaneous other materials that we hoped would be helpful.

In addition, the northern members led two interest groups at two College Park Quarters, the first on raising our children to have Quaker Values. The second was on patterns of daily life which assist us in living according to our Faith. We were thinking of families and Meetings with children, but Friends without children who were seeking to improve their own patterns joined the group.

In spite of some frustration in not gathering as a body to work in unity, the pressures of arranging such trips and juggling our many other responsibilities in order to meet, may well have kept our blood pressures down and our tempers mild.

Our process this year was more economical than it would have been if we had traveled, but the cost of postage made it more expensive than if our communications were less old fashioned. Who knows? When or if everyone uses E mail and the Net, it may be cheaper than mail and telephone - or it may not.

We are very glad to have the opportunity to meet face to face during PYM.

Respectfully submitted by

Vanita Blum, Clerk
Historical and Social Context for Equality of Marriage Rights minute:

The issue of legal marriage has been important to the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) from the very beginning of the Society. The Religious Society of Friends began as a small, radical and unorthodox religious sect in England in the mid-seventeenth century. Quaker marriages were not legal marriages in England then, because they did not take place in the state church, and because there is no Quaker clergy to perform the ceremony. For Quakers, people, even ordained clergy, cannot marry a couple. Only God can do that. The meeting (congregation) bears witness to their marriage and takes a couple under its care. It was not until the mid-nineteenth century that Parliament passed and act legalizing Quaker marriages in England. Quaker marriages are not legal marriages in some states in the United States today. It was not until 1988 that the California State Legislature passed the Quaker Marriage act to legally recognize Quaker and Indian marriages.

Depriving some people of the right to marry is one of the ways in which those people are oppressed by society. There was a time in this country when certain marriages, like a Buddhist wedding, were not legally recognized. It is only recent that all states have recognized marriages of mixed race. In each case, even though the most fundamental American principles of personal freedom and equality were offended, moral, religious and biblical justifications have been used to deprive people of their right to marry.

In this latter half of the 1990's the issue of equality and marriage is among the most important social issues of our time. As the result of a suit brought by three same-sex couples, the Hawaii Supreme Court asked the state to show compelling reasons why same-sex couples should not be married. The findings of the Hawaii Commission on Sexual Orientation and the Law were that depriving same-sex couples of the right to marry, denies these couples equal treatment by the law, equal economic advantages, equal privileges and equal responsibilities. In response, many states, including California, have either proposed or passed legislation which would specifically deny recognition of same-sex marriages performed in other states. It is in recognition of this important social issue and the fundamental principles of personal freedom and equality that the Equality of Marriage Rights minute is offered.
Unless otherwise noted, all terms are three years in duration and expire in August of the year shown. Items in italic type are not named by Nominating Committee. Names in bold type were approved during Plenary VIII (August 9). Names preceded by a "#" will serve a partial term.

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING OFFICERS

PRESIDING CLERK (one-year term)
1997 Eric Moon, Berkeley

ASSISTANT TO THE CLERK (one-year term)
1997 Margaret Mossman, Berkeley

RECORDING CLERK (two-year terms)
1997 Gale Lederer, Berkeley
1998 Sandy Farley, Palo Alto

REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE
RECORDING CLERK (one-year term)
1997 Marybeth Webster, Grass Valley

READING CLERK (one-year term)
1997 Robert Vogel, Orange Grove

YOUNG FRIENDS CLERKS

CLERK: Eric Amen, Berkeley

RECORDING CLERK:
Nathan Wardrip-Fruin, Orange County

TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR:
Danny Tappan, Orange Grove

JYM LIAISONS: John Loch, Sundara Powell

STATISTICAL CLERK (three-year term)
1998 Betty Miller, Apple Seed

CO-TREASURERS (three-year terms)
1998 Phyllis Jones, Redding
1998 Walter Jones, Redding

HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST (three-year terms)
1997 Jim Cavener, Claremont

ARRANGEMENTS CLERKS (two-year terms)
1997 # Will Alexander, San Luis Obispo
1998 Noel Cragg, Santa Barbara

CO-REGISTRARS (three-year terms)
1998 Mimi Edgar, Santa Cruz
1999 John deValcourt, Santa Cruz

JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING CLERKS

CLERKS: Sarah House, Orange Grove
Anna Morgan, Orange County
Kate Newlin

RECORDING CLERK: Molly McAllister, Visalia

MINISTRY & OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:
Ben Hertzel, Palo Alto, clerk
Darcy Stanley, Berkeley
Caitlin McAllister, Visalia
Marlo McCormick, La Jolla
Christian Madrone, Apple Seed
Martin Otero, Orange Grove
Ann Kratzer, Fresno

PEACE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE:
Ben Hertzel, Palo Alto
MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
1997 Joan Johnson, Orange Grove
1997 John Mackinney, Berkeley
1997 # Keith Wedmore, San Francisco
1998 Val Milliron, Chico
1998 Steve Birdlebaugh, Sacramento
1998 Elaine Wadle, Orange Grove, Clerk
1999 James Navarro, Santa Cruz
1999 Jeanette Norton, Orange County
1999 Lowell Tozer, San Diego

SUBCOMMITTEES OF MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
(appointed by M & O Committee)

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Joan Johnson, Conejo Valley/OG, M&O Liaison
Walter Hjelt-Sullivan, Santa Cruz
Greet Kershaw, Claremont
Valerie Milliron, Chico, M&O Liaison
Dottie Vura-Weis, Inland Valley

BIG ISLAND OVERSIGHT
Elaine Wadle, Orange Grove, M&O Liaison
Paul Gracie, Honolulu
Sam Lindley, Honolulu
Kay Linn, Honolulu
Kay Larsen, Honolulu
Abby Williamson, Honolulu

BIG ISLAND OVERSIGHT
Elaine Wadle, Orange Grove, M&O Liaison
Paul Gracie, Honolulu
Sam Lindley, Honolulu
Kay Linn, Honolulu
Kay Larsen, Honolulu
Abby Williamson, Honolulu

SPECIAL FUNDS
Steve Birdlebaugh, Sacramento, M&O Contact

BRINTON VISITOR
Joan Johnson, Conejo Valley/OG, M&O Liaison
Leonard Dart, Claremont
Martha Dart, Claremont
Patricia Dienstfrey, Strawberry Creek
Robert Vogel, Orange Grove
Mary Lou Coppock, Intermountain YM
North Pacific YM appoints member only in years where there is a visitation.

FAITH AND PRACTICE LIAISON
John Mackinney, Berkeley
Elaine Wadle, Orange Grove

RIGHT HOLDING OF YEARLY MEETING
Jane Mills, Redwood Forest, Clerk
Eleanor Foster, Santa Cruz
Dottie Vura-Weis, Inland Valley
Jean Walton, Claremont
Lowell Tozer, M&O Liaison

SEXUAL MINORITY CONCERNS
Terry Hart, Santa Cruz, Co-clerk
Rob Roy Woodman, Davis, Co-clerk
Ron Jones, Santa Barbara, to be confirmed
Manuel Marks, Strawberry Creek
Donna Smith, Orange Grove
Keith Wedmore, M&O Liaison

WORSHIP-FELLOWSHIP
Betty Miller, Apple Seed, Clerk
Lynne Bird, Strawberry Creek
Margaret Hutchinson, Whistleof
James Summers, La Jolla

M&O LIAISON WITH JYM
Jeanette Norton, Orange County

AD HOC ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE
1997 Calvin Wilvert, San Luis Obispo
1997 Rosemary Wilvert, San Luis Obispo
1997 Anna Alexander, San Luis Obispo
1997 Terry Mackenzie, San Luis Obispo/OG
1997 Murry Lauser, San Luis Obispo
1997 Pat Wolff, Orange Grove

AD HOC COMMITTEE TO HELP FRIENDS DISCERN LEADINGS RE PERMANENT SITE
Jane Peers, La Jolla, Clerk
Steve Birdlebaugh, Sacramento
Joy O'Connell, Redding
Jean Walton, Claremont

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM COMMITTEE
1997 # Jim Coats, Davis
1997 Michele Craig, Davis, Clerk
1998 Tanya Heaston, Chico
1998 Ann Polivka, Chico
1999 Winnie Sunshine, La Jolla
1999 Tom Farley, Palo Alto
Ex Officio: Present and immediate past children's program coordinators.

EAST-WEST RELATIONS COMMITTEE
1997 # Linda Callaway, Claremont
1997 # Anne Davenport, Claremont
1997 Herb Foster, Santa Cruz
1998 Ruth Witchey, Redwood Forest
1998 Wendy Hartley, Chico
1998 Karen Street Berkeley, Clerk
1999 Carl Anderson, Strawberry Creek
1999 Janet Riley, San Luis Obispo
1999 Peggy Thompson, Santa Cruz
Ex Officio: PYM representatives and alternate to the Friends House Moscow Board.
FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISION COMMITTEE
Rotating Members (three-year terms):
1997 Robert Young, Orange Grove
1997 Marilee Eusebio, Davis, Corresponding Clerk
1998 Kim Lacey, San Francisco
1998 Ellie Huffman, Berkeley
1999 Krista Barnard, San Francisco
1999 Rick Troth, Apple Seed
Permanent Members (to serve for the duration of the revision process):
Jane Peers, La Jolla
Kitty Barragato, Orange Grove, Clerk
Aimée Elsbree, Claremont
Stratton Jaquette, Palo Alto
Lincoln Moses, Palo Alto
Laura Magnani, Berkeley
Ex Officio: Historian/Archivist and PYM Clerk

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
1997 Julie Ralls, Orange County
1997 Linda Rowell, Chico
1997 Joe Magruder, Berkeley
1998 Elsa Glines, Strawberry Creek
1998 Linda Dunn, Inland Valley
1998 Carol Mosher Berkeley
1999 Ingrid Petersen, Claremont
1999 Jim Coats, Davis
1999 Gary Wolfs, Orange Grove, Clerk

PEACE COMMITTEE
1997 Ernest Bicknell, Berkeley
1997 Aibi Reed, La Jolla, Co-clerk
1997 Lara Mahal, San Diego
1998 Trudy Storm, Inland Valley
1998 Arden Pierce, Palo Alto, Co-clerk
1998 # Marion Givens, Orange Grove
1999 Beth Wrightson, Strawberry Creek
1999 Mary Golden, San Francisco
1999
Ex Officio: Clerks of College Park Quarterly Meeting and Southern California Quarterly Meeting Peace Committees; Correspondents of unaffiliated Meetings; one of the FCNL representatives; Ben Hertzel, PA, JYM Representative; Representative from Young Friends.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE
1997 Kate Carpenter, Orange Grove
1997 Langdon Elsbree, Claremont
1998 Sandra Gey, Berkeley
1998 Vanita Blum Berkeley, Clerk
1999 Linda Rowell, Chico
1999 Susanna Matthay, Grass Valley

SECRETARIAT COMMITTEE
1997 # Ron Sax, Palo Alto
1998 Pat Daggerty, Orange Grove
1999 Larry Perry, Strawberry Creek, Clerk
Ex Officio: Assistant to the Clerk.

SITES COMMITTEE
1997 # Noel Cragg, Santa Barbara
1997 Martin Edwards, Redwood Forest
1998 Mark Koenig, Chico, Clerk
1998 Jan Turner, Humboldt/Redwood Forest
1999 Joy O'Connell, Redding
1999 Sonda Beal, Berkeley
Ex Officio: Present and immediate past Arrangements Clerks.

PERMANENT SITE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SITES COMMITTEE
(appointed by the Sites Committee)
Chuck Orr, La Jolla
Joy O'Connell, Redding
Walter Jones, Redding
Mark Koenig, Chico

FINANCE COMMITTEE
1997 Jean Malcolm, San Diego, Clerk
1997 Raymond Soares, Marlama Long Beach
1998 Tom King, San Jose
1998 # Claire Gorfinke, Orange Grove
1999 Shan Cretin, Santa Monica
1999 Ellie Foster, Santa Cruz
Ex Officio: Treasurers, Statistical Clerk.

FRIEND IN THE ORIENT COMMITTEE
(A joint committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting and North Pacific Yearly Meeting.)
1997 Bob Stauffer, Honolulu
1997 Lee Storey, Santa Monica
1998 Jimmy Choi, La Jolla
1998 Leonard Dart, Claremont, Clerk
1999 Kimi Nagatani, Orange County
1999 James Anderson, Chico

HOLDING CORPORATION COMMITTEE
1997 Steve Birdlebough, Sacramento, President
1997 Shan Cretin, Santa Monica
1998 Virginia Klein, Grass Valley
1998 Vanita Blum, Berkeley
1999 Robert Young, Orange Grove
1999 Brian Vura-Weis, Inland Valley
Ex Officio: PYM Presiding Clerk, Treasurers.

JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING COMMITTEE
1997 Susan Stanley Berkeley
1997 Alan Edgar, Santa Cruz, Clerk
1998 Carolyn Wardrip-Fruin, Orange County
1998 # Jim Kratzer, Fresno
1998 David Tappan, Orange Grove
1999 Micki Graham, PYM attender
1999 April Dubois, Apple Seed
1999 Jim Summers, La Jolla
SOCIAL ORDER COMMITTEE
1997 Leon Ray, San Diego, Clerk
1997 # Liz Amen, Berkeley
1997 # Bil Newman, Orange Grove
1998 Martha Fort, La Jolla
1998 Bruce Folsom, San Francisco
1998 Terry Mackenzie, Los Osos/Orange Grove
1999 Bob Segalman, Sacramento
1999 Thomas Leo, San Jose
1999 Stephen McNell, Strawberry Creek
Ex Officio: Clerks of College Park Quarterly Meeting and Southern California Quarterly Meeting Social Order Committees; Correspondents from unaffiliated Meetings

UNITY WITH NATURE COMMITTEE
1997 # Eric Sabelman, Palo Alto
1997 Sharon Gates, Orange Grove
1997 David Mackenzie, Orange Grove
1998 Martin Edwards, Redwood Forest
1998 Michael Dunn, Inland Valley, Clerk
1998 Elizabeth Jones, Santa Cruz
1999 Stephen Jones, Santa Cruz
1999 Eric Joy, Grass Valley
1999 Marilyn McConnell, Marloma Long Beach
Ex Officio: Earthlight Editor and Treasurers, FCUN Representatives.

WIDER FELLOWSHIP AMONG FRIENDS COMMITTEE
1997 Tom Farley, Palo Alto, Clerk
1998 Peter Milbury, Chico
1999 Joy O'Connell, Redding
Ex Officio: Representative to EFI, FGC, FUM, RGAM, FCSWYM, Young Friends of North America, and one FWCC Representative.
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
Nominating Committee Report

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS
* denotes representatives who are ex officio members of PYM Wider Fellowship Among Friends Committee

| AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (AFSC) | FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON UNITY WITH NATURE (FCUN) |
| Corporation Members (five representatives) | (two-year terms) |
| 1997 Maria May, Whiteleaf | 1997 Michael Dunn, Inland Valley |
| 1997 # Kimi Nagatani, Orange County | 1998 Kate Carpenter, Orange Grove |
| 1998 Harry Bailey Grass Valley, Convener | |
| 1999 Lincoln Moses, Palo Alto | |
| 1999 Helen O’Brien, Whiteleaf | |

| EVANGELICAL FRIENDS INTERNATIONAL (EFI)* | FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE (FGC)* |
| (two-year term) | (two-year term) |
| 1998 Maggie Hutchinson, Whiteleaf | 1998 Marie Schutz,* Redwood Forest |

| FRIENDS BULLETIN BOARD OF DIRECTORS | FRIENDS UNITED MEETING (FUM)* |
| (three representatives) | 1999 Jane Peers,* La Jolla |
| 1997 # Pat Daggerty, Orange Grove, Convener | |
| 1998 Rob Roy Woodman, Davis | |
| 1999 Arden Pierce, Palo Alto | |

| FRIENDS HOUSE MOSCOW BOARD | FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION (FWCC) - Section of the Americas |
| (Two representatives serving two-year terms and one alternate.) | 1997 Jan Tappan,* Orange Grove, Convener |
| 1997 Julie Harlow, Davis | 1998 Jeanette Norton*, Orange County |
| 1998 Ellie Huffman, Monterey Peninsula | 1999 Rolene Otero*, Orange Grove |
| 1999 Arden Pierce, Palo Alto | 1999 Janet Leslie*, Chico |

Note 1: These representatives select one of their number to be an ex officio member of the Wider Fellowship Among Friends Committee.

| FRIENDS CHURCH, SOUTHWEST YEARLY MEETING (FCSWYM)* | Note 2: Triennial Representatives (three). |
| 1998 Jeanette Norton, Orange County | Note 3: Alternate Triennial Representatives. |

| FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION OF CALIFORNIA (FCIL) | REUNION GENERAL DE LOS AMIGOS EN MEXICO (RGAM) * |
| Representative appointed by Social Order Committee. | 1997 Bob Barns,* Grass Valley |

| FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION (FCNL) | WILLIAM PENN HOUSE (one-year term) |
| (five representatives) | 1997 Pat Daggerty, Orange Grove |
| 1997 Bob Burnett, Strawberry Creek | (Alternate: Steve Sharpless, Redding) |
| 1997 Stephen McNeil, Strawberry Creek | |
| 1998 Carolyn Stephenson, Honolulu | |
| 1999 Pat Daggerty, Orange Grove, Convener | |
| 1999 Steve Sharpless, Redding | |

N-5
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
of the RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

"All of us in Junior Friends have memories of Chico and of each other over the past five years, and although we will miss this town, we all feel that moving on is in harmony with our feelings of growing older."
1983 JYM

Fellow Friends,

We are the future of 1983. We, too, are ready to move on, in more ways than one. We are ready for a new site but, more importantly, we have matured spiritually.

Joining together
After the year long absence
Meeting new and old

Sharing in Worship
Contemplating who we are
Learning about us

Comforting darkness
Sharing under starlit skies
Discovering truth

Candlelight vigil
Hiroshima remembered
Hearing memories

For permanent site
And same gender marriage
Contributing our minutes

Singing songs of hope
Grasping for a larger peace
Standing in silence

Conducting business
While learning Quaker process
Uniting ourselves

Camping by the lake
Swimming, tubing, playing games
Building on friendships

Saying our good-byes
Anticipating tomorrow
The future to come.

Zac Moon & Sarah O'Z
Junior Yearly Meeting
Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
August 1996
Chico, CA
After a period of exploration, the Young Friends of Pacific Yearly Meeting began a series of reconnections, both to the greater meeting and to Junior Yearly Meeting. Rather than scrambling to create a new identity, as we have done in the past, we started rebuilding the bridge which had begun to corrode between JYM and the Yearly Meeting. In the spirit of this reconstruction, Young Friends agreed to take a more active role in helping to guide JYM. Going back and looking at the purpose for which we were created has helped us to find the identity that we had been missing. Young Friends believe that this is the first step in a long, successful journey toward integration and identity.

In keeping in touch with the greater meeting, we discussed the issues of same-sex marriage and also of a permanent site for Pacific Yearly Meeting. Young Friends reached a consensus on both issues: we agreed on the need for equality of marriage rights and on the need for a permanent site. We feel that the benefits of the latter would be universal throughout the meeting. We also agree that a permanent site would help increase the return rate among Young Friends.

In addition to the increase in our participation in the meeting, Young Friends also retained our social autonomy, with activities that reaffirmed connections with nature. These activities also helped to reinforce the belief that the permanent site for PYM should be in a more natural setting.

With our long-term objectives as the re-establishment of the connections with JYM and the greater meeting, maintaining our autonomy, and increasing the return rate among Young Friends, we look toward a brighter future for all Friends.
Greetings to Friends Everywhere:

Gathering for the fiftieth year since our founding as a Yearly Meeting, we reflect on the paths traveled to bring nearly five hundred of us together. Our boundaries extend from Guatemala in the south, the Oregon border in the north, west to Hawaii and east to Nevada. Friends traveled from other parts of the world as well to join us.

Meeting in the intense summer sun of Chico, California, we remember the past and anticipate the future before us. We seek to know who we are and who God calls us to be. We are reminded that there is no “they” at Yearly Meeting, only “we”.

For many years our shared passion and commitment have been for peace and justice issues supported by our beliefs and leadings. Increasingly, we have come to believe that our spiritual life needs greater conscious nurturing. In seeking ways to balance these commitments, our shared worship each morning carried our closeness with God into the activities of the day.

Our Brinton Visitor related the desire of visited Meetings for better understanding of worship, Quaker decision making, outreach, peace and community. We joined in workshops on how unity develops and on good order among Friends. We worked on the revision of our book of Faith and Practice and on an advice concerning the care of Friends undergoing divorce.

We are challenged to work against discrimination and to bring about economic and social justice. Population issues and right sharing remain among our concerns. We approved a minute from our Wider Fellowship Among Friends Committee and our representatives to Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), encouraging all Yearly Meetings and Quaker groups to find ways to openly discuss sexual discrimination, harassment and abuse. We rejoice in the opening Friends House Moscow. Following Quaker history, Friends’ work in Russia is upheld by many Friends in this and other Yearly Meetings.

Joyfully we welcomed Junior Yearly Meeting Friends as they participated in significant decision making, bringing forward their own carefully considered minutes on same-gender marriage and on moving toward a permanent home for the Yearly Meeting sessions. We cherished their presence at our meeting for memorials and in two plenaries. We also rejoiced in the participation of our Young Friends.

Q-1
Seeking to be obedient to God’s will, we labored through tears, silence, and joy -- ultimately approving a minute on equality of marriage rights (the equal application of state marriage laws to same-gender couples).

A minute was also approved encouraging formation of a corporation, as a first step toward possible acquisition of a permanent site for PYM sessions. Reaching this decision follows several years of exploration and seasoning.

Lifted by these decision, some voices rose in song; deep sharing continued with those still anxious lest we had moved too hastily.

Stories and music shared in family worship opened our hearts to the knowledge that we are part of God’s creation, and it is not yet finished. We are willing to be God’s partners in continuing this work, sustained by the joy of our time together.

Eric Moon, presiding clerk
1996 PYM Registrar's Report

Attendance at PYM, counting all ages, was 438 persons. This compares with 428 in 1995 and 483 in 1994 at Chico, and 497 at Walker Creek in 1993. There were 61 first-time attenders (60 in 1995), meaning that 105 people who attended in 1995 did not come this year. This is much less turnover than 1995, when there were 261 non-returnees from 1994 PYM. Of those who were at PYM in 1994 but not in 1995, 57 returned in 1996.

There were 7 cancellations after initial registration in both 1995 and 1996. Ten registered individuals neither canceled nor appeared (in two cases, others in their families attended, but did not tell the Registrars of their absence until PYM ended). In 1995 there was one such unexplained no-show registrant. Several of the non-appearing registrants had only sent pre-registration cards placed in the May issue of Friends Bulletin, and had not followed-up by returning their detailed forms and deposit.

There were 269 "family" groups in attendance. These comprised individuals in the following age ranges:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>0-2</th>
<th>2-12</th>
<th>12-18</th>
<th>18-80</th>
<th>&gt;80</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In both 1995 and 1996, there are peaks in the PYM population at ages 10-20 at age 45-55; although the scarcity of attenders aged 20-30 is not surprising, the decline at age 55-60 is. In 1996 there was a substantial increase in the 40-45 age range, and a modest rise in ages 20-25 (the latter mostly "graduated" JYMers who still want to participate).

First-time attenders were broadly distributed by age, with slight peaks at age 5-20 and 40-45 years. The 40-45 age range of newcomers doubled to 14 in 1996 (some were from Chico and nearby Meetings).

In 1996, 60.4% of the attenders were female. In 1995, 58.6% of attenders were female. In 1994, 56.9% were female. The remainder were not.

Of the family groups, 50% took advantage of the early registration discount, 42% were regular fee schedule, and 8% paid late penalties in 1996. This compares to 128 (51%) early and 20 (8%) late registrations in 1995, out of 253 families, and 41% early and 15% late in 1994. There were 19 individuals who registered on-site in 1996; about half were for one day only. Most of the 60 or so families who used the pre-registration card were people who would have registered early in any case; the card did not justify its expense by encouraging attendance by those outside the College Park/Southern California Quarterly region, as was intended. In the future, repeated announcements printed in the Bulletin should be enough.

Sixty individuals chose to register as "sleeping bag" campers (how many actually slept under the sky, I know not). There were 45 tent campers and 5 recreational vehicles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Dorm</th>
<th>RV</th>
<th>Tent</th>
<th>Sleeping bag</th>
<th>Day attendant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>all campers:</td>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following donations were pledged in addition to PYM fees: children's program: $718.32; Junior Yearly Meeting: $551.97; scholarship fund: $531.12. Because the Registrars have been sending out notices of refunds that included the option of applying all or part to these special funds, additional
donations have been made that will be applied to 1997 PYM. 17 individuals requested scholarship assistance in 1996, compared to 19 in 1995. Although the availability of reduced fees has become more widely known, this does not seem to have led to increased demand on the PYM scholarship fund (other assistance is available from monthly meetings, the Young Friends travel fund, and in the form of paid work for the Children's Program).

Nine individuals requested special meals (this information needed to be passed on to the Craig Hall cook sooner than start of PYM; 2 weeks advance notice was given in 1995, when there were 19 dietary requests).

Fifteen individuals requested rooms in the area set aside for gays and lesbians; their ages ranged from 32 to 66. There were 10 in this group in 1995, more in 1994.

Twenty-five individuals requested first floor rooms because of limited mobility; their ages ranged from 35 to 91. There were 24 mobility-related room requests in 1995.

There were 51 other special room requests in 1996, excluding committee clerks who needed to be in their committee rooms. Most were for particular roommates. This year there were exactly as many requests for single rooms as there were one-bed rooms available in Craig and Bradley Halls.

One of the pleasures of being Registrar is to be able to satisfy requests for special friends as roommates. In addition, we have the occasional unforeseen match-up: in 1995 there was one individual who worried that his snoring would keep his roommate awake. But there was another person who told us that snoring did not disturb him; they made perfect roommates. This year, such an opportunity came in the form of two women who, unknown to each other, each said that they were night-owls and did not want roommates who might be awakened by their late hours.

In 1994 and 1995, there were unexpected charges by Craig Hall that added to the cost of holding PYM (meeting room fees and high minimum meal counts, respectively). Because of the efforts of the PYM Arrangements Clerk and Treasurer, these did not recur in 1996. In consequence, even though PYM fees to attendees were raised only $1 per day for the 18-79 age group, there was a much larger surplus of receipts over expenses this year.

Because of problems in fitting all the information required into a tear-off portion of a single-page registration form, in 1996 the Registrars reformatted the forms into a double-sided information page and a separate page to be filled out and returned. This was easier to read, but still caused difficulty in calculating fees (e.g.: the program fee was not shown as needing to be multiplied by days of attendance.

The information page contained an error in the examples shown for typical total fees, which caused many who relied on the example and did not do the calculation themselves to underestimate their charges by $5. This, plus the large number of options in meals and lodging (and the number of people making changes after they registered) led to many more post-PYM refunds and notices of additional charges being sent out by the Registrars (16 refunds and 27 unpaid fees over $5).

As in previous years, the Registrars helped recruit and assign volunteers and to provide lists of requests for assistance and worship-sharing groups. Because in 1997 PYM will be held in a new site, with extra time required of the Registrars, it will not be possible for the Registrars to also assemble packets for mailing in advance or for distribution on arrival at PYM; instead pre-addressed envelopes will be provided to the Secretariat and its volunteers, who will add non-registration documents to the packets.

In gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your Registrars,

Eric Sabelman and Mimi Edgar, 10/10/96

attachments: histogram plots of attendance by age, by meeting, and age of 1st time attenders.
1996 PYM - age distribution of attendees

1995 PYM Age Distribution

R-3
1996 PYM attendance per meeting

Strawberry Creek
Orange Grove
Berkeley
La Jolla
Chico
Palo Alto
Santa Cruz
Claremont
Redwood Forest
Grass Valley
Davis
San Francisco
San Jose
Appleseed
Orange County
Santa Monica
Redding
Marin
Mar Loma
Inland Valley
Sacramento
Monterey
Santa Barbara
Los Osos
Humboldt
Conejo Valley WG
Visalia
Honolulu
San Diego
Los Angeles
Reno
one attender each
not known
Friends' orgs
NPYM

Attenders

R-4
1995 PYM attendance per meeting

- Berkeley
- Chico
- Orange Grove
- Santa Cruz
- La Jolla
- Strawberry Creek
- Palo Alto
- Redwood Forest
- San Francisco
- Grass Valley
- Davis
- Redding
- Orange County
- Claremont
- Humboldt
- San Jose
- Inland Valley
- Santa Monica
- Fresno
- Appleseed
- San Diego
- Sacramento
- Marin
- Mendocino
- Santa Barbara
- Southern Humboldt
- Visalia
- Pacific Ackworth
- Marloma Long Beach
- Delta
- Honolulu
- Los Angeles
- Whitleaf
- Conejo Valley
- Ft Bragg
- Mexico City
- Oakland
- one attender each other Meetings
- Friends organizations
- Friends Churches

Attenders
Your registration for PYM August 5-10, 1996, Chico, California, is confirmed. If you have any questions about your registration, please call Eric Sabelman [(415) 322-2455] or Mimi Edgar [(408) 475-8649].

CHILDREN'S & JYM PROGRAMS

There will be structured educational programs and activities for children and the Junior Yearly Meeting. Children ages 0 to 11 and JYM people (12 to 17) are expected to be either participating in the programs or be under adult supervision at all times. If you have children or JYMers, please complete the enclosed forms and bring them to the Young People's Check-in Desk. NOTE THAT TWO SIGNED MEDICAL RELEASE FORMS ARE NEEDED for JYM. JYM will be going on a camp-out for one night; if you did not check this box on the registration form but plan to go, please tell the Registrar.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Ministry and Oversight and Junior Yearly Meeting committee and clerks have met and propose the following self-contract, in hopes that all PYM attenders, of whatever age, will agree to it as a mutually understood guide for the PYM community:

I AGREE TO: 1. Treat every other person with respect.
            2. Participate fully in the creation of the PYM community.
            3. Be open to appropriate eldering.
            4. Not engage in sex outside committed relationships.
            5. Not use recreational drugs, including alcohol.

Friends are reminded that pets are not allowed and smoking is permitted only on outside paved areas.

TRANSPORTATION

Southern California Quarterly Meeting has arranged for vans to come from southern California areas and return. If you did not already reserve a seat on the van, contact Phil Rizzo, (818) 821-0495, to ask if space is still available.

Chico is also served by Amtrak, (800) 872-7245, Greyhound, (800) 231-2222, United Express airlines, (800) 241-6522, and van service from the Sacramento airport, (916) 891-1219. Contact Transportation Coordinator Ann Polivka [(916) 434-8412] to arrange to be picked up at the stations.

ACCOMMODATIONS

DORMITIES: The name badge in the packet you receive on arrival at PYM will show your room assignment. Blankets, pillows, sheets, towels and room keys are included at no additional charge. There will be a charge for lost or damaged articles.

CAMPING: Camping space will be available in a tree-shaded area for tents and sleeping bags on the ground. A water hose and trash cans will be provided. Parking space will be available for recreational vehicles (NO extra charge). Due to the fire hazard, campers may not cook their food. Refrigerators and showers will be available in a nearby dormitory.

MEALS

Meals provided by Gordon Hall are served cafeteria style with a choice of vegetarian (ovo-lacto) and non-vegetarian selections. The Registrars have
forwarded requests for special dietary needs to Helen Scull, PVM Food Coordinator; please contact her if you wish to change or modify your request (916-894-2980 mail: 2701 Sierra Sunrise Terrace #527, Chico, CA 95928).

There will be two lines entering the dining hall, one for people who have pre-registered for a meal, and the other for anyone who is changing or adding that meal but has not pre-paid. If your name is not on the pre-registered list but you signed up for the meal, add your name and note "pre-registered". The Registrars will reconcile the situation afterwards without delaying your meal.

You may have meals that you have not previously signed up for. Go to the second line and write your name on the appropriate list; do not pay at the door. The Registrars will add the cost (including a late registration fee) to your account. All such add-on fees should be paid to the Registrars before the end of PVM.

**CHECK-IN PROCEDURE**

Please arrive after 1:00 pm Monday, August 5. Registrars Desk will be open:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 8/5</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. 8/2</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed - Sat</td>
<td>Times to be posted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STEP 1.** Come first to the PVM Registrars Desk located in the plenary room to the right of the main lobby of Craig Hall on Monday, or in the lobby thereafter. There will be two check-in lines. Come to the "EXPRESS CHECK-IN" line if you have fully paid your fees. Come to the "BALANCE DUE" line if you owe money to PVM or want to change your housing or meals. Because the Registrar made an error in the example cost estimates, IF YOU USED THESE ESTIMATES INSTEAD OF CALCULATING YOUR FEES, YOU WILL OWE AN ADDITIONAL $5.00; if so, you may use either check-in line.

You should pay the balance due on your account during the check-in process. Your "family" will receive an envelope with each person's name badge, a map of the facility and other orientation information. Your badge will also indicate your worship-fellowship assignment (unless you requested otherwise).

**STEP 2.** If your family includes children aged 17 and younger, proceed to the Young People's Registration Desk. Turn in Medical Release Forms (2 for JYM) and, if required, the Sponsorship Form. Make sure that children's ages are on the forms.

If you are a day attender, you may skip steps 3 & 4.

**STEP 3.** You should find a pre-printed check-in form in the packet you receive from the Registrars on arrival at PVM. There will be one form for each different kind of accommodation your family is using (dorm, tent, RV or sleeping bag). After telling the Registrars of any changes you want to make, you should take this form to the Gordon Hall registration window. If you are staying in a dormitory, you will receive your room key. No
deposit for the key is required; however, there is a $25 charge for each lost key. If you are camping or staying in a RV, you will receive a camping sticker. The camping sticker must be returned at check-out time.

STEP 4. Proceed to your room, camping or RV area. If you are camping or staying in a RV, you must display the camping sticker, or you may be charged for five days even if you did not attend the full length of PYM.

CHECK-OUT PROCEDURE
Yearly Meeting ends on Saturday, August 10, after lunch. There is no need to check out with the PYM Registrars unless you owe money.

DORMITORIES: Leave your linens in your room. Return your key to the Gordon Hall Check-in Window and sign the check-out card.

CAMPERS: Return your camping sticker to the Craig Hall Window and sign the check-out card. Campers who do not turn in the sticker at check-out will be charged for the entire time of the PYM session.

REFUND POLICY
Your deposit (less contributions you may have made to Children's, Junior yearly Meeting and Scholarship programs) is fully refundable if you notify the Registrars by July 15. 75% will be refunded if requested between 7/15 and 8/5. Refunds requested after PYM has begun will be 50% of the amount.

HIROSHIMA VIGIL
Rather than a memorial walk on Hiroshima Day, August 6, we will have an evening candlelight vigil in front of Craig Hall. Bring candles.

PHONE MESSAGES
Messages for PYM attenders may be left with Gordon Hall Conference Facility at (916) 345-1393 or (800) 559-1393 or FAX (916) 345-1549.

MEDICAL DOCTORS & COUNSELORS
Please volunteer to be on call for a block of time. A sign-up list will be available at the PYM Registrars Desk.

WEATHER
We expect the weather to be very warm. However, the dormitories and meeting rooms are air conditioned. Sweaters may be needed indoors or outdoors in the evenings.

SWIMMING POOL
The swimming pool may be used only during posted times and when a lifeguard is present. The pool is planned to be open longer hours than during previous PYMs.

LOST & FOUND
Lost possessions or children should be reported and found items brought to the Registrars Desk. Lost keys if not returned to Gordon Hall upon check-out will result in a $25 charge added to the attender's account.
M&O SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE RIGHT HOLDING OF YEARLY MEETING

Annual Report for PYM 1996

After a fruitful interest group at last PYM, to which five former YM clerks came, the subcommittee felt a strong leading to continue to discuss ways in which Representative Committee might be changed. In order for YM to become more the experience many Friends long for, clerk Eric Moon proposed that as an experiment Representative committee not meet during our annual session. In this way Yearly Meeting will start at the same time for everyone; and with no prior "rehearsal" we will have the opportunity to do business together with greater freshness. Yearly Meeting agenda would be seasoned by an augmented Agenda Review committee several weeks prior to (instead of the day before) YM session. Representative committee approved this at its March meeting.

Our committee will again have an interest group on Representative committee late in our August session so that we can talk together about this experiment, and offer guidance for other steps. It may be that future Representative committees could be used to consider "right listening" and "right sharing" on spiritual, interpersonal, community, or social issues on some topic chosen ahead of time. A query to ponder might be: do Representative committee and Yearly Meeting enable Quakers to live our Quaker faith and to express it in our work in the world?

We continue to be concerned with leadership and size of committees, and with the issue of overworking a few Friends. We need to attend to finding and using the varied talents of as yet undiscovered Friends, so that some Friends are not overused. We are watching with interest M&O's experiment in dividing some of its work so that they have time to see to their ministry function during Yearly Meeting session.

Jane Mills
clerk of Subcommittee on RHYM
Shared Leadings on a Permanent Site for PYM

Report of the PYM Ad Hoc Committee to "open the opportunity for Monthly Meetings to share their leadings concerning the development of a permanent site for PYM's annual gatherings and other uses" (name taken from the PYM95 minutes establishing the committee)

Friends throughout Pacific Yearly Meeting have been considering the matter of a permanent site for PYM over many years. When it became clear that no rented site had been found to fit us in all of our requirements and desires, the issue of owning a site which could be developed according to our specifications began to be discussed.

In the August 1995 sessions, Friends found it very difficult to separate discussion of (a) ownership in the abstract from (b) consideration of specific sites. Our ad hoc committee was created to try to help Friends in their search, with the narrow focus on "leadings". We sent out a letter trying to give a clear statement of the purpose of discussions Friends were asked to hold: that is, to examine our spiritual development and management of any piece of property, wherever it might be found. Holding our Yearly Meeting in the Light, Friends also considered the consequences, both spiritual and practical, of such an undertaking.

During the past year, we have had responses from 20 Meetings and worship groups and from 15 individual Friends. Additionally, at least three discussions were held during sessions of the two Quarterly Meetings. This report attempts to summarize the results and what they seem to mean.

Without going into a statistical analysis, it is quite apparent that Friends have had no clear leading up to this time. There is not unity among us, either to guide us into ownership or to cause us to refuse it. Friends are spread along a wide continuum, from (a) great enthusiasm and vision about the benefits and uses, for PYM, but also for Friends in general and for many sectors of the wider community, all the way to (z) great discomfort with the idea of ownership of property and with the commitment of our resources to such an endeavor.
Few Friends are at either extreme. It was very hard for Friends to separate the concept from a specific site, and many of the issues raised had to do with location or topography. It was also hard to separate the spiritual from the practical, financial questions.

However, the exercise has been valuable in that our thinking about the possibilities has become both broader (in that we have seen many more beneficial applications) and deeper (in that we have examined ourselves and our motivations rather closely). It became clear that many Friends have long cherished hopes for Friends' involvement in ecological and environmental projects. Several new concepts were brought forward. One consideration which has surfaced in many guises is the matter of the future of PYM.

At present, however, we have a new freedom to examine this matter. Neither of the two sites considered last August is available to us now. With the tremendous amount of work done by the Permanent Sites subcommittee of the Sites Committee and the feasibility study presented to Representative Committee in March, most of the possible uses of any site have been examined. Basically, the result of that feasibility study seems to indicate that it would probably be feasible for a group of people to develop a site which would encompass the need of PYM and also serve other populations so well as to be financially sound. Our committee points out that such a group would need to be willing to give generously of time and initial capital. The issue of the relationship between that group and PYM itself would need to be carefully explored. Any group that would set out to develop a permanent site would need to be motivated by clear objectives, with specific concepts of the uses of the site in a larger vision than one week per year by PYM, and those objectives and concepts would need to be clearly articulated.

All Meetings should have a copy of that study by the subcommittee of Sites Committee, since it was distributed to all Representatives and Friends present in March. We recommend that Friends look it over again with particular reference, not to the site for which was developed, but to the range of uses discussed. Pages 13 and 14, "Potential Uses," may be particularly helpful. Having no specific site in view, Friends have a wonderful opportunity to consider seriously whether or not we are led to look for a place where such work could be carried out.
This committee suggests that Friends continue to discuss the questions about the uses of a site and try to establish priorities among those uses. Many of them are for ourselves: for study camps for Quaker children, a "home place" for Young Friends, and uses by specific groups among us, such as Monthly or Quarterly Meetings, gay and lesbian groups (who are sometimes are not welcome in other facilities: we need to be clear about their welcome to use ours), "leadership training" sessions for Friends, "theology conferences," and other conferences and meetings. Beyond ourselves, options include ecologically sound development with use as a demonstration facility for "outside" groups, nature study camping for school groups, environmentally responsible living for Elderhostel groups, facilities for other religious groups whose requirements are similar to ours, and other ideas. Almost all of the visions are based on a rural setting, with development using ecologically responsible techniques, designs and architecture.

With so many ideas, Friends have much to explore! However, freed from any particular site, we may be able to ask ourselves more clearly whether or not PYM, or any group of Friends within PYM, has a clear leading to pursue the search.

The findings from the past year's discussions among us did not demonstrate such a clear leading. It seems that PYM Friends should continue to seek together at this deep level. We may have been led now into the discussion we should have had before even beginning to consider any specific site. This committee has hope that Friends will come to the 1996 PYM sessions prepared to talk together in honesty and love. Through this mutual search, extending into local Meetings, the way may become clear to Friends throughout PYM.

Submitted by the committee:
Jane Peers (clerking), Steve Birdelbough, Tom Farley, Joy O'Connell, Jean Walton.
TREASURERS' REPORT - June, 1996

1. New reimbursement policy for travel to Representative Committee

Prior to this year travel funds for officers and committee clerks were sent to individuals in advance for the March and August sessions. Meetings also received checks in advance of the August session for their representatives, but March reimbursements for representatives were sent after attendance at the meeting because many Monthly Meetings were not represented.

Problems with this former method occurred mainly when Meetings that did not send representatives in August also lost track of the check and did not cash it. Amounts sent were based on our standard guidelines, rather than actual expenses, and excess amounts returned were rare. Some individuals received advances for the August session and arrived later in the week, having not actually attended at the Representative Committee's scheduled times.

The new policy reimburses actual expenses for all Representative Committee travel that comes within our guidelines and payments are made after each session occurs. Those requiring a travel advance should make special request to the treasurers. The amount for representatives still goes to the local Meeting, so forwarding it to the individual should be prompt. The new policy seems to have already saved money in March.

It was approved in March that officers, committee clerks and Meeting representatives still be reimbursed for their travel this August even though Representative Committee will not meet separately.

2. Advice and Queries booklets

The cost of printing these little green booklets last August was taken in part from our Publishing reserves. It was suggested at that time that Meetings might reimburse the reserves by sending perhaps $10 each. So far contributions have been received from six Meetings and one individual.

3. Status of special reserves

The following chart shows how much has been contributed to and spent from each of several PYM reserve funds since May 1, 1995. Meetings and individuals may find this information useful in planning their contributions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Fund</th>
<th>Donations</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Balance - 5/23/96</th>
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<td>-0-</td>
<td>$2,345.86</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharing Fund (M&amp;O)</td>
<td>125.00</td>
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<td>1,260.95</td>
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<td>598.11</td>
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<td>Friend in the Orient Projects Fund</td>
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<td>Permanent Site Fund</td>
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<td>3,352.03</td>
<td>1,996.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Conscience Fund</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>-0-</td>
<td>10,153.25*</td>
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</table>

* In addition to the $1,000 contributed, the Student Conscience Fund has also been augmented this year by repayments of $1,849.89 from students formerly assisted by the fund and by interest.

Phyllis and Walt Jones, PYM Treasurers
INDEX 1996
PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
Chico, California

Reference Codes
REPORTS [ALL CAPS]
Page numbering (3-2 Plenary 3, page 2)
Attachments are lettered (A-R)

List of Minutes
PYM96-1 Opening Minute
2 East West budget augmentation
3 Treasurers' report accepted
4 Friends Bulletin augmentation
5 Appointments to Nominating
6 FWCC
7 Friends Bulletin augmentation
8 Budget approved
9 PYM member assessment reduced
10 Unity with Nature augmentation
11 1997 PYM in San Luis Obispo
12 Nominations approved
13 Permanent Site Corporation
14 Equality of Marriage Rights

List of Attachments
A STATISTICAL REPORT
B Brinton Visitor (Bob Vogel)
C PERMANENT SITE
D Joy
E Faith and Practice
F Finance and Budget
G Nominating Guidelines
H EAST-WEST, Russia
I FRIEND IN THE ORIENT
J FWCC
K FRIENDS BULLETIN
L RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
M Marriage Rights
N Nominations
O Junior Yearly Meeting Epistle
P Young Friends Epistle
Q PYM Epistle
R REGISTRAR
Index 1996
Pacific Yearly Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addresses of meetings and worship groups</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attenders at PYM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separate enclosure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>F, 7-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discipline-- see Faith and Practice</td>
<td>E, 3-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAST WEST RELATIONS</td>
<td>H, 5-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epistle--PYM</td>
<td>P, 2-2, 7-1, 8-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epistle--Junior Yearly Meeting</td>
<td>Q</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epistle-Young Friends</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQUALITY OF MARRIAGE RIGHTS</td>
<td>I, 7-2, 8-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISION</td>
<td>E, 3-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCE</td>
<td>F, 3-1, 7-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIEND IN THE ORIENT</td>
<td>I, 7-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIENDS BULLETIN</td>
<td>K, 4-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON UNITY WITH NATURE</td>
<td>4-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUM--FRIENDS UNITED MEETING</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FWCC--FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION</td>
<td>K, 7-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joy</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LATIN AMERICAN FRIENDS</td>
<td>8-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIAGE EQUALITY</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorials</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miracles</td>
<td>1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT</td>
<td>M, 1-3, 2-1, 5-1, 7-3, 8-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOMINATING</td>
<td>G, N, 5-1, 8-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REGISTRAR</td>
<td>R, 8-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll Call of Meetings and Worship Groups</td>
<td>A, 1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERMANENT SITE</td>
<td>C, 2-2, 4-2, 7-3, 8-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco Friends Meetinghouse</td>
<td>4-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SITES</td>
<td>3-2, 7-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATISTICAL REPORT</td>
<td>A, 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREASURERS</td>
<td>F, 5-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>