

Pacific Yearly Meeting
Communications Committee
Report to Representative Committee (RepCom) 2023

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OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

The committee has spent the past six months pursuing multiple goals in service of the Pacific Yearly Meeting (PacYM) community. They are:

Releasing the Annual Directory

In September 2022 the Annual Directory was officially released to the larger community. It is now listed on the PacYM website (<https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/directory/>) and can be accessed after obtaining the password from Clerks and official Directory contact persons for each Monthly Meeting (MM). Presentations are being made as requested to MM about the larger database project and the Directory in hopes of encouraging more MMs and individuals to be included. The next edition of the Directory will be released after the 2023 Annual Session.

Finalizing Distribution List Policies and Authorization Creation

After feedback from Annual Session, the policies governing the creation and maintenance of Distribution Lists were finalized and are available on PacYM's website (https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/wordpress/committee-newsletters-and-reports/communications-committee/#Email_Distribution_Lists). Several distribution lists have now been created (for the Communications Committee, White Anti-Racist Allies Affinity Group, several for Youth Programs, PacYM Officers and Committee Clerks, etc.) and we are encouraging others to request them for their Committees and shared topical interest groups.

Google Docs Trainings

Two trainings in Google Docs and Drive have been provided to members of the PacYM community. They covered accessing Drive, how to navigate through folders and manipulate files, as well as the basics of document creation and management. One was recorded and is available for viewing on the "Resources for PacYM Officers and Committee Clerks" (https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/wordpress/resources-officers-clerks/#Documents_Files).

Website Development

- Appreciation for feedback received over the last several years

- Looking forward to continuing to develop a website that is more comfortable for Friends to use

YouTube Channel Update

Currently the keynotes from 2019, 2020, and 2022 are available on our YouTube channel where they can be viewed (<https://www.youtube.com/@pacificyearlymeeting8900>). If there are events within PacYM or the Quarters that have been recorded, they can be submitted to the Communications Committee to be considered for addition to the YouTube channel.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

As an update about the investment that has been made into the Database, that expense is mostly completed at this point. With exceptions for minor maintenance issues where external help may be required for structural updates to the Database, there are no expected expenses for regular maintenance.

SPIRITUAL ASPECTS

Our call to facilitate communication, foster connection, and remove the metaphorical bushel baskets hiding both particular ministries of PacYM Friends and Quakerism in general leads us to do the work of Communications Committee. In the time since Annual Session, we have continued to labor with the link between *doing* work and having the fruits of that work be *received* by our PacYM community as we have published and promoted our first PacYM-wide directory, offered Google Docs trainings for yearly meeting officers and committee clerks, and continued to imagine how our website might be more user-friendly.