

**GRASS VALLEY
FRIENDS MEETING**

*Of the Religious Society of Friends in the Truth,
College Park Quarterly Meeting,
Pacific Yearly Meeting*

13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA 95959 @
The Sierra Friends Center, off Jones Bar Road,
Nevada City, CA 95959

Website: www.grassvalleyfriends.org (NEW)

Email: grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com

First Days: 9:00am Singing at the Meeting House (in-person and zoom)

10:00 am Silent Meeting for Worship (in-person and zoom)

To receive the zoom link, grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com.

Newsletter, 2nd Month, 2024

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MEETING CALENDAR

First Sunday

- Program to be announced.

Second Sunday

- Hybrid Silent Meeting for Worship Meeting, Potluck and for Worship on the Occasion of Business.

Third Sunday

- Program to be announced.

Fourth Sunday

- Spiritual Life

Fifth Sunday

- On Fifth Sundays we hold a Family Meeting for Worship. *Children and adults gather and spend 20 minutes in storytelling, 20 minutes in singing and 20 minutes in silent worship.*

- ✚ 1st First Day: Bible Story and Song
- ✚ 2nd First Day: A Story and a Craft or Activity
- ✚ 3rd First Day: A Story plus Time for Silent Worship
- ✚ 4th First Day: A Creative, Topical Curriculum
- ✚ 5th First Day: Family Worship (a story, singing and silent worship)
- ✚ **Online Worship:** every [Wednesday evening, 7:00-7:30 pm](#)

HAPPENING NOW

- Saturday, February 24, 2024: PacYM Representative Committee Meeting

HAPPENING LATER

- Saturday, March 2, 2024: PacYM Representative Committee Meeting
- Sunday, March 17, 2024, 11:30a.m.: Worship Sharing on the State of the Meeting
- Sunday, March 24: Don McCormick: Safe Meetings Don't Avoid Conflict
- Friends General Conference Encountering Spirit Retreat: April 12-14, 2024 (See page 9.)
- Sunday, April 17: Seekers Meeting. Questions and sharing about what it means to be a Quaker
- Sunday, April 28: Dorothy Henderson's report on her work at Pendle Hill

GLOSSARY- Abbreviations and terms used in the GVFM newsletter.

SFC: Sierra Friends Center

M&O: Ministry and Oversight

PacYM: Pacific Yearly Meeting

PHP – Pendle Hill Pamphlet

FGC: Friends General Conference

QUNP: Quaker United Nations Project

FASE: Friends Association for Services to the Elderly

CPQM: College Park Quarterly Meeting

RSWR: Right Sharing of World Resource

UwN: Unity with Nature

Threshing Session: A meeting at a separate time specifically not for decision-making; normal practices of a Quaker meeting for business are relaxed so that Friends may speak more than once to an issue, speak to a point just made, or ask a question of a previous speaker.

Query: The Friends practice of examining our souls and seeking clarity. These questions & exercises help to give time to seek truth about us and our spiritual condition and to tap into Divine insight.

[Grass Valley Friends Meeting Facebook link](#)

If you use Facebook, follow the Grass Valley Friends Meeting page, or join the Facebook Grass Valley Friends Meeting group. If you share a post from the page, your friends will see it, and it helps our visibility.

MINUTES AND RECORD: Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, February 18, 2024

We met in a hybrid meeting in person at the meetinghouse and on Zoom.

Present: Dorothy Henderson (clerk), Doug Hamm, Chamba Cooke, Amy Cooke (co-recording clerk), Sharon Davisson, Judy Hamilton, Reed Hamilton, Gordon Starr, Mary Starr, Dianne Marshall, Peter O'Rourke.

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

Clerks' Remarks and Query:

Dorothy introduced the Clerk's Table: Dorothy Henderson, presiding clerk; Amy Cooke, recording clerk; Gordon Starr, elder to the clerk; and Mary Starr, Zoom assistant.

Remarks and Query: Dorothy spoke of watching the Super Bowl ads. One ad is silent, depicting people washing each other's feet. The message was that Jesus did not teach hate.

How do we, in this Meeting, wash each other's feet?

Dorothy was inspired to share a quotation from the book, *On Listening to Another* by Douglas Steere. She noted that we listen to each other in what can be a transformative way.

Dorothy asked Friends to respond out of worship.

There was a message shared of being deeply touched, of sharing Happy Valentine's Day wishes with strangers, of how kindness and connection raises us all up. Another Friend shared about the Waking Up group that meets under the care of the Meeting. The deep listening that the Friend experienced in that group inspired her to join the Meeting. A Friend shared about her high school experience of listening deeply to a friend while participating in the American Friends Service Committee, an experience that taught her about empathy - oh, and she married that friend 30 years later! Spirit and Witness meetings are a place one Friend feels both deeply heard and able to share openly. A committee of care gives another Friend the experience of pure listening without boundaries. Examples rose up of the times when a Friend did not listen, or was not heard. A time when a friend reflected in the middle of a sharing, "You're an idiot!" have her a sense of being seen and heard through the authenticity of humor and connection.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(see reports appended, committee clerk is noted in bold)

Spirit and Witness: Amy Cooke, Stuart Smith, Reed Hamilton, Sharon Davisson, Dean Olson, Dorothy Henderson (ex-officio, GVFM Clerk).

Amy Cooke gave the report, appended.

Stewardship: Mary Starr, Pat Phillips, Reed Hamilton, Gordon Starr, Doug Hamm, David Bowman. Dianne Marshall (ex-officio, Newsletter editor), Fosten Wilson (ex-officio, Treasurer), Don McCormick (ex-officio, Librarian).

Mary Starr, clerk, gave the report, appended.

We revisited the note from items being carried over, "The Meeting approves delegating the issue of how to manage the paper and digital archives to the Stewardship Committee, with the recommendation that a task force be formed to work on best practices."

Don and Gordon are working on this, and it is in process.

Welcome Committee: Peter O'Rourke, clerk (ex-officio, Website and Facebook coordinator), Kathy McCreery, Don McCormick, Pat Phillips, Cheryl Hendrickson, Cindy Bliss, Lo Hamm, CJ Patterson, Hailey Wilson (ex-officio, tech support), Judy Hamilton (ex-officio, email coordinator).

Peter O'Rourke, clerk, gave the report, appended.

It was noted that the practice of having Spirit & Witness and Welcome Committee report on organizations has been confusing.

It was suggested that we go back to Spirit and Witness with this issue, with possible restructuring in future years. Friends agreed to this strategy.

Pete can make the report on Ben Lomond Quaker Center and the report can go to Dianne for inclusion in the newsletter.

Please see the appendices for the minute on organization reporting.

Nominating Committee: (*terms as noted*) Judy Hamilton: 2022-2024, Gordon Starr: 2022-2024, Dean Olson 2023-2025, Sharon Davisson 2023-2025.

Judy Hamilton gave the report, appended.

It was noted in the committee that the Directory Clerk does not have a home in a committee. They recommend that the Directory Clerk be held in the Welcome Committee.

Proposed Minute (to be seasoned until 03.2024): Grass Valley Friends Meeting accepts the nomination of Gordon Starr and Don McCormick for the positions of co-Recorder/Archivist to serve for the remaining portion the 2023-2024 year.

It was requested that if items are selected by the co-Recorders/Archivists to be discarded that others in the meeting be notified.

A Friend reminded us that we had the idea of forming a task force for best practices to manage the paper and digital archives of the Meeting. A suggestion was made to form the task force to help with discernment on what to discard and what to keep, and how to keep those records, whether digital or paper. This task force could assist the co-Recorders/Archivists.

It was noted that the Meeting records have been neglected. A suggestion was made that the Recorder/Archivist is better suited to two people.

Do we have a job description for an Archivist? We do, it is combined with the Recorder job description. Do we need to create a new position of Archivist for the 2024-25 year?

It was suggested that we listen to the new co-Recorders/Archivists as they navigate these issues over the next months.

We ask that the Stewardship Committee:

1. Support the co-Recorders/Archivists in cleaning up the files they inherited
2. Discern the need for a task force as recommended by the Meeting to address issues concerning the management of the paper and digital archives.

The development of a position of Archivist will continue to be under discernment for the future.

We understand that this may take some time.

Proposed Minute (to be seasoned until 03.2024): Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves making the Directory Clerk an ex-officio member of the Welcome Committee.

Children's Program: Keely McDonald and Doug Hamm, co-clerks, Dorothy Henderson, Gordon Bishop, Judy Hamilton, Dean Olson, Reed Hamilton, Don McCormick, David Cowan, Lo Hamm.

There was no report.

OFFICER REPORTS and REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- **Pacific Yearly Meeting:** Doug Hamm gave the report, appended.
- **College Park Quarterly Meeting:** No report.
- **Treasurer:** fosten wilson. No report.

- **Interfaith Nevada County:** Dianne Marshall gave the report, appended. Dianne also reported that the spiritual care program at the hospital is still under development, and she will share developments as they happen.

CLERK'S REMARKS

- The clerk shared her gratitude for our meeting, especially as we work with difficult issues that show our mettle.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sunday, March 17: After Meeting Worship Sharing on the state of our Meeting.
- Sunday March 24: Spirit and Witness program. Don McCormick: Safe Meetings Don't Avoid Conflict
- April 17: Spirit and Witness program. Seekers Meeting. Questions and sharing about what it means to be a Quaker
- April 28: Spirit and Witness program. Dorothy Henderson will report on her work at Pendle Hill
- Facebook: please follow the Grass Valley Friends Meeting page, or join the Facebook Grass Valley Friends Meeting group. If you share a post from the page, your friends will see it, and it helps our visibility. Follow this [link](#).
- The 2023-2024 PacYM General Directory is available. It can be found on the Yearly Meeting Website at: pacificyearlymeeting.org > Resources > [PacYM General Directory and Database](#) > [Obtaining the Directory](#)
The Directory is available for use by members and attenders of monthly meetings and worship groups within Pacific Yearly Meeting and by Friends serving on Pacific Yearly Meeting committees. It is not to be shared beyond this community. Dorothy, Doug, and Don have the new password for the PacYM Directory.
- Carl Magruder: You can follow Carl's healing journey on the CaringBridge.org website [HERE](#). Friends have also set up a daily Meeting for Healing from 7:30 to 8 am (Pacific) on Zoom [here](#) or contact Amy Cooke at amyliette@gmail.com for the link.
- Contributions to Grass Valley Friends Meeting are gratefully accepted. You can give by mailing a check to fosten wilson or through Tithely on the website.

ITEMS SEASONING or CARRIED OVER

- **Proposed Minute** (to be seasoned until 03.2024): Grass Valley Friends Meeting accepts the nomination of Gordon Starr and Don McCormick for the position of co-Recorder/Archivist to serve for the remaining portion the 2023-2024 year.
- **Proposed Minute** (to be seasoned until 03.2024): Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves making the Directory Clerk an ex-officio member of the Welcome Committee.
- The Welcome Committee will discern how we share information with the public, including the newsletter, Facebook, the newspaper, and Interfaith Nevada County. *In process*.
- It was suggested that we go back to Spirit and Witness with Organizations Reports, with possible restructuring in future years.
- We ask that the Stewardship Committee:
 - Support the co- Recorders/Archivists in cleaning up the files they inherited
 - Discern the need for a task force as recommended by the Meeting to address issues concerning the management of the paper and digital archives. (from previous Minutes: The Meeting approves delegating the issue of how to manage the paper and digital archives to the Stewardship Committee, with the recommendation that a task force be formed to work on best practices.)

READING OF THE RECORD AND MINUTES

The record and the minutes were read, corrected and approved.

If you are giving a report to GVFM, please send the actual report to the recording clerk at grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com THE FRIDAY BEFORE MEETING FOR BUSINESS.

GVFM Newsletter Reminder: Please have items into Dianne Marshall by Tuesday at 10 am.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully recorded by Amy Cooke, recording clerk (outgoing) and Jennifer Smith, recording clerk (incoming).

APPENDICES:

1. Spirit and Witness Committee report
2. Stewardship Committee report
3. Welcome Committee report
4. Nominating Committee report
5. Pacific Yearly Meeting Monthly Report
6. Interfaith Nevada County report
7. Information: Organization Representatives by Committee
8. Recorder/Archivist job description

ADVICES and QUERIES: FIRST MONTH - PEACE

Second Month Queries: Spiritual Life

The life of the spirit gains depth and vigor through devotional practices, prayer, study, and meditation. Take time regularly for individual and family worship, discussions, readings from sacred texts, and other spiritual refreshment to live a more centered life and to bring a deeper presence to the Meeting for Worship.

Friends believe that the spiritual path is best found in community. Create opportunities in your Meetings for people of all ages to explore and express their evolving relationship with the Divine, their spiritual highs and their doubts. If different metaphors and language interfere with communication, listen more deeply, honoring the Spirit in which the thought and words have their beginnings.

Do I live in thankful awareness of God's constant presence in my life?

Am I sensitive and obedient to the leadings of the Holy Spirit?

When do I take time for contemplation and spiritual refreshment?

What steps am I taking to center my life and to stay open to continuing revelation?

Do we share our spiritual lives with others in the Meeting, seeking to know one another in that which is eternal?

Does the Meeting provide religious education including study of the Bible and Friends' history and practices?



Nisenan Land Acknowledgment

We acknowledge the Nisenan people are still here among us today, though they are nearly invisible, and their story continues to be excluded from history.

We understand we are on Nisenan land that was never ceded, and the original tribal families have yet to recover from the near genocide of their people.

As a resident or visitor in Nisenan land, we support the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan tribe in efforts to stabilize their people as well as the campaign to restore tribal sovereignty through federal recognition.

Ethical Land Transitions

Watch this one hour 50 minute webinar about the non-profit that worked with CHIRP and CPFEA to help them go to escrow. Originally presented Monday, February 12, 2024, the session was recorded and be seen at the link embedded in the title above.

Quaker Call to Support Homeland Return to the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe

to be sent to every Friends Meeting Clerk in the United States.

Dear Friends,

This email, sent on behalf of the Santa Cruz Friends Meeting, is a call to all Quaker Meetings in the U.S. to participate spiritually and financially in an historic Quaker moment: [Homeland Return](#) of the Sierra Friends Center (Woolman) to the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe.

The board of the Sierra Friends Center (formally, College Park Friends Educational Association, CPFEA) has entered into a purchase agreement with the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe through the Tribally-led California nonprofit, [California Heritage: Indigenous Research Program \(CHIRP\)](#). The Tribe has not had land since 1964 when the Federal Government illegally terminated the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe and sold their reservation at auction. This is the Tribe's best opportunity to re-establish a tribal homeland and may support their efforts toward Federal re-recognition.

The land that Sierra Friends Center has operated from is the site of an ancestral Nisenan village called Yulića. These 232 acres, as well as the surrounding land known as "Nevada City, California", were taken from Indigenous peoples during the Gold Rush and sold to settlers who were colonizing the area. A group of Quakers purchased the land in the 1960s for educational programs.

The Sierra Friends Center nonprofit, originally under the care of College Park Quarterly Meeting, was created to operate the school programs and manage the property. The Center ran the John Woolman boarding school, which operated from 1963-2001, followed by the Woolman Semester school, which operated from 2004-2016. The Center also operated outdoor education programs as well as a summer camp rooted in Quaker faith and practice.

The Sierra Friends Center board's journey is chronicled in detail on the [Woolman at Sierra Friends Center website](#). The Tribe now has a time-limited opportunity to purchase the property. The agreed-upon price includes the purchase price, government-mandated improvements, and an operating endowment. The overall fundraising

goal is \$2.4 million; the first phase of this effort, to raise \$1.5 million, closes on April 4, 2024. CHIRP launched a [GoFundMe campaign](#) at the end of January, which has already reached \$166,000 with over 850 individual donors, including Quakers.

As Quakers, we believe that supporting this process both spiritually and financially is a living example of our Stewardship testimony and our legacy as activists. It is our faith in action. It creates healing from a moment of loss. It is restorative and it is ethical. It feels important to do all we can to support the Tribe.

At our Second Month Meeting for Worship for the Purpose of Business, the Santa Cruz Friends Meeting passed a minute of support. By encouraging Friends to donate and specifically to identify themselves as Quakers along with their Meeting affiliation, we are broadcasting our support as a faith community. Our Meeting is inviting Meetings across the country to spiritually and financially support this effort. The minute we passed reads as follows:

Santa Cruz Friends Meeting Minute #2 2-11-24: Santa Cruz Friends Meeting supports a \$500 donation from the Donations Fund to the California Heritage: Indigenous Research Program (CHIRP), the nonprofit raising funds to purchase the Sierra Friends Center to return the land to the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe. [To date, Santa Cruz Friends Meeting and members and attenders have donated \$2000.] SCFM also encourages individuals to make donations "on behalf of the Santa Cruz Friends Meeting". The clerks and Hans Brinker and Nancy Wood will contact other Meetings and publications with this information.

We invite your Meeting to consider this appeal, create a minute of support, make a donation that reflects the significance of this moment, and encourage your members and attenders to donate on behalf of your Meeting as well. Imagine what we can do when we do it in community!

In peace, on behalf of the Santa Cruz Friends Meeting,

Hans Brinker and Nancy Wood,

brinkerhans@gmail.com and nwood100@gmail.com

PS: Should your Meeting pass a minute of support, or make a donation from your Donations Fund, please reply to Hans or Nancy, or let the Indigenous Concerns Subcommittee of Pacific Yearly Meeting's Ministry Committee know. The committee clerk's email is: indigenousconcernsclerk@pacificyearlymeeting.org

Quaker Seminary: The Quaker Seminary is under development! Amy has gotten valuable feedback from Friends about this program. She is now working with an elder and the Spirit & Witness committee to further develop this program. Stay tuned!



Ben Lomond Quaker Center

Q: What is the mission of Quaker Center?

Quaker Center seeks to nurture the spiritual growth and faithfulness of Friends and others, while strengthening Quakerism and its witness in the world. We offer programs and personal retreats exemplifying Friends'

testimonies of community, integrity, simplicity, peace, and equality. We strive to live in right order with all creation, especially with the redwood forest that sustains us here in the Santa Cruz mountains.

Q: What’s exciting about what Quaker Center is doing?

Mondays: Mar 4, 11, 18, 25, & Apr 1 7:00 – 8:30 pm, Ben Lomond is hosting a Reading and discussion group on “The Quakers: A Very Short Introduction,” by Ben Pink Dandelion (five online sessions), with Jim Anderson and Bob Runyan

Q: Are there any concerns?

How can I rejoice in this thick night of darkness?

How might I continue to rejoice, if peace and prosperity should vanish from my surroundings?

Are we not children of the night as well as the day?

Q. How can Friends get involved?

- Participate in daily online worship from 730am to 8am
- Volunteer
- Donate
- Participate in a Retreat


Pacific Yearly Meeting Announcements Events at Quaker Center, Ben Lomond, CA

“The Quakers: A Very Short Introduction” written by Ben Pink Dandelion

- Bob Runyan and Jim Anderson will lead a reading and discussion group online
- Mondays, March 4, 11, 18, & 25 and April 1, 2024
- 90 minute sessions, 7:00 p.m. PST

If you remember, Ben Pink Dandelion was the person who recommended the change in committee structure from maybe 20 old committees, to the few very effective ones we have now. Bob Runyan, who is Keith Runyan’s father, and Jim Anderson, both of Chico meeting, will be leading this discussion. *You can register for this on the Quaker Center website.*

In addition, I will be attending Representative Committee #1 for PYM on February 24th as your representative. IF there are issues or points you would like Doug to consider, please email him douglasjhamm@gmail.com. ***Doug not available to attend Representative Committee #2 and am currently looking for a substitute. Please let Doug know if you are able to do this.***

	<p>The “Encountering Spirit” Retreat has a new date!</p> <p>Join Us Online April 12-14, 2024</p>
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Mark your calendars! The [Encountering Spirit](#) Retreat has been postponed for about two months, from this past weekend to the weekend of **April 12-14, 2024**.

The original program will remain entirely intact, with all [the panels, workshops, and spaces for reflection](#) carried into the new date. Plus, we anticipate adding one or two additional workshop offerings to the playbill.

So, come April, Friends and newcomers will have the opportunity to gather together (virtually) and explore some of the most tender questions of our being:

- *What does it mean to have an encounter with the divine, with the Spirit, with something greater than any human?*
- *How does that encounter feel?*
- *How does it feel to share that encounter with others?*
- *Does the encounter change who we are?*
- *What can we learn from other people, individually and in community, past and present?*

This is really exciting! I have been longing, myself, for more opportunities to explore with Friends the visceral, hard-to-articulate, energizing, terrifying, mystifying, soothing experiences I have had.

I very much hope you can join me at [Encountering Spirit](#) and add your piece of Light to the mosaic.

Learn more about the retreat below. Plus, we're excited to announce other upcoming opportunities on the Spiritual Deepening schedule, including an eRetreat series exploring both dying and living well.

[Registration is Open!](#)

Yours in *encounter*, **Michael Levi**, Adelphi Monthly, Meeting, Member, Encountering Spirit Working Group

Honoring Black History Month: Frederick Douglas reminds us

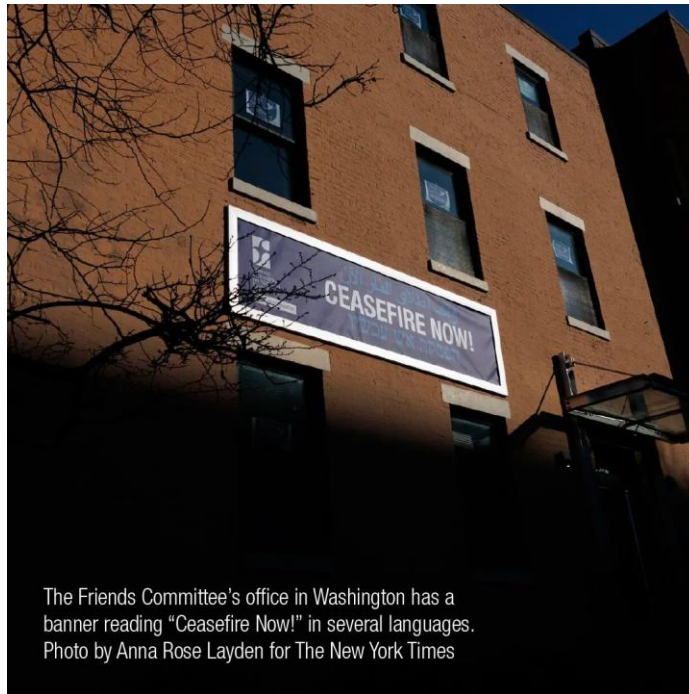
On July 5, 1852, Frederick Douglass was invited to address citizens of his hometown, Rochester, NY, in commemoration of Independence Day. In words both poignant and piercing, he enlarged the hearts and minds of his hearers. In part,

“Fellow Citizens, I am not wanting in respect for the fathers of this republic. The signers of the Declaration of Independence were brave men... They were statesmen, patriots and heroes, and for the good they did, and the principles they contended for, I will unite with you to honor their memory... Fellow-citizens, pardon me, allow me to ask, why am I called upon to speak here to-day? What have I, or those I represent, to do with your national independence? Are the great principles of political freedom and of natural justice, embodied in that Declaration of Independence, extended to us?”

“What, to the American slave, is your Fourth of July? I answer: a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him, your celebration is a

sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sounds of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciations of tyrants, brass fronted impudence; your shouts of liberty and equality, hollow mockery; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade, and solemnity, are, to him, mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy—a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages. There is not a nation on the earth guilty of practices more shocking and bloody than are the people of these United States, at this very hour.”

“Americans! your republican politics, not less than your republican religion, are flagrantly inconsistent. You boast of your love of liberty, your superior civilization, and your pure Christianity, while the whole political power of the nation (as embodied in the two great political parties) is solemnly pledged to support and perpetuate the enslavement of three millions of your countrymen... You are all on fire at the mention of liberty for France or for Ireland; but are as cold as an iceberg at the thought of liberty for the enslaved of America.”



The Friends Committee's office in Washington has a banner reading "Ceasefire Now!" in several languages.
Photo by Anna Rose Layden for The New York Times

Following recent U.S.-led attacks in Yemen, the risk that the war in Israel-Palestine will escalate into a wider Middle East conflict continues to grow. Congress must push for a ceasefire and diplomatic engagement to de-escalation tensions in the region.

Take Action

Sharing Tools for Our Times

Friends often face the shared challenge of how to live into our shared testimonies. It is this ongoing struggle that brings us closer to each other and Spirit. Would you and your community be interested in educational opportunities to explore how we steward the world's material, human, and spiritual resources? Let us know if you'd like to learn more about the following offerings.

1. **The Power of Enough Workshop** - Are you seeking to simplify your life and take personal steps to create right relationship with our world? [This workshop](#) is about how we can contribute to right balance in the world through our use of time, energy, and "things."
2. **Learn more about Right Sharing** - Spend an hour with a member of the team as she leads you through images and stories about Right Sharing partners in Guatemala, Kenya, India, and Sierra Leone.
3. **Simple Meal** - Hosting a [Simple Meal](#) invites us to be mindful of our abundance and to share our bounty with others in a way that is rightly ordered. It can also be an opportunity for community building, as Friends prepare a simple meal together and consider queries focused on how our use of resources impacts the ways our fellow humans are able to use resources.
4. **Women's History Month Discussion** - Have you considered how you'll honor and recognize the women in your community during Women's History Month this March? Right Sharing is offering a community discussion guide that can serve as a springboard to explore women's history across different cultural contexts. This guide follows the words of Lucretia Mott, who questioned "that the present is the original state designed for women." A second part is available to go deeper into the practical conditions that impact women's living conditions, to understand how we got to where we are and how we can go in a healthier direction.

Please email rswr@rswr.org today if you would like to learn more or to schedule a workshop!

In Community, **The Right Sharing Family**

"To turn all the treasures we possess into the channel of universal love becomes the business of our lives." - John Woolman

Connect with us:   Right Sharing of World Resources | www.rswr.org | 937.966.0314



THE QUAKER CALL NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

Marian Beane, Bruce Birchard, Sam Caldwell, Gretchen Castle, Mary Ellen McNish, Diane Randall, Jim Waddington, and Michael Wajda.

Many thanks to our special guest, Congressman Jamie Raskin (MD-8), and our presenters Rob Richie and Cynthia Richie Terrell—founders of [FairVote](#), [FairVoteAction](#), and [RepresentWomen](#)--for an inspirational and informative session on Ranked Choice Voting and Proportional Representation. Rob and Cynthia, longtime Quakers, have been working on democracy reform for decades. If you missed the session, or you would like to review or explore further, here are some helpful resources:

[Video recording of the JAN 30 Zoom session.](#)

[How Ranked Choice Voting \(RCV\) works for Presidential elections.](#)

[State groups working on Ranked Choice Voting.](#)

[Active efforts to get Ranked Choice Voting on the ballot.](#)

[How Proportional Ranked Choice Voting works for U.S. House of Representative elections.](#)

[How The Fair Representation Act \(H.R. 3863\) would fix partisan gerrymandering.](#)

[Download the RCV & RepresentWomen Took Kit.](#)

Rob and Cynthia are interested in partnering with those interested in growing awareness of these reforms among Friends and raising the potential of priority support with the Friends Committee on National Legislation. Please contact Rob at rr@fairvote.org if this is of interest.

The Quaker Call Steering Committee continues to provide a space for support, dialogue and action among Friends concerned about threats to our democracy and to balance the need for urgent response to these threats with long-term democratic reforms. In the short-term, we are currently reaching out to Friends in the key electoral states of NC and PA around election protection and supporting election officials who are under attack. We are also planning another national Zoom call for Friends to share their thoughts, concerns and activities as we move toward the 2024 elections. Watch our [website](#) for information.

Donate to GVFM Here! Thank you!



← This button will take you to a secure site.

- Giving is easy! Click on the Give button above or go to grassvalleyfriends.org and click on “GIVE” You’ll go to a secure site for donations. Your monthly contribution keeps our Meeting viable. *You may now change the dollar amount of your gift without making a new donation request!*

Thank you.

Drinking from My Saucer

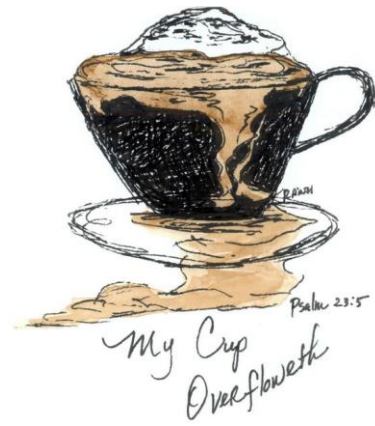
by John Paul Moore

I've never made a fortune and it's probably too late now.
But I don't worry about that much, I'm happy anyhow.
And as I go along life's way, I'm reaping better than I sowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.

I don't have a lot of riches, and sometimes the going's tough.
But I've got loved ones around me, and that makes me rich enough.
I thank God for his blessings, and the mercies He's bestowed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.

I remember times when things went wrong, my faith wore somewhat thin.
But all at once the dark clouds broke, and the sun peeped through again.
So God, help me not to gripe about the tough rows that I've hoed.
I'm drinking from my saucer, 'Cause my cup has overflowed.

If God gives me strength and courage, when the way grows steep and rough.
I'll not ask for other blessings, I'm already blessed enough.
And may I never be too busy, to help others bear their loads.



67 Sueños



During the summer of 2023, [AFSC's 67 Sueños](#) unveiled its latest mural in Oakland, California, "Cultura, Sueños, y Sanación." This mural—like many others created by *67 Sueños*—was developed by youth, from start to finish.

Founded in 2010, *67 Sueños* is a youth organizing program for undocumented youth and youth from mixed-status families. Through political education, trauma healing, and activism, *67 Sueños* helps young people develop leadership skills and organize campaigns.

Grass Valley Friends Meeting Contact Information (1-16-24)

COMMITTEES: (convener or clerk in bold)

Stewardship: Mary Starr, Pat Phillips, Reed Hamilton, Gordon Starr, Doug Hamm, David Bowman. Dianne Marshall (ex-officio, Newsletter editor), Fosten Wilson (ex-officio, Treasurer), Don McCormick (ex-officio, Librarian), (ex-officio Tech Support).

Welcome: Peter O'Rourke (ex-officio, Website and Facebook coordinator), Kathy McCreery, Don McCormick, Pat Phillips, Cheryl Hendrickson, Cindy Bliss, Lo Hamm, CJ Patterson, Judy Hamilton (ex-officio, email coordinator).

Spirit and Witness: Amy Cooke, Stuart Smith, Reed Hamilton, Sharon Davisson, Dean Olson, Dorothy Henderson (ex-officio, GVFM Clerk of the Meeting),

Children's Program: Keely McDonald, Dorothy Henderson, Doug Hamm, Judy Hamilton, Dean Olson, Reed Hamilton, Don McCormick, David Cowan, Lo Hamm.

Nominating Committee: (terms as noted)

- Judy Hamilton: 2022-2024
- Gordon Starr: 2022-2024
- Sharon Davisson: 2023-20205
- Dean Olson: 2023-2025

OFFICER HOLDERS

- **Clerk:** Dorothy Henderson (530-575-5988) dorothyjohenderson@gmail.com
- **Elder to Clerk:** Gordon Starr (530-878-1237) gstarr121@aol.com
- **Recording Clerk:** Amy Cooke (530-559-9158) amylisette@gmail.com/Jennifer Smith (916-663-3539) sewsmitharts@yahoo.com
- **Newsletter Editor:** Dianne Marshall (530-274-1922/530-263-0151) dmarshall@pacific.net
- **Newsletter Distributor:** Pat Phillips 530-913-1338 pephillips1949@gmail.com
- **Email Coordinator:** Judy Hamilton judywestonhamilton@gmail.com (530) 277-8818
- **Treasurer:** Fosten Wilson (530-265-6533) fwkm@protonmail.com
- **Tech Support/Zoom Calendar:** Hailey Wilson seahorseleaf@protonmail.com
- **Website/Facebook Coordinator:** Peter O'Rourke (209-291-8211) peterorouke2001@yahoo.com, Amy Cooke (530-559-9158) amylisette@gmail.com
- **Librarian:** Don McCormick (310-597-9469) donmccormick2@gmail.com
- **Directory Clerk:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
- **Mail Clerk:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com

Representatives: one-year terms

Please note: Most organizations no longer have representatives from GVFM. They are held in two committees, Welcome and Spirit and Witness. The following organizations are the exceptions:

- **Interfaith Nevada County:** Dianne Marshall
- **Sierra Friends Center:** Gordon Starr
- **Pacific Yearly Meeting:** Doug Hamm
- **College Park Quarterly Meeting:** Doug Hamm



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