



GRASS VALLEY
 FRIENDS MEETING
*Of the Religious Society of Friends
 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.gvfriends.org

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, Fifth Month, 2023

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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 – See page 2 for April exception.

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

- Sunday, May 28, 2023, 11:30a.m. – Spiritual Life Program – *Gather* led by Dean and Karen Olson. See page 7.

HAPPENING LATER

- Sunday June 4, 2023, 11:30a.m. – Spiritual Life Program - *Living and Worshipping as Quakers on Nisena land*. Led by Marilyn Guida and Dorothy Henderson. See page 8.
 - Saturday, June 10, 2023, 2:00p.m. – 4:00p.m. – Welcome Party. See page 8.
 - Sunday, June 25, 2023, 11:30a.m. - Difficult Times and Spiritual Deepening led by Amy Cook
 - Sunday, July 23, 2023, 11:30a.m. – Feedback and Brainstorming for future Spiritual Life programs.
 - September 29 – October 1, 2023 – Woolman Home Coming. See page 9.
 - College Park Quarterly Meeting - 2023
 - * May 19 - 21 (Fri-Sun)
 - * October 13 - 15 (Fri-Sun)
 - Friends General Conference “Listen So That We May Live”: July 2 -2, 2023; Western Oregon Univ.
 - PacYM Annual Session, Mount Madonna Center: July 21 – 26, 2024
 - Sunday, August 20, 2023, 11:30a.m. – Rabbi David Azen on the biblical origins of male domination in the Eden Story.
-

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 ourselves 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. Follow this [link](#).

Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, April 16, 2023, Minutes and Record

We met in a hybrid meeting on Zoom and in person.

Present:

Dean Olson, clerk; Amy Cooke, Sharon Davisson, Marilyn Guida, Chamba Cooke, Judy Hamilton, Reed Hamilton, Stuart Smith, Keely McDonald, Gordon Starr, Dorothy Henderson, Doug Hamm, Jennifer Smith, Lo Hamm, Mary Starr, Kathy McCreery, Dianne Marshall

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

Clerks' Remarks and Query:

What is your experience of silence in the Meeting for Business?

Friends spoke to the query.

- Silence is the first step to stillness ~ taking a moment of silence almost invariably focuses the meeting and shifts the energy
- There are a plethora of sounds inside the silence, we are asked to touch the silence within
- When there are a lot of opinions and discussion, the silence helps the silt to settle and the water run clear
- Worship can happen within the silence, that is what is being sought
- Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business - the meeting for worship changes the nature of what we are doing
- The silence gives spaciousness that seems to allow more time
- Be still and still be

Action Items and Seasoning:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

NOMINATING: (*terms as noted*) Dorothy Henderson (fulfilling Pat Phillips term): 2022-2023, Sharon Davisson, continuing: 2021-2023, **Judy Hamilton: 2022-2024**, Gordon Starr: 2022-2024

- New positions:
 - **Tech Support:** The job description was read in the meeting as appended, to season until the end of this meeting. The Nominating Committee answered questions about the position, including when the person would be present. It was noted that this person is ex officio on the Stewardship Committee. This position replaces and expands the position of the Zoom coordinator.
 - **Elder to the Clerk:** The job description was read in the meeting as appended, to season until the end of this meeting. The Nominating Committee answered questions about the position.
- Reading of the Slate:
 - Judy Hamilton read the slate for the 2023-24 year, as appended. The slate now seasons for one month, until the Sixth Month Meeting for Business. Please send any concerns to Judy Hamilton, clerk, Nominating Committee, or members Dorothy Henderson, Sharon Davisson, and Gordon Starr.

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

Mary Starr read the report, appended.

WELCOME: Kathy McCreery (clerk), Don McCormick, Pat Phillips, Karen Olson. Hailey Wilson (ex-officio, zoom coordinator), Amy Cooke (ex-officio, Website and Facebook coordinator), Judy Hamilton (ex-officio, email coordinator)

Kathy McCreery read the report, appended:

- We had a welcome committee meeting on May 11th.
- The Friendly Eights groups are going well.
- We are planning a welcome party for our new members on June 10th from 2-4pm at Kathy and Fosten's house. It will be a finger foods potluck.
 - Our greeter and refreshments instructions are going to be revamped.
 - We also want to start having monthly potlucks. The first one will be in July hosted by Pat Phillips. Date to be announced.

Our next meeting will be June 8th.

SPIRIT & WITNESS: Amy Cooke, Sharon Davisson, Reed Hamilton, Dorothy Henderson, Stuart Smith, Dean and Karen Olson (ex-officio co-clerks)

Dorothy Henderson read the report, appended.

The following changes were made to the report:

- The Welcome Party has been changed to June 10.
- Sharon and Judy are writing the memorial minute.
- The June 25 Spiritual Life Program is on hold until further notice.

State of the Meeting report - from Spirit and Witness

MINUTE 2023.05.01: Grass Valley Friends Meeting accepts the State of the Meeting Report 2023 as appended to these Minutes.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: Dorothy Henderson (clerk), Gordon Bishop, Doug Hamm, Judy Hamilton, Dean Olson, Karen Olson, Reed Hamilton, Don McCormick, Anita McCormick

Dorothy Henderson the report, as appended.

NOMINATING: approval of new positions

- **Elder to the Clerk**
Minute 2023.05.02: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves adding the position of Elder to the Clerk to the slate for Grass Valley Friends Meeting. The term for the position is one year.
- **Tech Support**
Minute 2023.05.03: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves adding the position of Tech Support to the slate for Grass Valley Friends Meeting. The term for the position is one year.

Names brought forward: These will be added to the Slate and will season until the June Meeting for Business

Elder to the Clerk: Gordon Starr
Tech Support: Hayley Wilson

OFFICER REPORTS

- **TREASURER:** fosten wilson
- **SFC REPRESENTATIVE:** Pat Phillips
- **INTERFAITH NEVADA COUNTY:** Dianne Marshall

GVFM is hosting Interfaith Nevada County on May 18. The attendees will be given a tour of the campus after the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sylvia Osman's memorial has been scheduled by the family for July 1, 2023, 11:00 AM at the Grass Valley United Methodist Church, 236 South Church St, Grass Valley.
- Welcome Party for new members Cheryl Hendrikson, David Cowen, Olivia Cowen, and Judy Hamilton: June 10 at fosten and Kathy's house.
- Our website is temporarily disabled. We are working on it!
- 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. Follow this [link](#).
- It is easy to give to Grass Valley Friends Meeting. Go to gvfriends.org and click on the Give button. This takes you to a secure site for donations. Please consider making your contribution monthly. Your contribution covers our Pacific Yearly Meeting dues and ensures that our activities as a Meeting are sustained. Thank you. Please note: Tithely now allows the user to change the dollar of their gift without making a new donation request.
- Sierra Friends Center has volunteer opportunities available. See www.woolman.org.
- The College Park Quarterly Meeting will gather May 19-21 at Quaker Center in Ben Lomond, CA (and online for some activities). The theme for this quarterly meeting will be "Nurturing the beloved community across the divide – digital, generational, ideological..." The flyer with more information is available by [clicking here](#). To register for the event, [click here](#).
- Pacific Yearly Meeting 2023 will be an on-ground gathering with opportunities for remote or online participation held at Mount Madonna Center July 21-26, 2023.
- There is a [new PacYM directory online](#). See Dean for the password.
- The 2023 [Friends General Conference Gathering](#), "Listen So That We May Live," will be held at Western Oregon University in Monmouth, OR, from July 2-July 8, 2023.
- We need more people who would be willing to set up the tech system for meetings. Mary Starr is available for tutorials on setting up and putting away the OWL - just ask! She is very skilled and helpful. Please contact Mary if you can assist. You can also come at 8:45 am on any Sunday to observe the process. Thank you!!
- Woolman Homecoming: September 29 – October 1, 2023. Whether you were a John Woolman School student, a Woolman Semester School student, a camper at Camp Woolman, a visitor, or a Friend, please join Woolman in celebrating this milestone and sharing your memories of Woolman.
- The Nevada County Planning Commission has rejected the proposal for a new mine in the County.

ACTION ITEMS & ITEMS SEASONING

- Nominating Slate for 2023-24

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 Diane Marshall by Tuesday at 10 am.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully recorded by Amy Cooke, recording clerk.

APPENDICES: The Grass Valley Friends Meeting website is down at this time. For copies of these reports, email Amy Cooke (amylisette@gmail.com) and she will send them to you. Thank you.

1. Nominating Committee
2. Stewardship Committee
3. Welcome Committee
4. Spirit and Witness Committee
5. 2023 State of the Meeting
6. Children's Program Committee

QUERIES: Fifth Month ~ Harmony with Creation

It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world, that they were better studied and knowing in the Creation of it. For how could [they] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the Great Creator stare them in the face, in all and every part thereof?

William Penn, *some fruits of solitude*, 1693

God is revealed in all Creation. We humans belong to the whole interdependent community of life on earth. Rejoice in the beauty, complexity, and mystery of creation, with gratitude to be part of its unfolding. Take time to learn how this community of life is organized and how it interacts. Live according to principles of right relationship and right action within this larger whole.

Be aware of the influence humans have on the health and viability of life on earth. Call attention to what fosters or harms earth's exquisite beauty, balances and interdependencies. Guided by Spirit, work to translate this understanding into ways of living that reflect our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations.

In what ways do I express gratitude for the wondrous expressions of life on Earth?

- Do I consider the damage I might do to the Earth's vulnerable systems in choices I make of what I do, what I buy, and how I spend my time?
- *In our witness for the global environment, are we careful to consider justice and the well-being of the world's poorest people?*
- *Does our way of life threaten the viability of life on Earth?*

The Grass Valley Friends Meeting website is temporarily disabled.

Contact Amy Cooke to secure copies of reports provided to Business Meeting. amyliette@gmail.com
Thank you.

Your donations keep our Friends Meeting viable!



Give

← This button will take you to a secure site.

- It's easy to give to Grass Valley Friends Meeting! Click on the Give button above or go to gvfriends.org and click on the "GIVE" button. This takes you to a secure site for donations. Your monthly contribution covers our Pacific Yearly Meeting dues and ensures that our activities as a Meeting are sustained. *Tithely* now allows the user to change the dollar of their gift without making a new donation request. **Thank you.**



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.

Gather

Spiritual Life Program, Fifth Month, Sunday, May 28, 2023, 11:30 am

Dean and Karen Olson will be showing the documentary, "Gather" on food sovereignty.

Gather is an intimate portrait of the growing movement amongst Native Americans to reclaim their spiritual, political and cultural identities through food sovereignty, while battling the trauma of centuries of genocide.

Gather follows Nephi Craig, a chef from the White Mountain Apache Nation (Arizona), opening an indigenous café as a nutritional recovery clinic; Elsie Dubray, a young scientist from the Cheyenne River Sioux Nation (South Dakota), conducting landmark studies on bison; and the Ancestral Guard, a group of environmental activists from the Yurok Nation (Northern California), trying to save the Klamath river.

Living and Worshipping as Quakers on Nisenan Land

Spiritual Life Program, Sixth Month, Sunday, June 4, 2023, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm led by Marilyn Guida and Dorothy Henderson.

Grass Valley Friends Meeting House is located at Sierra Friends Center on Nisenan land, land that was never ceded to the federal government of the United States.

In this presentation we will first reflect on how we as a meeting have responded to this truth and then consider what going forward might look like. Using queries to gain a group sense of where we have come from and where we are now, we will then use worship sharing queries to explore how and where our faith and practice, our spirit and witness, is leading us.

We will be assisted in this effort by the process and queries offered by the Indigenous Peoples' Concerns Subcommittee of the Ministry Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting at 2023 Representative Committee. We hope you can join us!

WELCOME PARTY – JOIN US!

We are planning a welcome party for our new members Cheryl Hendrikson, David Cowen, Olivia Cowen, and Judy Hamilton on June 10th from 2-4pm at Kathy and Fosten's house. It will be a finger foods potluck. *Do plan to attend!*

Friendly 8s and monthly potlucks offer more opportunities to get-together and socialize. Contact members of the Welcome Committee (see page 11) for more information.



Take Action:

- [Find your legislators](#)
- [Look up bills](#)

Opportunities to Advocate:

- [Tell your legislators to act to prevent a hunger spike](#)
- [Tell CA legislators: YES on paid leave for chosen family](#)
- [Show your support for raising the CalFresh minimum to \\$50/mo.](#)
- [Email your Senator: Stop our retirements from financing the fossil fuel industry!](#)
- [Help pass the Climate Corporate Leadership and Accountability Act!](#)
- [Ask your CA Senator to support SB 567, the Homelessness Prevention Act](#)

Friends Committee on Legislation of California

2030 W. El Camino Ave., Suite 210, Sacramento, California 95833

Phone: [\(916\) 443-3734](tel:9164433734) Email: fcladmin@fclca.org

GVFM First Day School Spring Field Trip By Dorothy Henderson

On April 28th, the first Spring Field Trip of GVFM's First Day program happened! Six young people (Emma, Hailey, Max, Kirk and Emily) and five adults (Doug, Dorothy, Reed, Judy and Stacy (Max and Emily's mom) gathered at Hailey's home to have two brief lessons: How various plants were used by the Nisenan; we learned about the use of brodea and other flowers for food and how soap plant was used for...soap!.

Then Hailey showed us how to make cordage, using first milkweed and then flax. Everyone tried, some with more success (the youth) than others (the adults).

Kirk's success shown in photo. -->



After a scrumptious snack of Doug's lemon scones, we piled into cars and headed to the trailhead of the Deer Creek Tribute trail in Nevada City. We hiked to the Nisenan Tribute bridge, a suspension bridge that gave us a spectacular view of the rushing Deer creek after all our rain this spring. We then hiked down to a lovely spot by the creek, ate our lunches, clambered and explored the boulders, and skipped rocks. On our hike out, Olivia taught us about the Fezz houses that are along the trail.



We then hiked down to a lovely spot by the creek, ate our lunches, clambered and explored the boulders, and skipped rocks. On our hike out, Olivia taught us about the Fezz houses that are along the trail.

<-- Max, Emily, and Kirk clambering!

Hiking out we headed back to the cars, taking turns on who got to ride in Doug and Dorothy's 1985 vanagon, and ended up at Treats for ice cream and a delicious end to a delicious day. We are looking forward to our next Field trip, August, and the Yuba!

Oh, I forgot to mention Hailey's rabbit was a big hit.

Emily, Max, Kirk, Emma, and Hailey -->



You are invited to Sylvia Osman's Memorial Service

You are cordially invited to attend Sylvia Osman's Memorial Service. Please click the link below for details and to RSVP.

Sylvia Louise Osman

August 3, 1926 - March 19, 2023

Please join us to Celebrate Sylvia

Osman and her inspiring life.

RSVP Now



Please share this message and link with anyone you know who knew Sylvia and might wish to attend. She touched many people's lives and we look forward to having plenty of friends and family with us to celebrate her life.

Service

July 1, 2023, 11:00 AM
Grass Valley United Methodist Church
236 South Church St., Grass Valley, CA

Entrance to parking and sanctuary are from School Street at the rear of the church. Additional parking available on the street. Your RSVP is appreciated but not required.

Reception

July 1, 2023, immediately following the service
Grass Valley United Methodist Church
236 South Church St., Grass Valley, CA
A light lunch buffet will be provided in the reception area, following the service.

Grass Valley Friends Meeting Contact Information (7-1-22)

OFFICERS:

1. **Clerk of the Meeting:** Co-Clerks – Dean and Karen Olson (530) 270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
2. **Treasurer:** Fosten Wilson (530)265-6533 fwkm@protonmail.com
3. **Recording Clerk:** Amy Cooke, amylisette@gmail.com (530)559-9158
4. **Communication/Email Coordinator:** Judy Hamilton judywestonhamilton@gmail.com (530) 277-8818
5. **Directory Coordinator:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
6. **Directory Clerk:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
7. **Librarian:** Don McCormick donmccormick2@gmail.com (310)597-9469
8. **Mail Clerk:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
9. **Newsletter Editor:** Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net, 530-274-1922
10. **Newsletter Distribution:** Pat Phillips 530-913-1338 pephillips1949@gmail.com
11. **Newsletter Reader:** Karen Olson deanolson44@hotmail.com
12. **Placer County Worship Group:** Stuart Smith sewsmitharts@yahoo.com 916-663-3539
13. **Recorder:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
14. **Sierra Friends Center:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
15. **Treasurer:** Fosten Wilson, (530) 265-6533, fostenw@yahoo.com
16. **Website/Facebook Coordinator:** Amy Cooke amylisette@gmail.com (530)559-9158
17. **Zoom Coordinators:** Hailey Wilson seahorseleaf@protonmail.com, Stuart Smith sewsmitharts@yahoo.com (916) 663-3539

REPRESENTATIVES:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1. College Park ¼ ly Doug Hamm | 3. PYM: Doug Hamm | 6. SFC: Pat Phillips |
| 2. FCNL: Sharon Davisson | 4. QUNO: Shera Banbury | 7. INC: Dianne Marshall, Karen Olsen, Dean Olsen |
| | 5. RSWR: Judy Hamilton | |

COMMITTEES: (convener or clerk in bold)

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

Welcoming: Kathy McCreery (current clerk), Don McCormick, Pat Phillips, Karen Olson. Hailey Wilson (ex-officio, zoom coordinator), Amy Cooke (ex-officio, Website and Facebook coordinator), Judy Hamilton (ex-officio, email coordinator)

Spirit/Witness: Stuart Smith, Amy Cooke (convener), Reed Hamilton, Sharon Davisson, Dorothy Henderson, Dean & Karen Olson (ex-officio, Co-clerks of GVFM)

Children's Program: Dorothy Henderson (current clerk), Gordon Bishop, Doug Hamm, Judy Hamilton, Dean Olson, Karen Olson, Reed Hamilton, Don McCormick, Anita McCormick.

Nominating Committee: Dorothy Henderson, Sharon Davisson, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Starr



13075 Woolman Lane,
Nevada City, CA 95959
Return Address Requested