

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](http://www.gvfriends.org)

Email: [grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com).

## Newsletter, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

## HAPPENING NOW

- Sunday June 4, 2023, 11:30a.m. – Spiritual Life Program - *Living and Worshipping as Quakers on Nisenan 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.
- Thursday June 22, 2023, 8a.m. – 12p.m. Work Party at Stewart Smith’s home. See page 9.
- Sunday, June 25, 2023, 11:30a.m. – **When the Heart Breaks: The Spiritual Gifts of Difficult Times** led by Amy Cook

**NOTE:** Because Pacific Yearly Meeting is in July this year, Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business will be held in August. There will be no newsletter in July.

## HAPPENING LATER

- July 2-July 8, 2023. : The 2023 [Friends General Conference Gathering](#), “Listen So That We May Live,” will be held at Western Oregon University in Monmouth, OR.
- Friday, July 7, 2023, 5:00p.m. - GVFM Potluck at Pat Phillips, 10858 Bartlett Drive, Grass Valley
- Saturday, July 1, 2023, 11:00a.m. - Sylvia Osman’s memorial: July 1, 2023, 11:00 AM at the Grass Valley United Methodist Church, 236 South Church St, Grass Valley [RSVP Now](#)
- Saturday, July 22, 2023, time TBA - Karen Olson’s memorial service at Sierra Friends Center. Details to follow.
- Sunday, July 23, 2023, 11:30a.m. – **Spiritual Life Programs: Harvesting and Planting** led by Amy Cook.
- 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.**
- Woolman Homecoming/60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: September 29 – October 1, 2023. [Details.](#)
- College Park Quarterly Meeting - 2023
  - \* October 13 - 15 (Fri-Sun)

## 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](#).

**The first revolution is when you change your mind. Gil Scott-Heñon**

## **Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, June 11, 2023, Minutes and Record**

**Present:** Dean Olson, clerk; Lo Hamm, Gordon Starr, Mary Starr, Doug Hamm, Dorothy Henderson, Kathy McCreery, Fosten Wilson, Judy Hamilton, Cindy Bliss, Marilyn Guida, Sharon Davisson, Reed Hamilton, Dianne Marshall, Amy Cooke, Chamba Cooke.

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

**Clerks' Remarks and Query:** Dean Olson, clerk, referred to the sound panels on the wall as "Quaker art." These blank panels represent the silence and the openness to the diversity of our experiences.

What is there about being a Quaker that has inspired you?

Friends shared out of the silence.

Gratitude was given to Dean Olson, outgoing clerk, for his service to the meeting.

### **Action Items and Seasoning:**

- Nominating Slate for 2023-24 (appended)

### **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

**MINUTE 2023.06.01:** Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the slate of nominations for 2023-2024, as appended.

### **NAMING COMMITTEE: Clerks: Mary Starr, Kathy McCreery, Amy Cooke, Dorothy Henderson**

The committee is looking for meeting times. We hope to bring names for the Nominating Committee to the August Meeting for Business.

**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.

**Report from the Website Coordinator** (Amy Cooke): The website is currently down, and we do not know why. We are hosted through the Woolman Dreamhost account. Shannon at Woolman is helping us track down the problem.

In the meantime, or as an alternative, should we register for a new domain name and start a new website? It has been an issue that we have hosted through Woolman, and this may be our opportunity to address that issue. The problem will be paying without a credit card. Amy could pay with her card and be reimbursed.

Note: the incoming Website Coordinator is Peter O'Rourke.

**MINUTE 2023.06.02: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves starting a new domain name under our own account. Amy Cooke will pay for the domain and get reimbursed until we can get a credit or debit card.**

**Credit card/Debit card:** We can have either a credit or debit card with our bank account. The meeting discussed the benefits and disadvantages of both systems. It was noted that we can set the limit on a credit card.

Fosten will research what we need to do to get a debit card or a credit card.

**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 reported that the committee met on June 8th and went over the coffee and greeter instructions. They briefly discussed Karen's memorial and have reached out to the family. There is a potluck at Pat Phillips house on July 7th.

The committee was appreciated for the work they did to host the welcome party for the new members. Don McCormick also brought the gifts, and gratitude was expressed for him as well.

It was also noted that the monthly potlucks are coming back!

**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 Meeting accepted Sylvia Osman's memorial minute as appended to these minutes, with gratitude to Judy Hamilton. Remembrances of Sylvia were shared in the meeting.

The Meeting approved the following minutes:

**MINUTE 2023.06.03: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the cancellation of the July 2023 Meeting for Business. We will resume in August as regularly scheduled. The newsletter may be slightly delayed.**

**MINUTE 2023.06.04: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves sending the Memorial Minute for Karen Olson, one of the co-clerks of our meeting, to Pacific Yearly Meeting in time for the Pacific Yearly Meeting annual session. The minute will be sent out on email before the PacYM annual session. The minute will also be brought to the August Meeting for Business.**

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

Dorothy Henderson asked the Meeting to hold the committee in the Light. Lo Hamm, David Cowan, and Keeley McDonald will be joining the committee. The next meeting is July 22nd.

#### OFFICER REPORTS

- **TREASURER:** fosten wilson

The report will come out in August.

- **SFC REPRESENTATIVE:** Pat Phillips

No report.

- **INTERFAITH NEVADA COUNTY:** Dianne Marshall

On May 18, 2023, Grass Valley Friends Meeting hosted the monthly meeting of InterFaith Nevada County. Six people attended representing Congregation B'nai Harim, Grass Valley Friends Meeting, Sufi/Dance of Universal Peace, Sierra Center for Spiritual Living.

As host of the meeting Dianne Marshall read the Nisenan Land Acknowledgement and invited everyone to reflect, consider the three following questions and to share.

- How am I personally perpetuating the Doctrine of Discovery approach to land claim and colonization?
- What am I doing to acknowledge these past practices and stop my participation?
- What am I doing to honor the Native Americans in my community?
- How do I bring this to my faith community and stir both curiosity and action?

It was asked if the Grass Valley Friends Meeting would open dialogue with Shelly Covert to include INC members. It was also asked if the Friends Meeting would inform INC members when matters directly tied to these issues are the focus of our Spiritual Life programs so that INC members may attend.

It was noted that we as a meeting are not in a position to open dialogue with Shelly Covert. We affirm the request to inform INC members about our Spiritual Life programs, especially those with a focus on the Nisenan. It was noted that Spiritual Life facilitators can be asked if their program is open to non-meeting attenders. We can invite others to open programs.

The meeting asked Dianne to put the queries she used with the group into the newsletter.

The group also is planning some collaborative activities with our children's program and speakers.

Gratitude was expressed for Dianne and her faithful and steadfast work.

Friends will share the Juneteenth event.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- June 17th 6:30 pm: Juneteenth at Peace Lutheran Church, 828 West Main Street, Grass Valley. Freedom! See announcement in the newsletter.
- June 25: When the Heart Breaks: The Spiritual Gifts of Difficult Times (Amy) It is often in our most difficult times that we can have access to the deepest truths. In this session we will have the opportunity to share about what helps us to hear the still small voice of God in the midst of our grief, pain, and suffering.

- July 23: Spiritual Life Programs: Harvesting and Planting. What were some of the highlights from our after-meeting programs in 2022-23? Are there programs that we'd like to see happen in 2023-24?
- August 20: Rabbi David Azen: Male domination reflected in the Eden Story
- 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. Please RSVP.
- Karen Olson's memorial is scheduled for July 22nd at 10 am at Sierra Friends Center. More information will be forthcoming.
- 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](http://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](http://www.woolman.org).
- 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. Can't attend in person? There are virtual offerings! See more at this [link](#).
- 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.

#### ACTION ITEMS & ITEMS SEASONING

- There are no items seasoning.

#### 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](mailto: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.

*Note: Dean Olson, the outgoing clerk, closed Meeting with a big grin! He spoke to the gift of clerking, and the practice of being open to feedback. The facilitation reflects who we are as Quakers. It has been his honor to serve as clerk, and he is grateful for all he has experienced and learned.*

*We welcomed Dorothy Henderson as our new clerk.*

APPENDICES: *This information will be available as soon as the Grass Valley Friends Meeting website is back up and running. Should you want to look at any of these reports, please contact Amy Cooke [amylisette@gmail.com](mailto:amylisette@gmail.com)*

1. Nominating Committee: Slate
2. Interfaith Nevada County
3. Stewardship Committee
4. Welcome Committee
5. Spirit and Witness Committee
6. Children’s Program Committee
7. Memorial Minute for Sylvia Osman

## **ADVICES and Queries: Sixth Month ~ Social and Civic Responsibility**

In the words of William Penn, *“True godliness doesn’t draw men out of the world but enables them to live better in it and excites their endeavors to mend it.”* Elsewhere he commented: *“It is a reproach to religion and government to suffer so much poverty and excess.*

Poverty within a wealthy society is unjust, cruel, and often linked to skin color, gender, and language. We must examine our own privilege and role in the economic order that deepens this disparity.

We value our part in shaping the laws of our country. Our task is to see that laws serve God’s purposes and build a just social order.

If, by divine leading, our attention is focused on a law that is contrary to God’s law, we must proceed with care.

What am I doing to carry my share of responsibility for the government of our community, nation, and world? Am I persistent in my efforts to promote constructive change?

*How do we attend to the suffering of others in our local community, in our state and nation, and in the world community?*

*Do we try to understand the causes of suffering, and do we address them as a Meeting?*

*How do we, individually and as a Meeting, support the organizations that work to bring the testimonies of Friends into reality in our society?*

***O Spirit of that early day.  
So pure and strong and true.  
Be with us in the narrow way  
Our faithful fathers knew.***

***Give strength the evil to forsake.  
The cross of Truth to bear.  
And love and reverent fear to make  
Our daily lives a prayer***

-John Greenleaf Whittier

## ADVICES and Queries: Seventh Month: Month ~ REACHING OUT

Friends fellowship begins and is nurtured within the home and Meeting. It reaches greater fulfillment as we carry our beliefs into the wider community.

Share your Quaker faith. Take time to learn about other people's experiences of the Light and, as you learn, give freely from what you have gained. Respect the experiences and opinions of others, but do not be afraid to say what you value. Welcome the diversity of culture, language, and expressions of faith in your Monthly Meeting, the Yearly Meeting, and the world community of Friends. Encourage discourse with Friends of pastoral and programmed traditions, and with members of other faiths.

Friends have a long history of involvement in public and private education, sharing our values with the world and nurturing future generations. Be mindful of the needs of children in your community and of avenues for deepening understanding between peoples.

How does my life reflect Friends beliefs and thus encourage others to be interested in the Religious Society of Friends?

Do I respond openly to inquiries about Quaker experience and belief?

*What does our Meeting do to make others aware of Friends principles and practices?*

*What are we doing to help people of various races, cultures, and backgrounds feel at home among us and we among them?*

*How do we encourage newcomers to return and participate in activities of the Meeting?*

*In what ways do we participate in the life of the interfaith community and in the wider [fellowship of Friends](#)?*

## Upcoming Spiritual Life Sessions

- Sunday, June 25, 2023, 11:30a.m.: **When the Heart Breaks: The Spiritual Gifts of Difficult Times** (Amy) It is often in our most difficult times that we can have access to the deepest truths. In this session we will have the opportunity to share about what helps us to hear the still small voice of God in the midst of our grief, pain, and suffering.
- Sunday, July 23, 2023, 11:30a.m.: **Spiritual Life Programs: Harvesting and Planting.** What were some of the highlights from our after-meeting programs in 2022-23? Are there programs that we'd like to see happen in 2023-24?
- Sunday, August 20, 2023, 11:30a.m.: Rabbi David Azen: **Male domination reflected in the Eden Story**

## Your donations keep our Friends Meeting viable!



***← This button will take you to a secure site.***

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- It's easy to give to Grass Valley Friends Meeting! Click on the Give button above or go to [gvfriends.org](http://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.**
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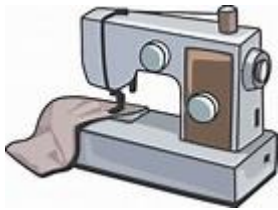
## Woolman Homecoming/60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:

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. [Details.](#)

### Work Party at Stewart Smith's house

Work day to help Stewart Smith and family. Thursday June 22nd from 8am in the morning until about noon. Their address is 9015 Gilardi Road, Newcastle. You need to allow about an hour to get there from Grass Valley or Nevada City. Please bring gloves, a bag lunch and water. We will be splitting wood and moving limbs. Stewart is providing the splitter and other tools

Please let Kathy McCreery or Fosten Wilson know if you are coming fwkm@protonmail.com or (530)265-6533. We will try to carpool.



**Sewing Machine Lesson:** I am looking to connect with someone who can teach me how to set up my sewing machine and some lessons on basic sewing and tension control. I mostly would like to use it to repair clothing.

Thanks! C. J. Patterson

[broader\\_view@icloud.com](mailto:broader_view@icloud.com) (underscore between "broader" and "view")  
530-334-0858

### Seeking Quaker Creative Writing/Poetry Groups

Do you know, or are participants, of Quaker creative writing/poetry groups? We are reaching out to you so we can organise a get together online by including existing groups and any Friends interested. Please contact us or comment here so we can invite you and we look forward to this new project.

#quakerarts #quakerwriting #quakerpoetry  
#writinggroup





## **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.*

### **Building a Framework for Truth:**

Ethics in academic research, Inclusion of Indigenous rights, and a documented history of California Genocide.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18th 3:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

**The Center for the Arts**

**314 W Main Street Grass Valley**

**\$11 for live stream**

**\$22 for general seating**

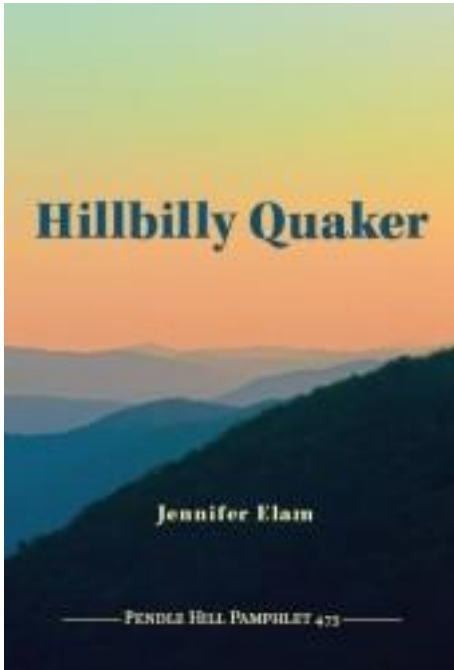
**\$44 for cabaret seating**

Join us for an educational and musical fundraising event that is sure to inspire the way we look at the future of academia. Our guest presenters will offer deep insight into their research and the ethics of their academic fields.

“The educational content that will be presented is paramount for understanding not only the past, true history that happened here in California, but understanding how that past continues to effect current conditions the Tribe lives within.” Shelly Covert, CHIRP, spokesperson for the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan.

**[Learn more.](#)**

## New Pendle Hill Pamphlets in the GVFM Library



Pendle Hill Pamphlet #475 (June 2022)

### **Hillbilly Quaker**

By Jennifer Elam

### **Synopsis**

Jen Elam writes about her childhood and identity as a rural Appalachian. She discovered she was a “hillbilly” when she left the region and details the discrimination and misunderstandings she has encountered outside of Appalachia. Highlighting the stereotypes and sensationalized reporting on the poverty that continues to plague the region, the author calls on Friends to better live our testimony of equality with regard to Appalachia. Discussion questions are included.

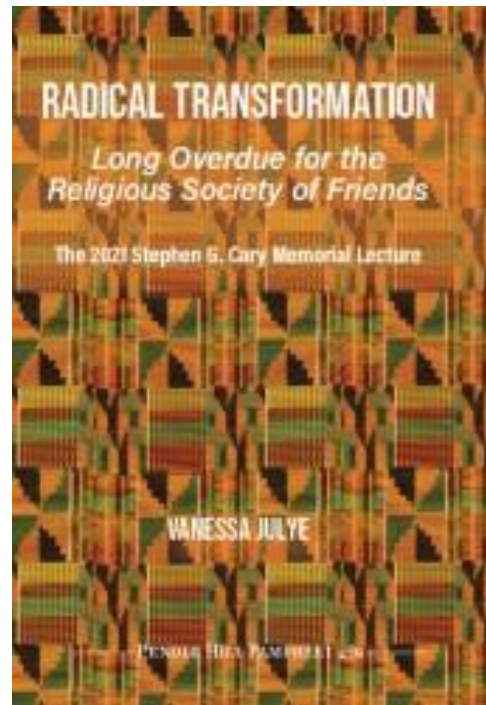
Pendle Hill Pamphlet #476 (August 2022)

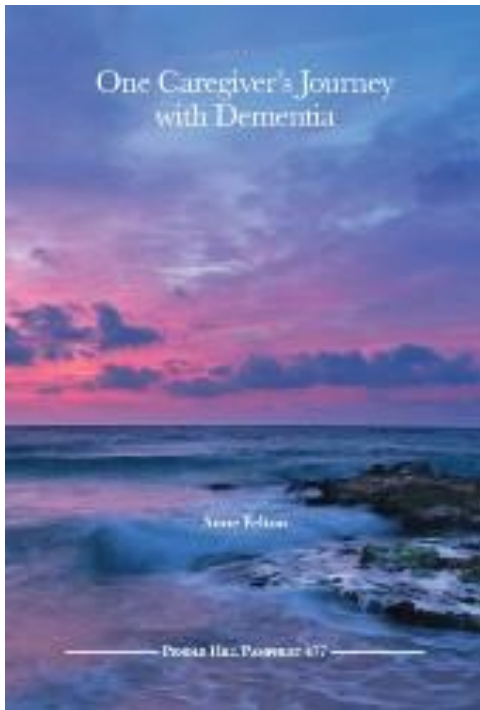
### **Radical Transformation: Long Overdue for the Religious Society of Friends**

By Vanessa Julye

### **Synopsis**

Vanessa Julye gave the 2021 Stephen G. Cary Memorial Lecture at Pendle Hill. The Religious Society of Friends stands in need of transformation. The systems of White supremacy, racism, colonization, and capitalism continue to erect walls that prevent people of color from joining and remaining in our Quaker community. Through the use of continuing revelation, we can co-create a transformed religious community that honors freedom, equity, integrity, and peace.





Pendle Hill Pamphlet #477 (October 2022)

### **One Caregiver's Journey With Dementia**

By Anne Felton

#### **Synopsis**

Anne Felton writes eloquently about how her life changed as she and her husband, Keith, grappled with his dementia diagnosis, and how her fear and despair transformed to deep peace and joy during her journey with caregiving. She shares how the spiritual dimension of the dementia journey with Keith led to transformation and thanksgiving, enumerating the spiritual gifts that emerged even as escalating daily tasks threatened to overwhelm her. Her story is a testament to what is possible when the caregiver “lets go and lets God” direct their life.

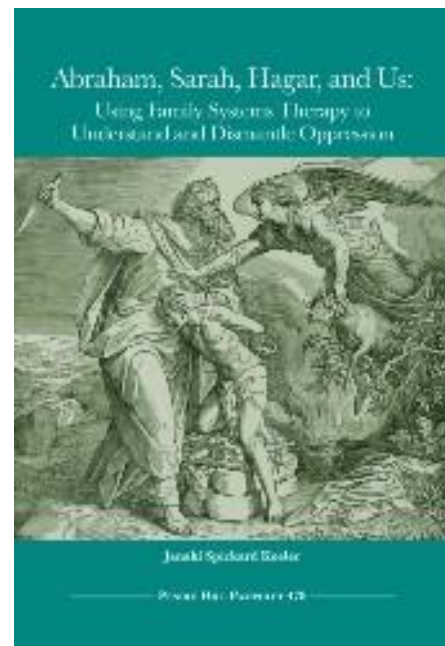
Pendle Hill Pamphlet #478 (December 2022)

### **Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, and Us: Using Family Systems Therapy to Understand and Dismantle Oppression**

By Janaki Spickard Keeler

#### **Synopsis**

Janaki Spickard Keeler, a family therapist, examines the story of Abraham's near-sacrifice of his son Isaac through the lens of Quaker theology and family systems therapy. She then widens that lens to examine our society's challenges with power and oppression and how we might use this story to better understand and work to dismantle oppression.



### ***Late Fragment***

By Raymond Carver

***And did you get what  
You wanted from this life, even so?***

***I did.***

***And what did you want?***

***To call myself beloved, to feel myself beloved on the earth.***



Brian Blackmore  
Director of Quaker Engagement



With immense joy, I am pleased to greet you as AFSC's newly appointed director of Quaker Engagement. I am a Quaker educator, community builder, and social changemaker whose life's work has focused on the intersections of religion, social justice, and peacemaking. I am a member of Gainesville Monthly Meeting, a part of Southeastern Yearly Meeting, and my connections with Friends stretch across many different regions of the United States and around the world. Before coming to AFSC, I was the Religion Department chair at a historic Quaker boarding school in Pennsylvania where I taught classes on Liberation Theology, Peace and Justice, World Religions, and Quakerism. I am also an academic with a research interest in the role that Quakers played in social justice movements during the mid-20th century.

I am excited about joining AFSC at a time when the organization is eager to amplify its Quaker voice and build upon the collective wisdom of Friends. I look forward to strengthening the relationships AFSC has with Quakers from an increasingly wider spectrum of cultural backgrounds, theological views, and ways of worship. I am particularly interested in how AFSC can make its work accessible and relevant to young changemakers in Friends meetings, schools, and colleges. Today, AFSC is doing courageous, meaningful work toward a more just, equitable, sustainable, and peaceful world. I am eager to help Friends connect more with our work so we can make an even greater difference together.

If you are interested in learning more about how you or your meeting/church can get involved, I encourage you to check out the [Friends Engage](#) page on our website. There you can learn about upcoming events, send us a request for an AFSC staff member to speak at your meeting or church, or read our [2023 Yearly Meeting Epistle](#).

Do you have an AFSC liaison in your meeting or church? AFSC liaisons receive the Weekend Reading newsletter (a digest of news, events, and action alerts from the organization), as well as a monthly newsletter called "Acting in Faith," which is tailored for a Quaker audience. AFSC liaisons are also our first point of contact when we have opportunities for Friends to participate in direct actions.

In the months ahead, I hope you will look out for even more opportunities to tap into AFSC's work. In the meantime, if you have questions or ideas about how to get your meeting/church more engaged, please reach out to [Friends@afsc.org](mailto:Friends@afsc.org). We would love to hear from you.

Thank you, Friends. I look forward to your partnership and walking in the Spirit together.

In peace, Brian Blackmore

## The RSWR Newsletter includes:



The RSWR family together for the Country Coordinator Consultation, held in Kisumu, Kenya, in April 2023.

### Global Learning

"Coordinators and Trainers see themselves as the facilitators of the work while the women are the ones who are transforming their own lives." Learn more about the Coordinator Consultation.

### Learn about the Jitegema Women's Group

The RSWR global team met with women in Nandi County, Kenya. Read their stories.

### Meet us at your Yearly Meeting!

See where Jackie and Megan will be visiting this year.



### Lobbying in the Public Interest

Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCLCA) is a nonpartisan, statewide public interest lobby founded by members of the Religious Society of Friends or "Quakers."

Our supporters include people of all backgrounds and beliefs who share our values and concerns. Join us!

We advocate with the California legislature for state laws and a state budget that are just, compassionate and respectful of the inherent worth of every person.

We lobby directly with legislators, and we give people like you the tools to contact your legislators to weigh in on important issues facing California.

Together, you and FCLCA can bring a voice of conscience to California politics.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## 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](mailto:deanolson44@gmail.com)
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8. **Mail Clerk:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366  
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### 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)

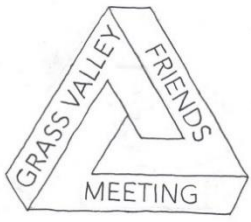
**Stewardship:** Mary Starr (current clerk), Pat Phillips, Reed Hamilton, Gordon Starr, Doug Hamm. Dianne Marshall (ex-officio, Newsletter editor), Fosten Wilson (ex-officio, Treasurer), Don McCormick (ex-officio, Librarian).

**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



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