

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 (zoom) 10:00 am Silent Meeting for Worship (in-person and zoom) To receive the zoom link, grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com.

Newsletter, Sixth Month, 2022

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COVID-19 ANNOUNCEMENT:

Grass Valley Friends Meeting: Covid Policy as of May 15, 2022: Grass Valley Friends Meeting is now offering in-person Meeting for Worship in the Meeting House with zoom access. Our Children's Program is inperson. This Friends Meeting follows covid protocols set by Western Nevada County Public Health. We acknowledge that this policy is based on current circumstances and may change in the future. We acknowledge each person's choices in a spirit of acceptance and love.

- Masking is optional.
- Immunizations are no longer required.
- We will resume coffee hour and potluck.
- We will ask anyone who feels ill to attend Meeting using the Zoom option.
- We will provide extra serving utensils to avoid touching food.
- Folks are welcome to bring their own food to potlucks if they feel nervous about sharing.

MEETING CALENDAR

First Sunday

• Program to be announced

Second Sunday

• Hybrid Silent Meeting for Worship Meeting and for Worship on the Occasion of Business

Third Sunday

As announced

Fourth Sunday

• Spiritual Life – See page 5.

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

- June 11, 2022, Saturday, 1:00p.m. *Deborah Aufdenspring's Memorial* Hybrid, additional details forthcoming
- June 12, 2022, Sunday, 2:30p.m. 4:30p.m. InterFaith Nevada County *Community Singing for Peace canceled due to rain.*
- June 18, 2022, Saturday, 11:00a.m. Trabucco Ranch, *Julia Reynolds Memorial Service*, additional details to follow.
- June 26, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *The Doctrine of Discovery* led by Dianne Marshall

HAPPENING LATER

- July 3-9, 2022, Friends General Conference, Radford University, Radford, VA
- July 16, 2022, Saturday: Bob Barnes Memorial Service
- July 22-27, 2022, Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Session 2022. A decision will be made at RepCom whether it will be all online or there will be an in-person component. Theme: Beloved Community: What Does It Mean to Belong: to Ourselves, to Each Other, to the Earth?
- October, 2022: Bicentennial Celebration of the Quakers in Congenies, France (details to follow)

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 Resources

Threshing Session: A meeting at a separate time that is 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, may speak to a point just made, or may ask a question of a previous speaker.

Query: The Friends practice of examining our souls and seeking clarity. These questions and exercises help to give time to seek truth about ourselves and our spiritual condition and to tap into Divine insight. Queries guide us in listening for God's voice in our lives. They are not intended to provide mystical experiences of God, though that may occur."

J. Brent Bill, Holy Silence; the Gift of Quaker Spirituality

MINUTES & RECORD:

DRAFT - Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, June 12, 2022

We met as a hybrid Meeting, in-person and on Zoom.

Present: Dean Olson (co-clerk), Dianne Marshall, Kathy McCreery, Scott Semans, Anita McCormick, Don McCormick, Nancy Anderson, & fosten wilson.

The Meeting opened with silent worship. A Query was presented, "what is heavy on our hearts & what brings great joy". Many comments arose.

Action Items:

After seasoning, these additions to the 2022-2023 Meeting Slate were approved:

- Doug Hamm for Pacific Yearly Meeting representative
- Doug Hamm for College Park Quarterly Meeting representative
- Reed Hamilton & Sharon Davisson for the Spirit & Witness Committee
- Dean Olson for Mail Clerk.

After seasoning, the Nominating Committee was approved:

- Sharon Davisson, continuing for 2021 2023.
- Dorothy Henderson (fulfilling Pat Phillips' term) for 2022 2023
- Judy Hamilton and Gordon Starr for 2022 2024.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

WELCOME Committee was thanked for their work for Deborah Aufdenspring's Memorial on 6-11-22. The Memorial went well and involved approximately equal numbers of people in-person and via Zoom.

Both SPIRIT & WITNESS & STEWARTSHIP reports for June have been written but were not available at Business Meeting. They will be heard in next month's Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business.

Fosten gave a summary of May finances. We received more contributions than our May expenses. He expressed appreciation for the increase in contributions in recent months. Also the Stewardship

Committee is exploring the possibility of obtaining a credit or debit card to simplify paying for our annual web-site and Zoom costs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- >> **Julia Reynolds' Memorial** will be at Trabucco Ranch off Bitney Springs Road on Saturday, June 18, at 11 a.m. Contact her daughter, Martha, at (530) 652-4106.
- >> **Bob Barns**' memorial will be held July 16, 2022. It will be held on Zoom. Additional details will be forthcoming.
- >> **Paul Hartsough** is recovering from a serious stroke. Hold him in your heart. He is home & has joined us in the Meeting House, but can not communicate easily. For updates, search for his name at "www.caringbridge.org".
- >> Chamba Cooke who is currently one of the amis-residents at the Centre Quaker Congenies in France, invites us to the Bicentenial Celebration of the Quakers in Congenies at the end of October. at Congenies, France at the end of October.
 - 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! It helps our visibility. Follow this link.
 - It's easy to give to Grass Valley Friends Meeting! Go to <u>gvfriends.org</u> 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.
 - 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. Dean volunteered & reports it was well organized & fun, a lot of fun! See www.woolman.org.

Pending Action Items: Correct & approve the Draft Minutes & Record from 6-12-2022.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully submitted, fosten wilson, acting recording clerk.

Sixth Month Queries and Advices: 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?

Give to Grass Valley Friends Meeting!

FRIENDS, Your monthly contributions add greatly to GVFM to have sufficient funds year round. Click on button below.



• **Note:** 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 gyfriends.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.



How to stay safer at a protest

Quaker action for a just world

Whether you are new to protesting or have been doing it for decades, <u>these tips</u> can help you be safe, prepared, and get your message across! Learn more about:

- What to bring
- How to prepare
- While you're there
- Know your rights
- Find out if there is a legal support/bail organization or hotline in your area. Write down the phone number here, and on your body.

Gun Control/White House Briefing

In case you did not get to see or hear this: Matthew McConaughey's White House Press Briefing

• Editor's note: Wish he had included teaching conflict resolution skills K-12.

Hymn for the Hurting by Amanda Gorman

Everything hurts,
Our hearts shadowed and strange,
Minds made muddied and mute.
We carry tragedy, terrifying and true.
And yet none of it is new;
We knew it as home,
As horror,
As heritage.
Even our children
Cannot be children,
Cannot be.

Everything hurts.
It's a hard time to be alive,
And even harder to stay that way.
We're burdened to live out these days,
While at the same time, blessed to outlive them.

This alarm is how we know
We must be altered —
That we must differ or die,
That we must triumph or try.
Thus while hate cannot be terminated,
It can be transformed
Into a love that lets us live.

May we not just grieve, but give:
May we not just ache, but act;
May our signed right to bear arms
Never blind our sight from shared harm;
May we choose our children over chaos.
May another innocent never be lost.

Maybe everything hurts, Our hearts shadowed & strange. But only when everything hurts May everything change.

Quaker Aging Resources

Providing Spirit-Centered Resources and Information



Get Help

A variety of resources are available for dealing with most issues that people face as a result of aging or other life changes. Sometimes we may be overwhelmed by the quantity of information available. A spiritual community can provide significant support by helping a person integrate their faith and values in decision making, as well as assisting with practical supports. Click here for a list of some key general resources, and we recommend that you reach out to your local or regional faith group for support in navigating whatever waters of change you are facing.

Quaker Retirement Communities and Senior Living

As with traditional senior care facilities, those catering to Quakers offer many of the same services and amenities, such as full meal plans, housekeeping and laundry service, fitness classes, and social activities. The key difference, though, is that the mission of Quaker senior care facilities is based on their faith's values, principles, and traditions. This means their offerings may include silent worship on Sundays and daily meditation. For those who live in a Quaker retirement community and don't have many medical restrictions, the Quaker value of giving back to the community is instilled through volunteer work like tutoring or taking part in faith-based activities. Because tolerance is part of the Quaker approach to life, Quakers are willing to learn from all other faiths and churches. It's not surprising, then, that their senior care facilities welcome other denominations. Some larger facilities even have an on-site nondenominational chapel for its residents. Learn more.

Quaker Indian Boarding Schools, Facing Our History and Ourselves

By Paula Palmer

This article originally printed in the Friends Journal in 2016 begins with the opportunity: *Facing Our History and Ourselves* offering detailed information gleaned from archives maintained on behalf of those Quakers who were an active part of the Quaker Indian Boarding School movement. <u>Read more</u>.

Paula Palmer concludes her essay with this question: What does this history mean to us, as Friends, today?

This question is not for me to answer, but to pose to Friends for individual and collective discernment. It is clear that Quakers were instrumental in promoting and implementing the forced assimilation of Native children. Through a lens of European Christian superiority, Quakers tried to remake Native children in their own image. In their writings, I found no appreciation for what the children would lose in this process. "For their own good," the children would be raised by Quaker teachers (removed from their own families and kinship relationships), receive English names (lose their family lineage), speak English (lose their Native languages), wear "citizens" dress" (lose the beautiful and skillful art and handiwork of their tribes), become

farmers and homemakers (lose the hunting and gathering knowledge of the land and ecology), and aspire to European lifestyles (lose competence in their own cultures and pride in their Native identities).

From our twenty-first-century vantage point, we know (or can learn) how Native people suffered and continue to suffer the consequences of actions that Friends committed 150 ago with the best of intentions. Can we hold those good intentions tenderly in one hand, and in the other hold the anguish, fear, loss, alienation, and despair borne by generations of Native Americans?

Native organizations are not asking us to judge our Quaker ancestors. They are asking, "Who are Friends today? Knowing what we know now, will Quakers join us in honest dialogue? Will they acknowledge the harm that was done? Will they seek ways to contribute toward healing processes that are desperately needed in Native communities?" These are my questions, too.

For When People Ask by Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

I want a word that means okay and not okay, more than that: a word that means devastated and stunned with joy. I want the word that says I feel it all all at once. The heart is not like a songbird singing only one note at a time, more like a Tuvan throat singer able to sing both a drone and simultaneously two or three harmonics high above it a sound, the Tuvans say, that gives the impression of wind swirling among rocks. The heart understands swirl, how the churning of opposite feelings weaves through us like an insistent breeze leads us wordlessly deeper into ourselves, blesses us with paradox so we might walk more openly into this world so rife with devastation, this world so ripe with joy.

Youth Programs and Camps

Most Friends Camps are affordable and provide a range of activities.

Camp Woolman

Located in the beautiful Sierra Nevada foothills near the scenic South Yuba River and Tahoe National Forest, Camp Woolman is a **summer camp** that embodies values ...



Baltimore Yearly Meeting Camps

- Shiloh: http://bymcamps.org/programs/shiloh-quaker-camp/
- Opequon: http://bymcamps.org/programs/opequon-quaker-camp/
- Teen Adventure: http://bymcamps.org/programs/teen-adventure/
- Catoctin: http://bymcamps.org/programs/catoctin-quaker-camp/

Here are some options for families who seek an overnight summer camp for 6, 7, and 8 yearolds. Registration for some camps begins in early December and camps can fill up in hours.

- Dark Waters (NJ): http://www.campdarkwaters.org/
- Onus (PA): http://camponas.org/
- Friends Camp (ME): http://friendscamp.org/
- Camp Celo (NC): http://www.campcelo.com/

Farm and Wilderness has 6 overnight camps in Vermont.

- Saltash Mountain Camp: https://farmandwilderness.org/saltash-mountain/
- Flying Cloud: https://farmandwilderness.org/flying-cloud/
- Tamarack Farm: https://farmandwilderness.org/tamarack-farm/
- Timberlake: https://farmandwilderness.org/timberlake/
- Indian Brook: https://farmandwilderness.org/indian-brook/
- Red Spruce Grove: https://www.farmandwilderness.org/camps/red-spruce-grove

Here are two camps devoted to the Performing Arts:

- Monteverde, Costa Rica, Theater Camp: http://mfschool.org/summer-camp-in-costa-rica/ (bilingual)
- Friends Music Camp (Earlham, IN): https://www.friendsmusiccamp.org/

And here are additional camps that are non-profits, or connected to Yearly Meetings:

- Neekaunis (Ontario): https://www.neekaunis.org/
- Mountain Friends Camp (NM): http://mountainfriendscamp.org/

Job Openings



Ben Lomond Quaker Center is looking for a new director and assistant director to begin in August and a new maintenance technician to begin in June. To learn more, visit the <u>Quaker Center website</u>.

The Ukrainian Singing Tree of Strength and Freedom

Collaboration led by Quaker Muralist, Laurie A. Marshall



Grass Valley Friends Meeting (GVFM) Contact Information (7-1-21) Office Holders:

OFFICERS:

- Clerk of the Meeting: Co-Clerks Dean and Karen Olson (530) 270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
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- Placer County Worship Group: Stuart Smith <u>sewsmitharts@yahoo.com</u> 916-663-3539
- **Recorder**: Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
- Recording Clerk: Amy Cooke, amylisette@gmail.com
- **Sierra Friends Center**: Dean Olson (530)270-9366 <u>deanolson44@gmail.com</u>
- **Treasurer:** Fosten Wilson, (530) 265-6533, fostenw@yahoo.com
- Website/Facebook Coordinator: Amy Cookeamylisette@gmail.com
- **Zoom Coordinators**: Hailey Wilson seahorseleaf@protonmail.com, Stuart Smith sewsmitharts@yahoo.com

REPRESENTATIVES:

AFSC:
 College Park

uarterly:

3. FASE:4. FCNL:

5. FCLCA:

6. FGC Liaison:

7. PYM: Don McCormick

8. Quaker Center:

9. QUNO: Shera Banbury

10. Right Sharing of World Resources: Judy Hamilton

11. Sierra Friends Center: Pat Phillips

12. Interfaith Nevada County: Dianne Marshall

COMMITTEES: (convener or clerk in bold)

<u>Stewardship:</u> Mary Starr, Gordon Starr, Reed Hamilton, Pat Phillips, Doug Hamm, Fosten Wilson (Treasurer,

Ex-officio) Dianne Marshall (ex officio as Librarian and Newsletter Editor), Hailey Wilson **Spirit/Witness: Judy Hamilton,** Gordon Starr, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Bishop, Dorothy Henderson, Dean and Karen Olson (ex-officio Co Clerks),

<u>Welcome:</u> Kathy McCreery, Karen Olson, Don McCormick, Pat Phillips, ex officio Website/Facebook Coordinator (Amy Cooke), ex officio Zoom coordinator (Hailey Wilson and Stuart Smith), ex officio Email Coordinator (Judy Hamilton)

<u>Children's Program:</u> Dorothy Henderson, Karen Olson, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Bishop, Anita McCormick, Doug Hamm, Don McCormick



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