

#### 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

Phone: 530) 648-0190

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 (zoom)

#### Newsletter, Tenth Month, 2021

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#### **MEETING CALENDAR**

#### First Sunday

• Program to be announced

#### Second Sunday

• Silent Meeting for Worship, Potluck, Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business

#### Third Sunday

As announced

#### Fourth Sunday

• Spiritual Life – To Be Announced

#### 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**

- October 3, 2021 World Quaker Day, see page 8 for details
- October 15-17, 2021 College Park Quarterly Meeting for more information

• October 24, 2021, 11:15a.m. – Spiritual Life: *Bible Study* led by Dorothy Henderson

#### **HAPPENING LATER**

- November 13, 2021, 11:15a.m. Living with Fire: A Restoration Workshop
- November 28, 2021, 11:15a.m. Glasgow Conference on Climate Change led by Amy Cooke
- December 26, 2021, 11:15a.m. Birthing the Christ Within led by Gordon Starr
- January 23, 2022, 11:15a.m. Our relationship with the Nisenan led by Dorothy Henderson
- Memorial Service for Bob Barns To be announced.

#### GLOSSARY- Abbreviations and terms used in the GVFM newsletter

**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.

# MINUTES & RECORD: Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business – October 10, 2021

We met on Zoom with a group present in the meetinghouse (hybrid trial meeting)

Present: Don McCormick and Anita McCormick (outgoing clerks), Dean and Karen Olson (incoming clerks), Gordon Starr, Hayley Wilson, Dorothy Henderson, Doug Hamm, Crystal Scanlon, Amy Cooke, Reed Hamilton, Judy Hamilton, Dianne Marshall, fosten wilson, Kathy McCreery, Chamba Cooke.

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

The outgoing clerks, Anita and Don, gave the following remark: Co-Clerks Clerks' remarks: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead

#### Action Items and Seasoning:

MINUTE 2021.10.01: Dean Olson and Karen Olson will serve as co-clerks for Grass Valley Friends Meeting for the 2021-22 year.

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

STEWARDSHIP: 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. Gordon Starr gave the report verbally. The committee has discussed when the Meeting will begin to pay the monthly rent at Sierra Friends Center. The SFC has allowed the Meeting use of the meetinghouse today for the trial hybrid meeting. There are some tasks that need to be done in order to settle into the meetinghouse (unpacking the container, for example). They have also discussed the signers on the bank account - both of the current signers are absent from the physical location.

fosten wilson reported that a letter will be brought forward in November to take to the bank naming the treasurer, co-clerks, and clerk of Stewardship as signers on the bank account. fosten gave the Treasurer's Report, page 7.

Minute 2021.10.02: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the 2021-22 budget as appended to these minutes.

Meeting has not approved moving back into the meetinghouse yet. It is recommended by the committee that we move back into the meetinghouse. The committee recommends that we move back into the meetinghouse on November 1.

The meetinghouse is still under construction, and the rental agreement has not come forward to the meeting for consideration. The Children's Committee and the Hybrid Committee also have concerns. The current rental agreement is in force. Marty proposed that the new rental amount would be \$575 per month. This has not been approved.

We have approved the expenses for the wifi installation and monthly service. We approved a one time expense of \$225 and the monthly service of \$25. If that is changed we will need to come back to Meeting.

We agreed to hear the reports from the rest of the meeting before considering the new rental agreement and timeline for moving back into the Meetinghouse.

SPIRIT & WITNESS: Gordon Starr, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Bishop, Dorothy Henderson, Anita and Don McCormick (ex-officio Co Clerks), Judy Hamilton

Judy Hamilton gave the report, appended.

It was noted that FGC also has a mentorship program.

#### • Ad hoc Hybrid Committee:

Members: Judy Hamilton, Gordon Starr, Reed Hamilton, and Dianne Marshall

Gordon Starr gave the report which is appended to these minutes.

NOMINATING: Doug Hamm, Patrica Phillips, Karen Olson

See approval of the minute above, confirming our new clerks.

WELCOME: Karen Olson, Kathy McCreery, ex officio Website/Facebook Coordinator (Amy Cooke), ex officio Zoom coordinator (Hailey Wilson and Stuart Smith), ex officio Email Coordinator (Judy Hamilton)

Kathy McCreery gave the report and presented the organization of the month, Quaker Center.

#### **QUAKER CENTER**

MISSION STATEMENT: 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.

Quaker Center is located in Ben Lomond which is between San Jose and Santa Cruz on the California coast. Quaker Center offers workshops of interest to Quakers and others once a month. They rent out space for retreats, weddings, and conferences. Their programs have been on line for the past year. They have begun to reopen and hosted a family work camp in August. You can keep in touch via their newsletter or their website for info on live programs. They have a meeting for worship everyday from 7:30 am to 8am on zoom. Every Wednesday at 10am they have worship sharing from a particular reading. This week it is from "Standing By Words" by Wendell Berry. There are hiking trails and a labyrinth on the property. Their website is Quakercenter.org

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: Karen Olson, Judy Hamilton, Dorothy Henderson, Gordon Bishop, Anita McCormick, Doug Hamm, Don McCormick

Dorothy Henderson gave the report, attached.

It was noted that hybrid meetings are too difficult for the children's program. The committee has discussed having both entirely zoom programs and entirely in-person program times. The committee does not know the guidelines needed for in-person children program gatherings. They want to move carefully and they do not want anyone to feel left out. It is a delicate place the committee wants to move forward with care.

Meetinghouse: We returned to discernment about moving back into the meetinghouse. There are many things to consider, including the impacts to the Children's Program. Can we solve these all at once? Should we start inperson meetings in November and solve the problems as they arise, including the Children's Program? Others felt that there are still issues (for example, equipment storage and contact tracing) that need discernment before we make the decision to move back into the meetinghouse. There was gratitude expressed for the ad hoc committee, and for the work they have done and the work that is still needed.

As we experiment with the building, there is a concern that we need to pay rent for the building's use. Are we not able to have trial hybrid meetings unless we pay rent? How can we review the rental agreement and let it season before moving back into the meetinghouse? It was noted that October 17's meeting will overlap with CPQM. On October 24 we could do a hybrid, and then October 31 is a Family Meeting. The communication is that we had permission for one hybrid meeting without paying rent. If we have another hybrid meeting, then we may have to pay rent or a use fee. If we use the meetinghouse, we should expect to have to pay for it.

What needs to come to the Meeting for Business regarding the rental agreement? The agreement has been altered a few times over the months of Covid and after the fire. There was discussion about how to remunerate SFC and have clarity about the agreement we have with them. Do we need liability insurance before we begin meeting in person again?

We ask that the Stewardship Committee, Children's Program committee, Spirit and Witness committee and the ad hoc Hybrid Committee continue to gain clarity on the issues that have been raised and bring back a report to the November Meeting for Business. It was suggested that the ad hoc Hybrid committee make an appointment with a representative from Sierra Friends Center to resolve the questions that have been raised. Do we pay a day rate for the meetinghouse in the meantime? This was delegated to the ad hoc committee.

#### REPRESENTATIVE and OFFICER REPORTS

• Treasurer's Report. fosten wilson gather the report, attached. (see Stewardship Committee, above)

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 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: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/GrassValleyFriendsMeeting">https://www.facebook.com/GrassValleyFriendsMeeting</a>.
- It's 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.
- Woolman at Sierra Friends Center is seeking a new Executive Director. Please see their website, Woolman at Sierra Friends Center, for more information.
- College Park Quarterly Meeting, October 15-17. See https://collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org for more information. The next quarterly meeting gathering will take place on the weekend of October 15-17. We will focus on the following two queries:
  - o How are we finding spiritual sustenance in the time of pandemic, zoom, isolation?
  - o How have we been able to support each other in our spiritual groundedness in this difficult time?

Registration is now open. Click here <a href="https://collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org/register/">https://collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org/register/</a> to fill out the online registration form.

• Tithely now allows the user to change the dollar of their gift without making a new donation request.

### **ACTION ITEMS & ITEMS SEASONING**

• The ad hoc Hybrid Committee Meeting will be working on the issues raised in this meeting to help us gain clarity on the rental agreement, children's program, Covid requirements, storage, timing to empty the storage container, and liability insurance.

#### READING OF THE RECORD AND MINUTES

Note: 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.

#### **APPENDICES:**

- 1. Budget
- 2. Spirit and Witness
- 3. Treasurer's Report
- 4. Hybrid Meeting Committee report
- 5. Children's Committee

# **ADVICES and QUERIES: TENTH Month ~ Personal Relationships**

In daily relationships with others, both inside and outside the home, our lives as Friends speak immediately and lastingly. In these relationships, our faith may also be severely tested. We are called to respond to that of God in

everyone: we are all children of God. Friends celebrate any union that is dedicated to mutual love and respect, regardless of the unique make-up of the family. We strive to create homes where the Spirit of the Divine resides at the center and where the individual genius of each member is respected and nurtured.

Human sexuality is a divine gift, forming part of the complex union of body, mind and spirit that is our humanity. In a loving adult relationship in a context of mutual responsibility, sexuality brings delight, fulfillment and celebration.

The presence of children carries a special blessing as well as responsibility. Children bring unique spiritual gifts — wonder, resiliency, playfulness and more. Recognize and honor the Divine Light within children and treat them with the dignity and respect that is due to all people. Listen to and learn from children; share with them those values and practices that are central to our own lives. Special care must be given to resolving problems between adults and children in a manner that gives equal weight to the feelings and needs of both children and adults. Tender parenting is one of the critically important peace vocations in our society. Make every effort to offer all parents the personal and institutional support that this challenging work requires.

Take a strong stand against any form of abuse, whether that abuse is minor or severe, and whether it is emotional, physical or sexual in nature. The terrible impact of abuse on the most vulnerable members of our families creates lifelong suffering for its victims and is a major source of violence in our society. Perpetrators are themselves usually victims of similar violence and should be approached with compassion as well as firmness.

- Do I make my home a place of friendliness, joy, and peace, where residents and visitors feel God's presence?
- Are my sexual practices consistent with my spiritual beliefs and free of manipulation and exploitation?
- What barriers keep me from responding openly and lovingly to each person?
- Do we open our thoughts, beliefs, and deep understandings to our children and others who share our lives and our hospitality?
- Do we provide our children and young adults with a framework for active, ongoing participation in the Meeting?

# **GVFM Facebook Page**

• 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: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/GrassValleyFriendsMeeting">https://www.facebook.com/GrassValleyFriendsMeeting</a>



### Please consider supporting Grass Valley Friends Meeting! Click on the Give 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.

Please consider making your contribution monthly. Your 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.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report for all of FY 2020 – 2021 given October 10, 2021

summary = Strange year, good enough financially.

With our budget set much lower for the year, we did well. Inbound contributions were lower than when we met in-person, as expected. Yet those contributions were more than we needed, especially after we stopped paying rent in January while the Meeting House was renovated. And our outbound donations have been paid in full. **THANK YOU all for your contributions.** 

So, our income (\$11,454) exceeded our spending (\$7,171). Altogether we ended the fiscal year with more in the bank than we had on October first of last year. Whew, a sigh of gratitude.

Now, as we restart meeting in-person we will also return to paying rent to Sierra Friends Center. Our costs will rise. The Stewardship Committee is meeting each month and watching the balance between our spending & income.

All contributions to Grass Valley Friends Meeting — whether money, service, or prayer – are deeply appreciated. Money contributions are either to my address below or online by using the "give" button at "gyfriends.org". Thank you, fosten

Fosten Wilson, Treasurer 15719 American Hill Rd Nevada City, Calif. 95959



#### SPIRITUAL LIFE 4-MONTH CALENDAR

- October 24, 2021 Bible Study with Dorothy Henderson
- November 28, 2021 Climate Change/Discernment with Amy Cooke
- December 26, 2021– Birthing the Christ within with Gordon Starr
- January 23, 2022 Our relationship with the Nisenan with Dorothy Henderson

### **CPQM THIS WEEKEND!!! Register here!**

Dear Friends.

How are we finding spiritual sustenance in the time of pandemic, zoom, isolation? How have we been able to support each other in our spiritual groundedness in this difficult time?

Welcome to the 246th session of College Park Quarterly Meeting – and to the, alas, fifth all remote, virtual session on 10/21/21-10/17/21. Once again we will be using Zoom. As our worship always is, this session is an experiment. Two especially experimental parts are facilitated conversations and a plenary worship sharing experience. You might think of facilitated conversations as a blend of interest and affinity groups – a chance to share experiences on a more informal level. There will be several, from Quaker mysticism to gardening. If you would like to host a conversation, please email Assistant Clerk, Jan Turner, at <a href="yellowgateroad@gmail.com">yellowgateroad@gmail.com</a>

#### Here is the schedule for our weekend together:

#### Friday evening, October 15:

7-9 p.m. Worship followed by a brief welcome and small group conversations with queries

#### Saturday, October 16:

- 7:30 8:30 a.m.: Bible study
- 9-10:15 a.m.: Worship followed by introductions and a short business session 10:30 a.m. -

Noon: Worship Sharing

Noon - 1 p.m.: Lunch – on your own

- 1-2:30 p.m. Facilitated Conversations on a theme
  - Current conversations include:
    - Mysticism, Eric Sableman
    - Musicians and Artists, Barbara Babin
    - Anti-racism, Barbara Christowitz

To host a conversation, please email Assistant Clerk, Jan Turner, at <a href="mailto:yellowgateroad@gmail.com">yellowgateroad@gmail.com</a> with a brief description of your topic.

- 3-5 p.m. Business followed by Worship Sharing as a whole
- 7 8:30 p.m.: Family Night. To sign up to perform, please contact Master of Ceremonies, Keenan Lorenzato, youthprogramscoordinator@pacificyearlymeeting.org

#### Sunday, October 17:

- 8-9 a.m.: Bible study
- 10 11 a.m.: Worship hosted by Grass Valley Meeting

# QUNO (QUAKER UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION) AUGUST - OCTOBER 2021



#### **Ouaker United Nations Office Geneva names new Director**

Following an international search process, the Quaker UN Office is delighted to announce that Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge has been selected as the incoming Director of QUNO Geneva. Nozizwe, a South

African national, is a member of the Quaker Community in the Western Cape Meeting. She has broad experience in her home country and distinguished and influential service in government, civil society and advocacy. Nozizwe has an honorary Doctorate of Law from Haverford College, diplomas in microbiology and adult education, a degree in social science and an honours degree in philosophy.

#### **Employment Opportunities**

Our New York office is now accepting applications for the position of Outreach and Development Officer: This position will focus on building the base of interested and engaged supporters for QUNO New York. This is a full-time position for an experienced development and communications professional. See more details and apply <u>here</u>.

#### Geneva

The Quaker UN Committee Geneva has ten members, five appointed by Friends World Committee for Consultation, four members appointed by Britain Yearly Meeting and one appointed by Quaker Peace & Social Witness Central Committee (QPSW CC) of Britain Yearly Meeting. This Committee sets the priorities for the work, and evaluates and monitors the work, reporting to the two parent bodies once a year. It meets twice a year, which before the Covid-19 pandemic was once in Geneva, once virtually. (The image shows committee members in their last in person meeting in 2019.)



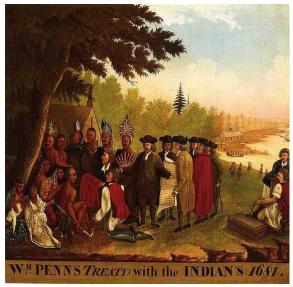


#### **New York**

The Quaker United Nations Committee in New York has ten members, five appointed by the Board of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), and five by Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) Executive Committee. The Committee is responsible for setting program priorities, recommending program plans and priorities to the AFSC Board of Directors, and monitoring and evaluating the work of QUNO New York.

Finance: Our work is made possible by funds received from numerous individuals and local Quaker meetings.

## **LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED** after this treaty was signed in 1681.



Read <u>Covered with Night A Story of Murder and Indigenous Justice in Early America.</u> By Nicole Eustace

An immersive tale of the killing of a Native American man and its far-reaching implications for the definition of justice from early America to today.

On the eve of a major treaty conference between Iroquois leaders and European colonists in the distant summer of 1722, two white fur traders attacked an Indigenous hunter and left him for dead near Conestoga, Pennsylvania.

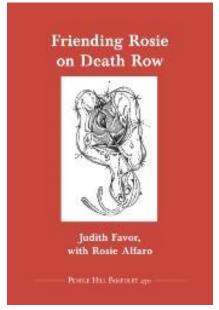
Though virtually forgotten today, this act of brutality set into motion a remarkable series of criminal investigations and cross-cultural negotiations that challenged the definition of justice in early America.

Quakers and Anglicans abound!

# PHP 470 – Friending Rosie on Death Row

#### Synopsis

Friending Rosie on Death Row explores how Quaker faith re-shapes attitudes toward marginalized persons and bridges the chasm between those locked behind bars and those who enjoy the privileges of freedom. The friendship between Judith Favor and Rosie Alfaro – women separated by class, race, religion, and prison walls – is a testimony to the power of "Friending" rooted and grounded in the love of God, who "is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20, NRSV)."





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

#### **OFFICERS:**

- Clerk of the Meeting: Position Open
- Communication/Email Coordinator: Judy Hamilton judywestonhamilton@gmail.com
- Directory Coordinator: Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
- Mail Clerk: Dean Olson (530)270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
- Newsletter Editor: Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net
- Newsletter Distribution: Pat Phillips
- **Directory Clerk**: Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) <a href="mailto:ntowhee@gmail.com">ntowhee@gmail.com</a>
- **Librarian:** Dianne Marshall <u>dmarshall@pacific.net,</u> 530-274-1922
- Mail Clerk: Dean Olson (530)270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
- Newsletter Distribution: Pat Phillips 530-913-1338 pephillips1949@gmail.com

- Newsletter Editor: Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net (530) 274-1922
- Newsletter Reader: Karen Olson deanolson44@hotmail.com
- **Placer County Worship Group:** Stuart Smith sewsmitharts@yahoo.com 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\_\_deanolson44@gmail.com
- **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:**

- 1. AFSC:
- 2. College Park Quarterly:
- 3. FASE:
- 4. FCNL:

- 5. FCLCA:
- 6. FGC Liaison:
- 7. PYM: Don
- McCormick
- 8. Ouaker Center:
- 9. OUNP:
- 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

<u>Spirit/Witness:</u> <u>Judy Hamilton</u>, Gordon Starr, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Bishop, Dorothy Henderson, Anita and Don McCormick (ex-officio Co Clerks),

<u>Welcome:</u> Kathy McCreery, Karen Olson, 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



# **Grass Valley Friends Meeting**



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