



Newsletter

**Eleventh
Month,
2018**

**GRASS VALLEY
FRIENDS MEETING**

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

13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA 95959,
530-273-3183
Sierra Friends Center, Woolman Lane, off Jones Bar
Road,

**First Days: 9:00am Singing at the Meeting House
10:00 am Silent Meeting for Worship**

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We value the simplicity & tranquility of the Sierra Friends Center & want to ensure safety and clean dust-free air for the residents, visitors & neighbors of Sierra Friends Center. We expect observance of the 10 mph speed limit on Woolman Ln. & on the school property.

CALENDAR

First Sunday

- **Program to be announced**

Second Sunday

- **Silent Meeting for Worship, Potluck, Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business**

Third Sunday- Eleventh Month 11/18/18

- **Faith & Practice Revisions after the rise of Meeting (see page7)**

HAPPENING NOVEMBER, 2018

- **First Day, November 18, 2018:** Pacific Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice Revisions Threshing Session after the rise of Meeting in the Meeting House. See page 7 for more details.
- **November 22, 2018: Thanksgiving** ([Link to Myths about Thanksgiving from the Salt Lake City Friends Meeting](#))

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.

Our "work" this Thanksgiving and every Thanksgiving to share the gift of thanks and appreciation. Our "work" also includes being aware that this holiday so many of us treasure is, like Columbus Day, a day that represents the harm done over time to Native Americans. May our "work" generate celebration and making amends.

HAPPENING LATTER

- **GVFM Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business: Sunday, December 9, 2018**
- First Day, December 16, 2018, after the rise of Meeting: GVFM Annual Holiday Party (see page__ for details)
- [Pacific Yearly Meeting Calendar](#)
- Ben Lomond Quaker Center:
 - o [2018 Programs - See page 4 for Summer and Fall Offerings](#)
 - o [2019 Programs](#)



MEETING CALENDAR

“Non-Meeting” events announced at the rise of Meeting may be included on the Meeting calendar. Send your information to Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net no later than 10:00a.m. the Tuesday following Business Meeting (the second First Day of the month) to be included.

GLOSSARY- Abbreviations and terms used in this edition of the GVFM Newsletter:

M&O: Ministry and Oversight

F&P: Faith and Practice

First Day: Sunday

PYM: Pacific Yearly Meeting

GVFM: Grass Valley Friends Meeting

FDS: First Day School

QUNO: Quaker United Nations Office

GRASS VALLEY FRIENDS MEETING
Of the Religious Society of Friends
College Park Quarterly Meeting, Pacific Yearly Meeting

MINUTES & RECORD

Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business
11th Day, Eleventh Month, 2018

Present: Don McCormick, co-clerk; Amy Cooke, recording clerk; Doug Hamm, Dorothy Henderson, Sandy Kewman, Dianne Marshall, Kathy McCreery, KariAn Salyer, Peggy Baldwin, fosten wilson, Haley Wilson.

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

Spiritual Query: What makes Meeting for Business meaningful spiritually?

- A Friend shared that knitting helps her focus.
- Clerk guiding us back into worship periodically through the Meeting.
- The clerk setting the tone with introductory remarks can be helpful.
 - o Raise hand; speak one person at a time.
 - o Reading a spiritual quote at the start.
- Bringing a spiritual query in is valuable.
- For another Friend, sewing and knitting can be distraction from being in worship.

PREVIOUS ACTION ITEMS

1. The Clerks' Meeting will be scheduled.
2. The Faith and Practice revision meeting will be scheduled. **Completed.**
 - a. 11/18/2018, after Meeting.

REPRESENTATIVE AND OFFICER REPORTS

Woolman at Sierra Friends Center: Amy Cooke gave the report, appended.

SEASONED MINUTES (These are items that have been presented to Meeting for Business previously and have been held over for discernment before approval.)

NEWSLETTER:

From Ninth Month Minutes: Dianne requested help with the newsletter—especially with regards to its length. There was a discussion of the practice of posting some items to the web. It was suggested that a survey about this be sent to people who receive it by mail. Dianne Marshall will contact Charity Bryson about that. One copy of the newsletter that includes all of the reports and other items that are online is placed in the library.

At the end of meeting confusion about this was expressed. It will be an agenda item next month.

Held over from 9th month.

Report: Dianne Marshall made the report. A survey was sent out (the results are appended). 34 people responded. Charity Bryson, who has been mailing the newsletter, is moving away. Nominating will be following up.

We acknowledged that we are holding several issues with the newsletter – paper vs. electronic copies, content, privacy, need for more information, calendaring events that lie outside of Meeting – and that the Meeting for Business is a difficult format to do the work needed to decide on these issues.

It was suggested that it might be more useful to have the newsletter issues go through a committee, and bring back proposals.

It was noted that items announced in Meeting can go on the calendar, even if they lie outside of Meeting.

It was suggested that this go to Ministry and Oversight. There was a concern expressed for the overwhelm level of the committee. Kathy McCreery, the clerk of M&O, agreed to look at these issues in the committee.

There was unity on sending this to M & O.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE – fosten wilson gave the report.

The committee has been looking at other means to contribute to the Meeting other than cash or checks. There is a website called Tithely, that can accept contributions to the Meeting electronically. We could use automatic debit, credit card payments, and text payments in addition to cash and checks. It costs about 3% to use a service like this.

The committee has decided to sign up and do some testing internally.

MINISTRY & OVERSIGHT – Kathy McCreery gave the report, which is appended in full.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. PYM Faith & Practice Revision Threshing Session: Sunday, November 18, after Meeting for Worship.
2. There has been a written response to the Tree of Life shooting by Live Oak Meeting that Sandy Kewman will share. It was suggested that we reach out to the local synagogue with support.
3. FALL CLERKS' MEETING
Pending. Coming to M&O in November for scheduling.
Purpose: Plan and integrate the work of the Meeting for the year.
Spring Clerks' Meeting: celebrate the year's accomplishments, convening Naming Committee.

JOYS, CONCERNS, CELEBRATIONS AND MOURNINGS

- Joy was expressed at the results of the midterm elections – the gift that keeps on giving.
- Shock at the fire that consumed Paradise, California. There are 23 confirmed dead and over 100 missing. There are over six thousand homes burned and over 50,000 people have been displaced. 200,000 acres have been burned, and the fire is still burning.
- Joy was expressed at the generosity that has poured forth from stores and individuals in response to the fire.

SEASONING MINUTES (These are items that have been presented to this Meeting for Business and are being held over for future discernment before approval. They will appear on the next month's agenda under Seasoned Minutes.)

There were no minutes proposed for seasoning in this Meeting for Business.

CURRENT ACTION ITEMS

Camp Fire:

A proposal was made to help the victims of the Camp Fire. There are numerous drop-off sites and websites that are accepting donations. Many Meeting members are acting individually. Do we want to make a response as a Meeting?

It was shared that all members and attenders of Chico Meeting that were impacted by the fire have gotten to safety.

It was noted that if a quick response were needed, it would be faster for individuals to act. Could the Meeting for Business make a decision today to contribute? It was answered in the affirmative. Is that important for us to do? A Friend made an impassioned plea for a Quaker response.

Sierra Friends Center has offered to house evacuees. Could GVFM assist SFC in housing evacuees? This would fulfill an immediate need. Support would be food, clothing, and possible financial help with covering the loss of income. Amy Cooke, SFC Director, asked if she could ask for support as the need is experienced if and when evacuees come to SFC.

A proposal was made by the Treasurer, Fosten Wilson, to give \$1000 to the organization accepting funds for victims of the Camp Fire, contingent upon approval by the other members of the Finance Committee. This could assist with more long term needs.

We held the proposals in discernment.

We approved the following minute:

Minute 11.2018.01: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves sending \$1000 to the North Valley Community Foundation – Camp Fire Evacuation Relief Fund: <https://www.nvcf.org/fund/camp-fire-evacuation-relief-fund/>, after confirming this action with the Finance Committee. Amy Cooke, SFC Director, will notify GVFM if Sierra Friends Center needs additional support for housing evacuees.

FEEDBACK

The Clerk asked for feedback on the Meeting for Business. What went well? What could be done better?

- When the clerk stays in the clerk's role it helps hold the Meeting. When the clerk invited support and asked questions, there was a sense of being held.

- Appreciation was expressed for the detailed agenda.
- There was surprise and gratitude for the Meeting sending money to help with Camp Fire victims.
- Gratitude for the seeking of clarity about process.
- Appreciation for the reservoirs of knowledge present in the room that helped to guide the Meeting.
- Grateful for the presence of Hailey in this Meeting.

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 amylisette@gmail.com THE FRIDAY BEFORE MEETING FOR BUSINESS.

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

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully recorded by Amy Cooke, recording clerk.

HAILEY'S COMMENTS

My name is Hailey Wilson. I'm 10 years old. This is a report on my experience at Business Meeting.

When I first walked in after climbing a Redwood tree, the Business Meeting was talking about the Newsletter. They were talking about what they should have in the newsletter. Dianne Marshall was telling everyone the results on the survey she sent out a few months ago.

Next is the m&o report. Kathy McCreery read the m&o report and I heard about the Children's Program portion. This was the only time Kathy McCreery was not knitting my socks.

Some people concentrate better if they're sewing, knitting etc. Both Dianne Marshall and Kathy McCreery were knitting or crocheting during the meeting.

Now I'm going to talk about the CAMP FIRE. As most of you know, this fire rushed through the town of Paradise. Many houses burned down at the middle of the night. The business meeting was talking about whether to send \$1000 to the people who lost their homes.

Our business meeting is surprisingly quieter than most meetings in the world. When people start to talk over each other the clerk silences them. The clerk is Don McCormick.

I'm glad that both Kathy Mc & Genevieve Buckley are volunteering to do the children program this month.

Amy Cooke gladly read the minutes for approval. I do not know why they do this, but I do like listening to it.

I like that at the end we hold hands and worship (even though I have to set my book

down).

That's all I have to say about BUSINESS MEETING!

Minute of Support Live Oak Friends ...as sent to local newspapers and to our local Temple Beth El, where we hold our Meetings for Worship on Sundays.

We are deeply saddened by the attack on worshipers at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh on October 27, 2018. All human life is sacred. There are many paths to God, and all the Abrahamic religions provide spiritual paths to make the world a better place. The Live Oak Friends Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) stands with Temple Beth El in Salinas, CA in striving to eliminate the ignorance, fear and hatred that have made attacks like that occurring in Pittsburgh all too common in our nation. Let us live instead with the spirit of divine love that joins us together in peace.

Advices and Queries†: peace

Friends oppose all war as inconsistent with God's will. As every person is a child of God, we recognize God's Light also in our adversaries. Violence and injustice deny this reality and violate the teachings of Jesus and other prophets.

Friends challenge their governments and take personal risks in the cause of peace. We urge one another to refuse to participate in war as soldiers, or as arms manufacturers. We seek ways to support those who refrain from paying taxes that support war. We work to end violence within our own borders, our homes, our streets, and our communities. We support international order, justice, and understanding.

Become an instrument of peace. At every opportunity, be peacemakers in your homes, workplaces and communities. Steep yourself in the power of the universal Spirit. Examine your actions for the seeds of violence, degradation and destructiveness. Overcome the emotions that lie at the root of violence and nurture instead a spirit of reconciliation and love. Come to know the oneness of all creation and oppose the destruction of the natural world.

Do I live in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars?

How do I nourish peace within myself as I work for peace in the world?

Do I confront violence wherever it occurs, even when my personal relationships are involved?

Where there is distrust, injustice, or hatred, how am I an instrument of reconciliation and love?

What are we doing to remove the causes of war and destruction of the planet, and to bring about lasting peace?

Do we reach out to all parties in a conflict with courage and love?

NEWS FROM THE CHICO FRIENDS MEETING

Provided by Linnea Hanson

“I worked in most of those areas to the east where the fire is spreading during my Forest Service career. It is very steep highly dissected ridges and canyons. Our strategy was to defend from the top of the ridge not midslope so there could be extra acres added to the total if the fire goes into those areas. It is nearly impossible to fight fire midslope. Just thought I would let you know that.

As I said earlier, the 4 families of folks that live up in Paradise and Magalia that attend Chico Friends meeting are OK. They all got out safely. Several are staying with others in the meeting in Chico. And others are staying with their friends in Chico. We don't know the status of their homes yet.

Other friends of ours in Paradise and surrounding area got out of the fire OK. So, that is good to know. But now we are hearing about who has lost their homes. It is heartbreaking to say the least.”

WHAT DO QUAKERS BELIEVE? 9 Core Quaker Values

As a lifelong Quaker, Arthur Larabee was frustrated that he couldn't answer the question, "What do Quakers believe?" So he set out to do just that: <http://quakerspeak.com/9-core-quaker-beliefs/> (run time: 6 min 42 sec)

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISIONS

Faith and Practice Revision Under Review by Monthly Meetings: Meetings are asked to reach unity on their reflections on the proposed revisions below, and to send this seasoned material to the Faith and Practice Revision Committee by October 15, 2018. If no unity is met, a description of the feeling of the meetings is welcome. Please email tracked changes, a scan of written edits, or meeting response to: PYM.FPRevision@gmail.com In the text below, words are struck out if deleted or underlined if added since the last version of Pacific Yearly Meeting's book of Faith and Practice.

Please email tracked changes, a scan of written edits, or meeting response to: PYM.FPRevision@gmail.com

Reaching Out

We must learn to listen in tongues. Lloyd Lee Wilson

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.

Leadings

Part 1. Faith and Practice Committee queries for meetings to consider:

- How does your Meeting support leadings that come to its attention?
- Do you have experience with clearness committees to discern leadings?

If so does this draft help clarify what that process can look like? If not please tell us what more you need, or what you do not find helpful? What ways has your Meeting found to stay in relationship to members experiencing leadings and 12 to provide accountability?

Part 2. Draft of Revised Leadings

It being a rainy day we continued in our tent, and here I was led to think on the nature of the exercise which hath attended me. Love was the first motion, and then a concern arose to spend some time with the Indians, that I might feel and understand their life and the spirit they live in, if haply I might receive some instruction from them, or they be in any degree helped forward by my following the leadings of Truth amongst them. John Woolman's Journal

[Due to the length of this section, please click here](#) to become fully acquainted with the suggested changes.

Youth Programs Coordinator Position Description

Youth Programs Coordinator and Youth Programs Coordinating Committee: One of the most important concerns of this vital cell ought to be for the spiritual nurture of the children and youth of the meeting. ... When do our Quaker families begin to train their children in the significance of silent worship and communion? We are in a world beset with noises... If ever the spirit needed to be calmed and deepened with the reality of God, it is now. ... But the slow formation of spiritual ideals and counter attractions which build the soul and shape the character come only through patient and painstaking nurture. -- "The Vital Cell," Rufus M 11 Jones, 1941

For many years PYM has been concerned with involving young Friends in the life of the Meeting: helping them to stay connected between sessions, and helping Meetings that have children, teenagers, and young adults meet these Friends' needs.

The Youth Programs Coordinating Committee hires and provides ongoing supervision of the Youth Programs Coordinator, an employee of Pacific Yearly Meeting, and participates actively in envisioning and supporting programs and activities. This committee also stewards the use of interest income from the Bob Vogel Endowment.

The Youth Programs Coordinator builds the capacity of youth and adults to run their own programs and serves as a resource for Meetings (local/Monthly, worship groups, Quarterly, Yearly) and Quaker organizations within PYM. In working with individuals, groups, and committees of all ages, from time to time the Coordinator and the YPC Committee act as a catalyst for new programs and activities. The YPC does not typically take charge of running programs and activities themselves.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL

By Karen Olson and Judy Hamilton

Karen and I attended the Quarterly Meeting interest group on 'First Day School is Fun'. We came away with a lot of ideas, resources and enthusiasm. The presenter spoke about his program, where on consecutive weeks, they read a bible story, discuss a testimony and work on a service project (they make cookies for a homeless shelter). He provided a lot of resources where we can find lesson plans--which as a *no-teacher*, I so appreciate. Sandy Kewman has donated a book that contains various stories, props and lessons on our testimonies and stories about famous Quakers. One of the presenters showed us how to 'tell' one of these stories.

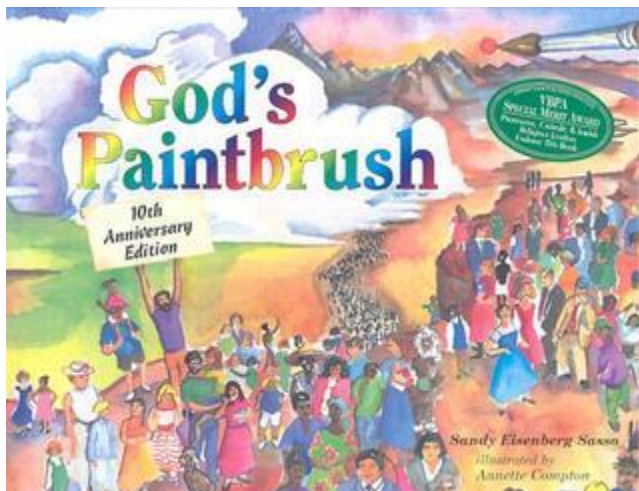
In October, we read *Noah's Ark*. The discussion was supposed to focus on how there is that of God in all creatures but I think mostly the kids talked about floods. This month we are talking about gratitude. In December, I am going to read a story about the Heifer Project and we are going to try to raise money to buy something from the Heifer Project catalog.

Karen is working on a story about George Fox. We are looking for a service project that could be done in our 45 minute time slot...so any ideas would be appreciated.

The FDS committee needs more First Day School leaders and at least one more committee member, so if you have any interest please speak to one of us. *We really do have fun.*

NEW BOOKS IN OUR CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

For preschoolers--a first lesson in finding your place in God's creation. This simple, beautiful book helps parents and children explore spirituality together by inviting children of all faiths and backgrounds to encounter God through everyday experience and the imagination. ..



In this gorgeous and contemplative *New York Times* bestselling picture book, legendary author-illustrator Tomie dePaola reminds us that mindfulness—being quiet, still, and present with one another—is a very special thing.

Everything is in such a hurry, busy as busy can be. The birds are flying so fast, the dragonfly is zooming over the water—even the trees are waving their leaves.

So what if we sit here, you next to me...and we can just *be*?



If you ever get lost and forget
Who you are,
or how important
This one moment is,
Just be still
Silence is full of answers
And so are you. Jen (Aimhappy.com)

ANNUAL GVFM HOLIDAY PARTY

By Judy Hamilton

SAVE THE DATE: December 16th for the annual GVFM holiday party. Doug and Dorothy have graciously offered their home as the location for the party (13074 Woolman Lane).

In Quakerly style, it will be a potluck and start after the rise of Meeting on the 16th.

Back by popular demand is the 'match the photo with the person' game. This year you are asked to bring a photo of yourself as a teenager. They will be displayed with numbers only and you will be asked to match the photo with we look like today. If you are not a teen yet, bring a photo of yourself as a baby.



Quakers were among the review editors from 40 countries, and including 91 authors, who presented [the Special Report on Global Warming](#) of 1.5C in October. QUNO made four interentions to strengthen the Report including human behavior change (including diets), consumption (and land use,) reducing GHG emissions, and reduce reliance on geo-engineering that remain unproven on a large scale. QUNO calls for personal witness alongside political engagement to ensure that humanity acts in time to protect the most vulnerable from catastrophic climate change.

QUNO has added Paper #4 Compilation of Agreed Language to its publication [“Towards a Human Rights Based Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”](#) to strengthen the implementation of International Human Rights Law and build on the commitments they have made in the past.



Our Library

Our Library has more than 1,028 publications and videos. You can find more than 709 authors divided into 24 sections. The links below will take you directly to the publications in each section listed. Enjoy

Quaker Faith	Children’s Stories	Quaker History	Media Collection
Nonviolence and Peace	Intergenerational Education	Other Faiths and Practices	International Witness
Lives of Friends	Judeo-Christian Faith (Bible included)		Social Justice
Quaker Education	Business in the Manner of Friends	AFSC	Songs
Simple Living and Earthcare	Death and Dying	Parenting	Archives
Faith and Practice		Wellness	Media

Grass Valley Friends Meeting (GVFM) Contact Information:

Updated 7-8-18

Office Holders:

- **Clerk of the Meeting:** Don and Anita McCormick, 310-597-9469, donmccormick2@gmail.com, anita@webstop.com
- **Directory Clerk:** Sandy Kewman (530) 272-3736 srosekewman@gmail.com
- **Librarian:** Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net, 530-274-1922
- **Mail Clerk: Dean Olson**, 530 270 9366 <deanolson44@gmail.com>
- **Newsletter Distribution:** Charity Bryson, quakercrone@comcast.net, 530-477-9232
- **Newsletter Editor:** Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net (530) 274-1922
- **Recorder:** Pat Phillips patphillips49@yahoo.com, 913-1338
- **Recording Clerk:** Amy Cooke, amylisette@gmail.com
- **Treasurer:** Fosten Wilson, (530) 265-6533, fostenw@yahoo.com
- **Website Maintenance:** Amy Cooke, amylisette@gmail.com

Committees:

- **Buildings and Grounds:** Gordon Starr – Committee Clerk (530-878-1237) gstarr121@aol.com, Reed Hamilton, Doug Hamm, Pat Phillips
- **Finance Committee:** Mary Starr – Committee Clerk, Reed Hamilton, Don Kewman, Fosten Wilson, Treasurer, Ex Officio member
- **Intergenerational Education Committee:** Judy Hamilton, Judywestonhamilton@gmail.com, Karen Olson (Resource), Ben Preston
- **Library Committee:** Christie Monson, Shera Banbury, Elissa Preston
- **Ministry and Oversight Committee:** Kathy McCreery (530-265-6533) fostenw@yahoo.com, Genevieve Buckley, Gordon Bishop, Peggy Baldwin, Mary Starr
- **Outreach Committee:** **Gordon Starr** Committee Clerk (530-878-1237) gstarr121@aol.com, Sharon Davisson, Gordon Bishop, Hilary Ellis-Lavigne and Ted Smith
- **Peace and Social Justice Committee:** **Dean Olson**, 270-9366, deanolson44@gmail.com, Karen Olson, Reed Hamilton, Pat Phillips, Beth Kemplin, Dave Barnett
- **Sierra Friends Center:** (530) 273-3183 info@woolman.org
- **Spiritual Life Committee:** Gordon Starr – Committee Clerk gstarr121@aol.com, (530-878-1237), Sandy Kewman, Peggy Baldwin, Don McCormick

Remember: This contact information is new for the year 2018-19.

Grass Valley Friends Meeting
13075 Woolman Lane,
Nevada City, CA 95959
Return Address Requested

