



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 www.gvfriends.org
Email: grassvalleyfriendsmeeting@gmail.com

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

Newsletter, Fifth Month, 2020

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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.*

HAPPENING NOW

- **May 15-17, 2020:** College Park Quarterly Meeting gathering at Ben Lomond Quaker Center
- **Sunday, May 31, 2020,** Listening Meeting for Parents

HAPPENING LATER

- **Sunday, September 13, 2020:** InterFaith March for Peace and Justice 1:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.
- **June 28 – July 4, 2020:** Friends General Conference, a virtual gathering

GLOSSARY- Abbreviations and terms used in the GVFM newsletter

M&O: Ministry and Oversight

PacYM: Pacific Yearly Meeting **PHP** – Pendle Hill Pamphlet

QUNO: Quaker United Nations Office

FASE: Friends Association for Services to the Elderly

CPQM: College Park Quarterly Meeting

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, May 10, 2020

Present: Anita McCormick, Don McCormick, co-clerks; Amy Cooke, recording clerk; Gordon Starr, Mary Starr, Chamba Cooke, Dianne Marshall, Dorothy Henderson, Doug Hamm, Sandy Kewman, Reed Hamilton, Judy Hamilton, Fosten Wilson, Kathy McCreery, Hailey Wilson.

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

QUERIES: Does Zoom enhance or diminish our experience of Meeting for Worship?
Friends responded to the query out of silence. .

LAST MONTH'S ACTION ITEMS

- Anita and Don will talk to their son about setting up a generic email and phone account. **REPORT:** We now have an email and phone account for the meeting. The information will be sent out with the minutes. Please test it when you can, and if you do not get a response, use Don's email and phone call to report.
- Dianne Marshall will take the following to the Outreach Committee for discernment:
 - Friends Journal and Western Friend listings
 - The Union listing

REPORT: see attached, Outreach Committee report. There is ongoing discernment on what will be in the new committee job description starting in July and what will be managed by Ministry and Oversight.

- **NEW COMMITTEE JOB DESCRIPTIONS:** It was noted that the job descriptions will be very important as we develop the new committee structure. In the past, the committees have written their own job descriptions. How will we sort this out? M&O has started writing the descriptions and will be presenting them at the June Meeting for Business. The committees can then take those and revise them when they convene.
- Amy will ask Carl to make a list of recommendations and their costs for virtual meetings and bring it back to the May Meeting for Business. **REPORT:** The recommendation is to have our own Zoom account. This now goes to the Finance Committee, who has already considered the expense. Will we get our own account or just use Chamba's account at \$15 per month? It was noted that the Zoom technology can be useful beyond the pandemic, and that we will likely not be meeting in groups for a long time. Who will administer it? Website Coordinator? Communications person?

Minute 05.2020.01: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the annual expenditure for a Zoom account, and further appoints the Website Coordinator as the administrator of the Zoom account.

- Amy will send the completed lease to Anita and Don for signing. **PENDING.**
- The White Fragility Book Group will add a section to the State of the Meeting report and send it out for review. **COMPLETED.**

- Don and Anita will be reworking the State of the Meeting Report and the new draft will be sent to the Meeting members in anticipation of the May meeting for business. COMPLETED.
- Dianne will provide a link in the newsletter for people to read the State of the Meeting report. COMPLETED.

Minute 05.2020.02: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the State of the Meeting Report as published in the April newsletter.

- Ministry and Oversight will review the requests from the Pacific Yearly Meeting Youth Programs Coordinator, Quaker and Beyond Mutual Aid Network | Young Adult Friends/Elder Assistance Project. Our meeting is being asked to participate. There are specific requests being made. It was recommended that the Ministry and Oversight Committee review the requests.
1. *Review your MM's current support of your members and attenders.*
 2. *Pinpoint individuals in your community with specific needs, so that we can match them with friends who can be of assistance to them.*
 3. *Identify young adult friends with financial need and interest in perhaps joining us.*
 4. *Establish a contact from your MM, Worship Group or Quaker organization to stay in touch with us throughout the duration of this project. This might be someone from M&O.*
 5. *Consider a Meeting contribution to this effort, a request to members, or a fundraiser of some kind.*

REPORT: Anita McCormick is the contact person in our meeting. Do people need support? Are there young adults or others who may be unemployed in our meeting who need support or who can offer support? Are there any other actions our meeting needs to take? Please contact Anita.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Dorothy Henderson, clerk, gave the report, appended, with acknowledgements to the teachers who have been navigating the new technology. Our meeting's experiences are contributing to the Quarter and the Yearly planning for their children's programs as well.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Don McCormick, clerk, gave the report. There was an April session on race. There are no pending sessions at this time.

OUTREACH

Report appended. The committee is discerning the transition to Welcoming Committee in July.

NOMINATING

The slate is appended. The slate was edited and will come back for approval at the 6th Month Meeting for Business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stamp Project: Judy Hamilton is taking over the stamp project, which had been facilitated by Bob Barns. You can mail stamps to her or bring them to the meetinghouse. The stamps benefit the Right Sharing of World Resources.

College Park Quarterly Meeting (CPQM): The next quarterly meeting gathering will take place May 16 by video conference using Zoom. Pre-registration is required. To register, click [here](http://collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org) (collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org).

Pacific Yearly Meeting (PacYM): Pacific Yearly Meeting will be holding its Annual Session virtually from July 10 to 15. Some elements will be recorded and posted on the website prior to July 10th and other elements will be livestreamed and recorded. An ad hoc planning committee is in motion now working to bring it all together.

At the Representative Committee Meeting in early March we came to unity and approved funding for the Communications Committee to move ahead with a database that will allow much more communication throughout our Yearly Meeting. It will include directories that can be accessed for all Friends serving the YM and can also include monthly meeting directories. It will still require a directory person at the monthly meeting level to provide accurate information to the Communications Committee point people, but will allow for updates as they occur instead of yearly. I bring this to you at this time so you might all consider whether you would like to be in the early phase of this project. More queries will be coming from Com Com by next month for you to consider. Report given by Sandy Kewman.

Woolman at Sierra Friends Center report: Amy Cooke gave the report. Woolman was able to secure a loan through the SBA that will allow them to meet some expenses going forward. Camp is in question at this time, and all future programming has been placed on hold. As the director in charge of programming, Amy has been laid off. Marty Coleman-Hunt has been appointed as the Interim Executive Director. Chamba Cooke has been hired as the groundskeeper. Carl Sigmond and Chris Benfield have remained on staff, and camp staff may be able to come and work on campus projects if camp is cancelled outright. The CPFEA board is working to discern the way forward for the organization. Please hold them in the Light.

ACTION ITEMS:

- The completed rental agreement with Sierra Friends Center will be confirmed by Anita and Don before signing. Any changes will be reviewed.
- Don McCormick will convene the Spiritual Life Committee.

MINUTES WE ARE SEASONING (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 brought forward for seasoning.

Appreciation and Feedback: What went well? What could be improved?

- There was appreciation that we are using Zoom to keep us connected, and that the co-clerks are giving us tips for making the experience work better. We are all learning! The co-clerks are continuing to learn with us.
- It would be helpful if the co-clerks asked if there were questions after each report.
- When using Zoom, try not to be backlit - this makes seeing your face difficult.
- Appreciation for patience.
- The laundry on the line behind Chamba!
- Appreciation for Nominating and all their work.
- Appreciation was expressed for Amy's work at Woolman and her energy, time and commitment. We carry her in our hearts and prayers as she transitions in her life.
- It is wonderful to connect. It would be helpful to have some more pauses. The co-clerk also asked members to signal for pauses whenever they are needed.
- The co-clerks' levity is appreciated!
- Celebration for mail-in ballots was expressed.
- Appreciation for all mothers was expressed.

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 into Dianne Marshall by Tuesday, June 16, 2020, at 10 am. dmarshall@pacific.net

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully recorded by Amy Cooke, recording clerk.

APPENDICES: The following full reports are available by clicking this link.

1. **Outreach Committee Report**
2. **Children's Program Committee Report**
3. **GVFM PROPOSED SLATE COMMITTEES AND REPS 2020-2021**

QUERIES: Fifth Month ~ Harmony with Creation

It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world, that they were better studied and knowing in the Creation of it. For how could [they] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the Great Creator stare them in the face, in all and every part thereof? William Penn, *some fruits of solitude*, 1693

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

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

In our witness for the global environment, are we careful to consider justice and the well-being of the world's poorest people?

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

Do I consider the damage I might do to the Earth's vulnerable systems in choices I make of what I do, what I buy, and how I spend my time?

Does our way of life threaten the viability of life on Earth?

GVFM PROPOSED SLATE COMMITTEES AND REPS 2020-2021

COMMITTEES:

- **STEWARDSHIP:** Mary Starr, Gordon Starr, Reed Hamilton, Pat Phillips, Doug Hamm, Fosten Wilson (Treasurer, Ex-officio), Dianne Marshall (Librarian), Shera Banbury, Hailey Wilson, Judy Hamilton
- **SPIRIT/WITNESS:** Gordon Starr, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Bishop, Don McCormick (ADD: Anita McCormick)

- **WELCOME:** Dianne Marshall, Hilary Ellis-Lavigne, Karen Olson, Kathy McCreary (ADD: Amy Cooke)
- **CHILDREN’S PROGRAM:** Karen Olson, Judy Hamilton, Dorothy Henderson, Gordon Bishop, Chamba Cooke, Anita McCormick, Doug Hamm

OFFICERS	REPRESENTATIVES
Clerk: Don and Anita McCormick	AFSC: Dean Olson
Communications Coordinator: Pat Phillips	College Park Quarterly: (ADD: Gordon Starr
Directory Coordinator: Nancy Anderson	FASE: Anita McCormick
Librarian: Dianne Marshall	FCL-CA: Amanda Wilcox
Mail Clerk: Dean Olson	FCNL: <i>Vacant</i>
Newsletter Editor: Dianne Marshall	FGC Liaison: <i>Vacant</i>
Newsletter Distribution: Pat Phillips	PYM Observer: <i>Vacant</i>
Newsletter Reader: <i>Vacant</i>	PYM: (ADD Don McCormick)
Placer County Worship Group: Stuart Smith	Quaker Center: Hilary Ellis-Lavigne
Recorder: Nancy Anderson	QUNO: Shera Banbury
Recording Clerk: Amy Cooke	Right Sharing of World Resources: Shera Banbury
Treasurer: Fosten Wilson	Sierra Friends Center: Dean Olson
Website Maintenance: Amy Cooke	InterFaith Nevada County: Dianne Marshall



Kevan Insko, FCLCA

FCLCA hopes you are doing well. There's a lot going on to support those affected by the COVID-19 crisis and FCLCA is supporting a number of important efforts. **We need you!!** Please share this information with your friends, Meeting members and others you think might be interested. There's a lot we can do right now!

We've posted three action alerts on our Action Center at <https://cqcengage.com/fclca/home>- please sign and share:

1. [Add your name in support of a #SafetyNet4All - provide immediate support to undocumented workers in California](#)
2. [Sign the petition to add all California Seniors to Medi-Cal regardless of immigration status now](#)
3. [Tell legislators and the governor to include all income eligible tax-filers in the CA Earned Income Tax Credit and Young Child Tax Credit, including immigrants who work with Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers](#)

Thank you and stay well!

Announcements & Quick Links

Pacific Yearly Meeting

BREAKING NEWS:

ANNUAL SESSION 2020: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Pacific Yearly Meeting's Annual Gathering for 2020, previously scheduled for July 10-15 at Walker Creek Ranch, will instead be held "virtually" (i.e. online) over a longer period of time over the summer. See the [Clerk's Announcement](#) for further information as plans develop.

REQUEST FOR MONTHLY MEETINGS to DISCERN and PROVIDE FEEDBACK by June 30, 2020, on a draft revision of the section of Faith & Practice on "Death in the Meeting". See [this Announcement](#) for details.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- During this period of "social distancing" we invite you to consider the many opportunities for **online worship** listed at westernfriend.org. Among these is our own **PYM WEEKLY ONLINE MEETING FOR WORSHIP**, every Wednesday evening, 7:00-7:30 pm.
- **ANNUAL SESSION 2020** will **NOT** take place **July 10-15, 2020**, at Walker Creek Ranch, near Petaluma, CA. Instead it **will** take place through online programs over a longer period over the summer.
 - [Clerk's Call to Annual Session 2020](#) (the original call)
 - [Announcement about AS 2020 going online](#)
- **APPLICATION DEADLINE** June 20 for grants from the [Youth Programs Fund](#) of the Bob Vogel Endowment.
- See the **PYM CALENDAR PAGE** for additional PYM-related **EVENTS**, including *youth and intergenerational events*.

ANNUAL GATHERING GOES ONLINE!

*Sink Down to the Seed
Sown in the Heart*



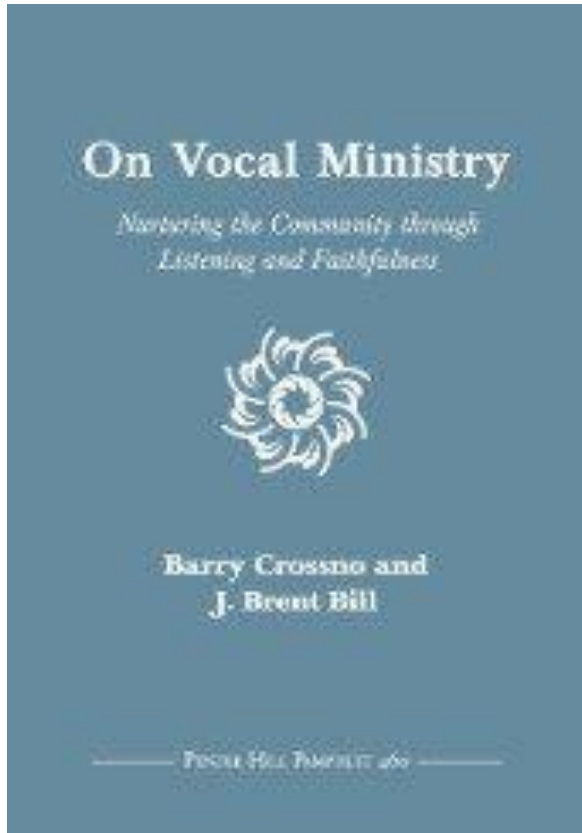
Sink Down to the Seed Sown in the Heart, the **2020 virtual Gathering**, will be **June 28 - July 4**, and will offer a rich schedule of events online. **Registration will open late May.**

Come join us online for a new experience! [Schedule at a Glance](#)

- We will gather in worship seeking the spirit, listen to Evening Program speakers and find new ways to be in community with one another. There will be Pre-Gathering retreats, workshops, Adult Young Friends, High School, and Junior Gathering programs.
- **Worship and Worship Sharing occurring now**
FGC's Saturday night worship will continue, and there are also worship sharing groups now available.

- **Thank you** to those who filled out the survey. It reaffirmed the FGC community's desire to meet virtually this summer and has offered insights as to how we might best share out time together online.

In love and service, Ruth Reber, Conference Coordinator



On Vocal Ministry: Nurturing the Community through Listening and Faithfulness

By Barry Crossno and J. Brent Bill
Pendle Hill Pamphlet #460 (2019)

Synopsis

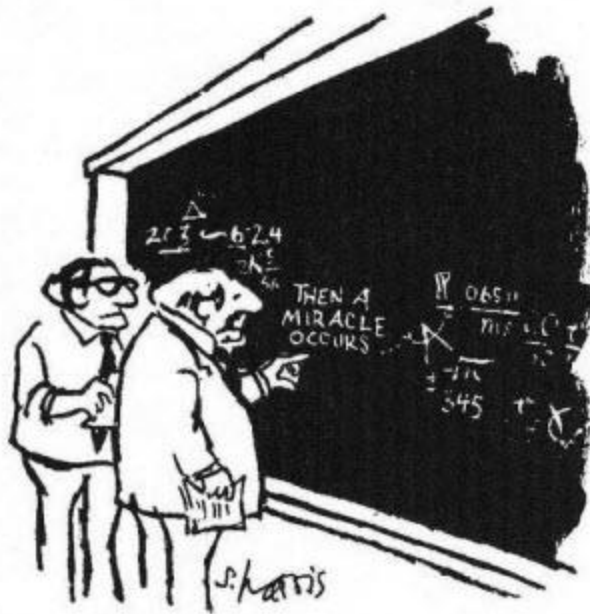
Barry Crossno and J. Brent Bill describe in fresh language some of the traditional ways to tell if you're being used by the Spirit to minister to the meeting or if you're in the grip of a human desire to speak. The authors include a clear list of queries to ask yourself before standing up. What is new and not at all traditional are the examples that contrast prophetic ministry with partisan political speech, and a section on how to address racist and homophobic messages delivered during worship. A diagram lays out in visual form the steps for discerning whether to speak. Discussion questions are also included.

GVFM has a permanent email address & phone #



Grass Valley Friends Meeting now has a permanent email address and phone number. The email address is grassvalleyfriendsmeeting@gmail.com. The phone number is **(530) 648-0190**. Emails and phone calls are forwarded to Don McCormick. This email address and phone number can be passed on to the next clerk when Anita and Don step down.

If you feel inspired, send an email or give the phone number a call so they can be tested. If you don't get a response in 48 hours, then let Don know. You can reach him at donmccormick2@gmail.com or (310) 597-9469.



"I think you should be more explicit here in step two."

Source: S.Harris

Current Covid-19 Challenges

Are you or your family particularly set back by sheltering-in-place demands? Are you experiencing financial need or other specific needs at this time? Would support make a vital difference? Are you in a place to offer support?

Please contact Anita McCormick directly if your answer is "yes" to any of these questions.

NOTE from GVFM Treasurer, Fosten Wilson:

- During this time of pandemic, the financial challenges many face are recognized. The Meeting continues to contribute to the Pacific Yearly Meeting *Help Fund*, and is paying monthly rent to Sierra Friends Center. Your contributions allow us to stay current. *Please donate either by mail or using our "GIVE" button as seen below to donate online.* All contributions to Grass Valley Friends Meeting -- whether money, service, &/or prayer – are deeply appreciated.

GIVE

(LIVE LINK)

2020 Report on the State of Grass Valley Friends Meeting

This report is available in its entirety on the [GVFM website](#). You will find it posted after the April 12, 2020, Treasurer's Report.

...a little fiction would be good for the times we're living in!

The Candy Alien's Queen

- Jean: Story teller, sweet, friendly, curious, mischievous, musical, wavy brown hair, light skin
 - Sarah: Jean's best friend, funny, socially awkward, mischievous; black hair, pale complexion.
 - Bob: King advisor, smart, funny, fun to be around; Candy Alien; almost always holding an over-size lollipop.
 - The King: Great king, loves myths, very sweet with other people; Candy Alien; pinkish skin tone; holds giant cotton candy as a scepter
-

About five years ago, something peculiar happened. On a cloudy summer day, a little rocket landed in my backyard. My friend, Sarah, and I were very curious about it.

Before we could wonder if we should check it out, a little creature came out and asked “Are you Jean?” looking at me. I wondered how it knew my name.”My name is Bob and I am from a planet called *Albion*. I need you to come with me.” he said.

I asked if Sarah could come and he nodded. Sarah and I climbed inside the little rocket.

I gasped in surprise. The inside was completely made of candy. “Yes it is candy. That is what our planet is made of.” Bob explained.

In a few hours we arrived on *Albion*. It looked like candy. Bob took us to the king. He bowed down and said, “The queen is here.” I was confused. “That means you, Jean.” Bob said.

“Wai..... How?” asked.

“You are in the future. When you were 28 years old you discovered us. You were sweet and kind. Then you had to return to Earth. We decided that when you returned that we'd make you queen.” the king explained.

“Oh! I have an idea. I can have Bob bring me back and forth between worlds. I have to be on Earth sometimes. How does that sound?” I replied.

“ Wonderful idea, Your Majesty!” Bob exclaimed.

I was crowned queen and Sarah princess. Bob brought us home. I was queen ever since. I was always home just before dinner!

Grass Valley Friends Meeting (GVFM) Contact Information (6-9-19):

Office Holders:

- **Clerk of the Meeting:** Don McCormick (310-597-9469 donmccormick2@gmail.com) and Anita McCormick (310-993-6821, anita@webstop.com)
- **Directory Clerk:** Sandy Kewman (530) 272-3736 srosekewman@gmail.com
- **Email Tree Distributor:** Pat Phillips 530-913-1338 pephillips1949@gmail.com
- **Hospitality House:** Beth Kemplin beth.kemplin@victor.org 530-205-9608 and Sharon Davisson sharondavisson42@gmail.com 530-265-6287
- **Librarian:** Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net, 530-274-1922
- **Mail Clerk:** VACANT
- **Newsletter Distribution:** Ruth Charity Bryson
- **Newsletter Editor:** Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net (530) 274-1922
- **Placer County Worship Group:** Stuart Smith sewsmitharts@yahoo.com 916-663-3539
- **Recorder:** Pat Phillips patphillips49@yahoo.com, 913-1338
- **Recording Clerk:** Amy Cooke, amyliette@gmail.com
- **Sierra Friends Center:** (530) 273-3183 info@woolman.org
- **Treasurer:** Fosten Wilson, (530) 265-6533, fostenw@yahoo.com
- **Website Maintenance:** Amy Cooke, amyliette@gmail.com

Committees:

- **Buildings and Grounds:** Gordon Starr, Reed Hamilton, Doug Hamm, Pat Phillips
- **Finance Committee:** Mary Starr, Don Kewman, Reed Hamilton, Fosten Wilson, Treasurer, Ex Officio member
- **Hospitality Committee:** Beth Kemplin, Kathy McQueery, Peggy Baldwin
- **Intergenerational Education Committee:** Judy Hamilton, <Judywestonhamilton@gmail.com>, Karen Olson (Resource), Anita McCormick, Sandy Kewman (sub)
- **Library Committee:** Shera Banbury, Hailey Wilson, Dianne Marshall (ex-officio/Librarian)
- **Ministry and Oversight Committee:** Genevieve Buckley, Gordon Bishop, Judy Hamilton, Mary Starr, Anita McCormick, Don McCormick
- **Nominating Committee:** Pat Phillips, Dave Kemplin, Doug Hamm, Karen Olsen
- **Outreach Committee:** Gordon Starr, Sharon Davisson, Gordon Bishop, Hilary Ellis-Lavigne, and Dianne Marshall
- **Peace and Social Justice Committee:** Dean Olson, Karen Olson, Reed Hamilton, Beth Kemplin
- **Spiritual Life Committee:** Gordon Starr, Sandy Kewman, Amy Cooke, Don McCormick

Reminder:

This information is updated as of 6/9/19.

Committee Clerks to be announced.

**Newsletter items for the 5th month issue are due
Tuesday, May 12, 2020 by 10:00 a.m.**

No PDFs and no formatting, please.

Grass Valley Friends Meeting

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

