

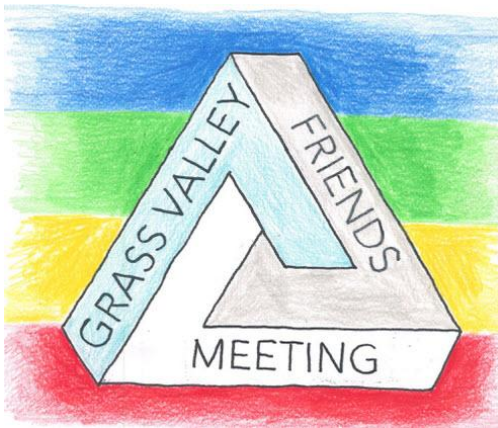
**GRASS VALLEY  
FRIENDS MEETING**

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

13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA 95959  
Yulica Community, off Jones Bar Road,  
Nevada City, CA 95959

Website: [www.grassvalleyfriends.org](http://www.grassvalleyfriends.org)

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



**First Days: 9:00am Singing at the Meeting House (in-person and zoom)  
10:00 am Silent Meeting for Worship (in-person and zoom)  
To receive the zoom link, [grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com](mailto:grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com).**

**Newsletter, Third Month, 2025**

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**MEETING CALENDAR**

*First Sunday*

- Program to be announced.

*Second Sunday*

- Hybrid Silent Meeting for Worship Meeting, Potluck and for Worship on the Occasion of Business.

*Third Sunday*

- Program to be announced.

*Fourth Sunday*

- Spiritual Life

*Fifth Sunday*

- On Fifth Sundays we hold a Family Meeting for Worship. *Children and adults gather and spend 20 minutes in storytelling, 20 minutes in singing and 20 minutes in silent worship.*

- ✚ 1st First Day: Bible Story and Song
- ✚ 2<sup>nd</sup> First Day: A Story and a Craft or Activity

- ✚ 4<sup>th</sup> First Day: A Creative, Topical Curriculum
- ✚ 5<sup>th</sup> First Day: Family Worship (a story, singing and silent worship)

✚ 3<sup>rd</sup> First Day: A Story plus Time for Silent  
Worship

✚ [Online Worship: Wednesday evenings, 7:00-  
7:30 pm](#)

## HAPPENING NOW

- Saturday, March 15, 2025: *Workday* - See page 11 for details.
- Wednesday, March 19, 2025: QEW Action Hour - See page 9 for details.

## HAPPENING LATER

- April 13, 2025: Meeting for Worship for Business, 11:30a.m
- April 26, 2025, Carol Fuller Memorial Service – Details coming by email
- April 25-27, 2025: College Park Quarterly Meeting – see page 9 for details

## 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  
**QEW:** Quaker Earth Witness

**QUNO:** Quaker United Nations Office  
**FASE:** Friends Association for Services to the Elderly  
**CPQM:** College Park Quarterly Meeting  
**RSWR:** Right Sharing of World Resource  
**UwN:** Unity with Nature

**Query:** Friends practice of examining our souls and seeking clarity. These questions & exercises help to give time to seek truth about us and our spiritual condition and to tap into Divine insight.

**Threshing Session:** A meeting at a separate time specifically not for decision-making; normal practices of a Quaker meeting for business are relaxed so that Friends may speak more than once to an issue, speak to a point just made, or ask a question of a previous speaker.

## MINUTES & RECORD: Meeting for Worship for Business, Sunday, March 9, 2025

We met in a hybrid meeting in person at the meetinghouse and on Zoom.

**Present:** Dorothy Henderson, clerk; Jennifer Smith, recording clerk; Stuart Smith, Amy Cooke, Chamba Cooke, Judy Hamilton, Nora Lisette, Juniper Lisette, Keith Runyan, Doug Hamm, Reed Hamilton, Dean Olson, Lo Hamm, Don McCormick, Kathy McCreery, Dianne Marshall, Mary Starr, Gordon Starr, elder to the clerk; Sharon Davisson, & Peter ORourke

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

### Clerks' Remarks and Query

- We call this gathering our Meeting for Worship for Business. We think of the word Meeting as our beloved community. We think of worship as seeking Spirit's will (or other preferred title) and

seeking beyond. We often think of the word business in a negative context. But here we are putting business into practice.

- Query: How do you prepare yourself to come together and put those three words together: meeting/community, worship/seeking, and business both Quaker and in the world?
- Friends spoke out of the silence:
  - Quakers set out to do good and end up doing well. We have a history of successful business people in our Quaker world. If our community is doing things that are trustworthy, we will end up doing well.
  - Can we have a meeting for worship as one person? Yes. We often think of community as part of other human beings. But, we are a part of nature. We are a part of this community and part of the greater communities around us.
  - When we are in Meeting for Worship, we are opening ourselves to find what the true order of things is, to be guided by Spirit. Meeting for Worship for Business is to be guided by Spirit to find our actions in the world.
  - One member finds it difficult to combine worship and business. Often strong feelings can get involved. Making our business meetings more worshipful helps keep these things in perspective and allows us to take care of the business at hand.
  - Another Friend expressed difficulty with strong opinions during Meeting for Worship for Business. He shared that then in community, when we are looking for direction, when you put it forth into the business meeting, it is time for you to let go and let God deal with it through the community.
  - It's good to worship, but it's better to take action, especially when you know why you're doing it. The need is urgent and we feel it. This is why we bring our meeting, worship, and business together.
  - Growing up Quaker you do not get a lot of instruction on what it means to be a Quaker. I always had an understanding that Meeting for Worship for Business is when we practice being Quakers, and when we put our beliefs into action. When we are gathered together, the knowing becomes greater. The point is practicing. In all of the business of our lives, and in Meeting for Worship for Business, we strive to come from that place of Spirit.
  - Love is worship.
  - Make sure we have a positive vision of what we're fighting and working for. I seek a world where all life is sacrament. Where what we do, say, think, and feel is honored and respected. This Friend expressed gratitude for the circle and community we are sitting in today. I didn't prepare, I was prepared.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

**Spirit and Witness:** Amy Cooke (2024-2027), Stuart Smith (2023-2026), Reed Hamilton (2022-2025), Sharon Davisson (2022-2025), Dean Olson (2023-2026), Dorothy Henderson (ex-officio, GVFM Clerk)

Amy Cooke gave the report, appended.

- How are love and truth alive and moving among us? Friends spoke out of the silence:
  - In this Meeting, Truth is moving through me in a “jerky” fashion. This Friend misheard the query, and though we were asked what is a “lie” in this Meeting. It's all part of the fun.
  - Another Friend expressed a leading and a question of whether we should create a Minute

representing this meeting to take to the gathering with our local representative, Kevin Kiley, tomorrow.

- Paris Friends Meeting has been holding a circle with other groups in the middle of Paris standing silently. This Friend had a vision of many different circles across the world and the oneness of all people. She has wondered what it would be like to hold a circle like that in this community. A circle of silence.
- Another Friend has been questioning the difference between her Buddhist past and her Quaker present. She has been mourning our species desire to do harm. When we are in community, I can feel our heartbeat and images going around our circle. We feed and care for one another. There is a joy when we come to unity.
- Another Friend shared a spiritual experience while sitting in Quaker meeting where she experienced a vision during the silence. She saw all the members with a glowing flower in the place of their hearts, and these hearts unfold like flowers before Spirit, each flower connected to a beam of light, and all beams of light connected to one source in the ceiling. We are all different, but when unified, we are all connected.
- As living matter, we integrate the physical and the spiritual. It's where Spirit and Matter meet. As we move into action, whether it's creating a Minute, a circle of silence, or other matters we are working on, this is where Spirit and matter meet.
- We have had a member express a desire to create a minute from the whole meeting. Should we go forward and create a Minute as a meeting, or send this back to Spirit and Witness to clarify.
- Several Friends would like to add a Minute to the end of this agenda so it can go to the office of our representative tomorrow. This way we have time to sit with this question to season during our Meeting for Worship for Business.
- What issue, of the many political issues facing us, do we want to speak to? Is it the Inflation Reduction Act? Is there something else we want to address?
- Another Friend shared about how to talk with someone who has a different opinion, and how to persuade them effectively. If people listen to you, they are more likely to not be defensive. Do we understand Rep. Kiley's position? What is our purpose in speaking to him?
- It is important for us to go into a potentially hostile meeting tomorrow and represent ourselves in the way we want to show ourselves to the world. We should speak to this representative, who is being bullied by the public, as an individual who could be a potential ally.
- Could there be something else, other than a Minute, that could be the outcome?
- The 2025 State of the Meeting Report will be sent out over the email tree and be posted on our website. If there are concerns about the report, Friends can reply to Judy over email and it will be sent on to the Clerk and Spirit and Witness.

**MINUTE (Pending until 4th Month): Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the 2025 State of the Meeting report, appended.**

**MINUTE 2025.03.01: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the following change to the Spirit and Witness job description. One paragraph of the Spirit and Witness job description has read: "Provide ongoing coordination and care of the relationship between Grass Valley Friends Meeting, College Park Friends Educational Association (CPFEA) and Sierra Friends Center (SFC)." We replace that language with: "Provide ongoing care of the relationship between Grass Valley Friends Meeting, the California Heritage: Indigenous Research Project (CHIRP), and the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan tribe."**

**Stewardship: Gordon Starr, Pat Phillips, Reed Hamilton, David Bowman. Dianne Marshall (ex-officio,**

Newsletter editor), Mary Starr (ex-officio, Treasurer), Don McCormick (ex-officio, Librarian), Hailey Wilson (ex-officio Tech Support).

Gordon Starr gave the report, appended.

- There were questions about the rug, and if we need to discuss this, or if Stewardship is recommending it be replaced. Stewardship is recommending that the rug should be replaced.
  - Stewardship will bring potential replacement options forward in the future.
  - Do we need to discuss this with CHIRP as our landlords? They use this space also. We are not clear that this rug belongs to us. Dorothy will contact CHIRP about the rug.
  - It was clarified that this rug actually belongs to our Meeting and was listed among our belongings and placed with our belongings during the transition.
  - There was a concern about not getting rid of the rug until there is a replacement available. The rug helps with controlling acoustics in the room.
  - Dean has offered to take the old rug in the future, if needed.
  - Yes, we agree that Stewardship can go forward with replacing the rug, pending approval from CHIRP.
  - It was recommended that the Stewardship Committee be the only group involved in the aesthetic choice of the rug, not the entire meeting. They will still need to bring the cost of the rug forward to the meeting as a whole. If Friends have concerns, express them to Stewardship.
- There was a clarification about the increase in the dues. Pacific Yearly Meeting has changed their payment structure from pay-as-you-can, to an actual amount because the previous method was not working.
  - It was requested that in the future we do not use the phrase “Library Committee” and instead use the phrase “library position sharing.”

**MINUTE 2025.03.02: Grass Valley Friends Meeting requests that the Stewardship committee bring a recommended expenditure to replace the rug in the meetinghouse to Meeting for Worship for Business for approval. We delegate the removal and replacement of the rug to the committee, with our blessing.**

**Welcome:** Peter O’Rourke (Website and Facebook coordinator), Kathy McCreery, Don McCormick, Pat Phillips, Cheryl Hendrickson, Cindy Bliss, Lo Hamm, Judy Hamilton (ex-officio email coordinator), Nancy Anderson (ex-officio directory clerk).

Jennifer Smith read the report, appended.

**Nominating Committee: (terms as noted), Gordon Starr: 2022-2024, Judy Hamilton: 2022-2024, Dean Olson 2023-2025, fosten wilson 2024-2026.**

No report was given.

**MINUTE 2025.03.03: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves Don McCormick, Judy Hamilton, and Kathy McCreery for a shared position of Librarian.**

**Children's Program: Keely McDonald,** Doug Hamm, Judy Hamilton, Dean Olson, Reed Hamilton, Don McCormick, David Cowan, Lo Hamm.

Judy Hamilton gave the report.

#### OFFICER REPORTS and REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

**Treasurer:** No report given.

**Pacific Yearly Meeting:** Doug Hamm gave the report.

**College Park Quarterly Meeting:** No report given.

**Interfaith Nevada County:** Dianne Marshall gave the report.

#### Sharings from the wider Quaker world:

- The new Paris, France meeting house is open. The Cooke's held a workshop there.
- Guilford College, a Quaker College, is under financial duress and is hitting the enrollment cliff. They still have accreditation this year, but it is unclear if they will be able to maintain that in the future. They are looking for ways to stabilize their finances.
- College Park Quarterly Meeting will be held April 25 - 27 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center.
- There is a Quaker Call to Action on March 30th. More info soon.

#### Revisiting the Concern from earlier about the Inflation Reduction Act, and creating a Minute for our meeting.

- We need to revisit the request for a Minute earlier in the meeting.
  - We have a critical opportunity. The actions of our representative Kevin Kiley will affect millions of lives going forward, especially considering the Earth and our stewardship going forward, with the Inflation Reduction Act.
  - Quaker Earthcare Witness has approved the protection of the Inflation Reduction Act and will have a Quaker Call to Action on this soon.
  - We are unsure whether a Minute or individuals showing up or writing letters will be more weighty on this issue.
  - If we write a Minute, it will be added to the presentation. It does not replace the letters and showing up.
  - Do we have a minute arising from us today on this issue?
  - Is Keith able to craft a Minute for us, since he is the best versed in this issue? He is willing to craft language for this.
  - Friends feel led that we are feeling moved to focus on this issue moving forward, but a minute is not needed at this moment. There is more work to be done on this in the future.
  - One Friend suggested that we include other faith groups to create a larger collective action.
  - Do we want to empower Keith Runyan to be our representative of the Meeting to go forward and speak to Kevin Kiley about this issue tomorrow?

**MINUTE 2025.03.04: Grass Valley Friends Meeting reached unanimity to empower Kieth Runyan to speak on our behalf to Kevin Kiley and his representatives, tomorrow, March 10th, on the preservation of the Inflation Reduction Act.**

#### CLERK'S REMARKS:

- We brought something important into our community and worked with it. The world entered here and we have done our business in the spirit of worship and community.

## ITEMS SEASONING or CARRIED OVER

**MINUTE (Pending until 4th Month): Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the 2025 State of the Meeting report, appended.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **College Park Quarterly Meeting:** The Spring meeting of College Park Quarterly Meeting will be at [Ben Lomond Quaker Center](#) the weekend of **April 25-27, 2025**.
- A **memorial** for Carol Fuller will be on Saturday, **April 26**.
- **Facebook:** please follow the Grass Valley Friends Meeting page, or join the Facebook Grass Valley Friends Meeting group. If you share a post from the page, your friends will see it, and it helps our visibility. Follow this [link](#).
- The **2023-2024 PacYM General Directory**. The directory is now available. The Directory is for use by members and attenders of monthly meetings and worship groups within Pacific Yearly Meeting and by Friends serving on Pacific Yearly Meeting committees. It is not to be shared beyond this community. Dorothy and Don have the new password for the PacYM Directory.
- **Carl Magruder:** You can follow Carl's healing journey on the CaringBridge.org website [HERE](#). Friends have also set up a daily Meeting for Healing from 7:30 to 8 am (Pacific) on Zoom [here](#) or contact Amy Cooke at amyliette@gmail.com for the link.
- **Contributions to Grass Valley Friends Meeting** are gratefully accepted. You can give by mailing a check to Mary Starr or through Tithely on the website or our newsletter.

## READING OF THE RECORD AND MINUTES

The record and the minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

If you are giving a report to GVFM, please send the actual report to the recording clerk at [jenniferjksmith@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferjksmith@gmail.com) **THE WEDNESDAY BEFORE MEETING FOR BUSINESS** and share with both Dorothy and Jennifer.

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

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully recorded by Jennifer Smith, recording clerk.

## APPENDICES:

- 1. Spirit and Witness Committee report**
  - a. State of the Meeting Report
  - b. Programs Subcommittee Report
  - c. Spring Meeting of the Clerks Report
- 2. Stewardship Committee report**
- 3. Welcome Committee report**
- 4. Nominating Committee report**
- 5. Children's Committee report**
- 6. Treasurer's Report**
- 7. Pacific Yearly Meeting report**
- 8. Interfaith Nevada County report**

"When I allow myself to become angry [here in Iraq], I disconnect from God and connect with the evil force that empowers fighting. When I allow myself to become fearful, I disconnect from God and connect with the evil force that encourages flight...'Stand firm against evil' (Matthew 5:39) seems to be the guidance of Jesus and Gandhi in order to stay connected with God. I struggle to stand firm but I'm willing to keep working at it."  
-from "Tom Fox Was My Friend. Yours, too," Chuck Fager, ed., 2006



## **Nisenan Land Acknowledgment**

*We acknowledge the Nisenan people are still here among us today, though they are nearly invisible, and their story continues to be excluded from history.*

*We understand we are on Nisenan land that was never ceded, and the original tribal families have yet to recover from the near genocide of their people.*

*As a resident or visitor in Nisenan land, we support the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan tribe in efforts to stabilize their people as well as the campaign to restore tribal sovereignty through federal recognition.*

## **Queries and Advices – Third Month ~ Meeting for Worship**

The heart of the Religious Society of Friends is the Meeting for Worship. In direct communion with God, we offer ourselves for God's will. Our daily lives are linked with the Meeting for Worship, the Meeting for Worship with our daily lives.

Come regularly to Meeting for Worship, even when you are angry, tired, or spiritually cold. Bring your joys and your hurts, and the needs of other people. Accept and support each other in the community where God dwells among us. As you do so, you may find the grace of prayer.

At times the Spirit may prompt you to speak in Meeting. Wait patiently to know that the sense and the time are right. When you are sure, have confidence that the words will be given to you. Listen to the ministry of others with an open spirit. If it is not God's word for you, it may be for others. After a message has been given, allow time to ponder its meaning and to let the Meeting return to silent worship. In speech and in silence, each person contributes to the Meeting.

*Do I come to Meeting with heart and mind prepared for worship?*

*In both silent and vocal ministry, do I respond to the leadings of the Holy Spirit, without pre-arrangement and in simplicity and truth?*

*Am I careful not to speak at undue length or beyond personal spiritual experience?*

*Do we meet in expectant waiting for the promptings of the Divine Spirit?*

*Are we drawn together in a living silence by the power of God in our midst?*



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

- Giving is easy! Click on the Give button above or go to [grassvalleyfriends.org](http://grassvalleyfriends.org) and click on "GIVE" You'll go to a secure site for donations. Monthly contributions are very important. *You may now change the dollar amount of your gift without making a new donation request!*
- Or mail your donation to **Mary Starr Treasurer, 500 Butler Street, CA 95945.**  
**Thank you.**



## [State of the Meeting Report](#)

Do take a few moments to review the State of the Meeting Report that was prepared February 16, 2025. You will find it in full at the link in the “State of the Meeting Report” above. This report is being seasoned this month and will be approved at next month's Meeting for Worship's Business Meeting on April 13th. If you have any comments, please email them to [grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com](mailto:grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com). Please get your comments in by April 10, 2025. *Thank you!*

## **COLLEGE PARK QUARTERLY MEETING**

The Spring meeting of College Park Quarterly Meeting will be at [Ben Lomond Quaker Center](#) the weekend of April 25-27, 2025.

The 257th session of College Park Quarterly Meeting (hybrid). CPQM's annual Spring gathering at Quaker Center is amazing. Children, young people and adults alike are invited to come celebrate our regional Friends' community. Learn more and register at [www.collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org](http://www.collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org).

Useful forms:

- [CPQM Tuition Assistance](#)
- [CPQM Teen Program Handbook](#)
- [Teen Program Packing List](#)
- [Minor Medical and Consent to Participate Form](#)



By Keith Runyan, QEW General Secretary, Member of Grass Valley Friends Meeting

We've just made a HUGE decision: Protecting the Inflation Reduction Act is now a top strategic focus for Quaker Earthcare Witness this year. Why? Because the IRA isn't just a bill – **it is the largest investment in climate change mitigation and adaptation in U.S. history**, which could save countless lives.

The new administration has openly stated its plans to rescind IRA funding and roll back clean energy investments. However, with a 216-215 Republican majority, the House is hanging by a thread to keep these protections. In August 2024, 18 congressional Republicans [signed a letter](#) recognizing the importance of preserving IRA tax credits. This bipartisan crack offers strategic advocacy opportunities—an opportunity QEW is uniquely equipped to seize. This is a moral and spiritual imperative, and we're not wasting a second. We're already making waves! We've been:

- Unearthing crucial data to pinpoint where the IRA is making the biggest impact.
- Joining together with FCNL to lobby Congress. [You can write your congress person with FCNL here!](#)
- Supercharging our QuakerEarth Action Map to amplify our stories.

But we're just getting started! We need your help to advocate for the IRA.

**Join our IRA Action Hour**

Wednesday, March 19th at 1 pm Eastern/10 am Pacific

Join QEW for an urgent, action-driven hour where we'll break down what is happening, identify key swing districts, and take action together.

[Register Here](#)

Our strategy this year includes:

- District-Level Advocacy Tools
- The QuakerEarth Action Map
- A Coordinated, Faith-Driven Approach

Our goal is to empower Friends and local communities to advocate effectively and decisively. [Explore QEW's IRA Plan and learn how you can get involved mobilizing Friends in key districts to protect these investments.](#)

Dear Friends,

For those who are able to attend this morning (3/10/25) meeting with the staff person for Kevin Kiley, we are invited to arrive at the Rood Center early, 9:40 am so that we can join in 15 minutes of worship before entering the building. We will meet in front of the Rood center and move to a quiet spot for our circle. Please see below the minute that was passed in our Meeting for Worship for Business yesterday.

With love, Dorothy

**MINUTE 2025.03.04: Grass Valley Friends Meeting reached unanimity to empower Keith Runyan to speak on our behalf to Kevin Kiley and his representatives, tomorrow, March 10th, on the preservation of the Inflation Reduction Act.**

### Nonviolence Commitment Statement

Provided by Dorothy Henderson

- To prepare for our nonviolent actions by meditating on the lives, words, and deeds of women and men of nonviolence.
- To refuse to insult our opponents.
- To refuse to retaliate if injured.
- To share our truth with clarity.
- To listen with our hearts fully present and alert.
- To remember that we focus on ( ) as a concrete instance of a global system-transformation and conversion which must begin with our own lives.
- To acknowledge our own complicity and to claim our personal responsibility for \_\_\_\_\_.
- To remain, especially in action which is firm and strong, always humble and gentle, never self-righteous.
- To be open and respectful of one another, friend or opponent, always observing simple courtesy in conversation.
- To refrain from violence of hand, heart, or speech.

- To offer our actions as substance for our words, and our lives in service to our brothers and sisters.
- To sustain this discipline through all its consequences, even under the legal violence of the state.

## News From Ben Lomond Quaker Center

Dear friends,

Greetings to all from the beautiful, chilly winter mornings here on Ben Lomond Mountain - and the warm, sunny days. The year has had a busy start. As our days and weeks fill up quickly with the work of caring for Quaker Center - planning, plumbing, pruning, hosting, welcoming, cleaning, hiring, budgeting, and attending lots of meetings - we keep our eyes on Quaker Center's mission - to provide meaningful Friends' programming that nurtures spiritual growth for Quakers and all seekers. We hope that our upcoming program calendar reflects these wishes.

We're excited about Will Meecham's upcoming program, Inner Life, Inner Light, and looking forward to hosting an early Spring Quarterly this year.

*Thank you friends. With love, the Quaker Center team*

### **WORK DAY: March 15, 2025**

(weather permitting) **RAIN DATE: March 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**9:00a.m.**

***Bring your lunch, water and dessert will be provided.***

We will work on prepping tomato pots and other garden chores.

Please RSVP by email: Kathy McCreery [fwkm@protonmail.com](mailto:fwkm@protonmail.com) or calling 530-265-6533

### *upcoming programs:*

#### \*Inner Life, Inner Light

in person - March 21-23, 2025

#### \*The Meeting for Worship

an online program

Wednesdays in April, (Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23)

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Pacific

#### \*College Park Quarterly Meeting

Spring Session

hybrid (in person and online), April 25-27, 2025

*registration opening soon*

#### \*Quaker Practice and Science Learning

in person - May 16-18, 2025

*registration opening soon*

#### Quaker Center Summer Camps

in person

June 15-21 (rising 5th to 7th graders)

June 22-29 (rising 8th to 10th graders)



## News from Pendle Hill

March 2025



### *Prayer of a Little Brother*

Under the dim light of my lamp  
when the sun barely appears on the horizon,  
I wait for your light.  
I feel grateful for everything  
but I confess that so many things overwhelm me.  
Sometimes, I feel I don't have the strength enough to  
walk this path  
but I know that I am not going alone  
and that gives me courage.  
My heart searches for you  
confident that you have already found me.  
Nourish my poor faith  
so that I can see you, love you, and serve you without  
reservation,  
even in times when you seem to be absent.  
May I embody your love and your justice  
in the ways I show up in the world.  
May I be humble and grateful  
as I welcome and embrace with courage the  
possibilities of this day.  
Francisco

### **We're Hiring!**

If you or someone you know would be interested in  
joining Pendle Hill's vibrant staff community, please  
submit your applications and share widely!

[Guest Services Associate](#)

## Upcoming Events



[March First Monday Lecture](#) - Hybrid: Mar 3  
"Hope and Rest in Challenging Times" with Peter  
Blood

[The Refuge of Not-Knowing](#) - On Campus: Mar 16-  
23

A seven-day mindfulness meditation retreat with  
Mary Grace Orr, Anne Briggs, and Rebecca  
Kronlage

[March Reading Group](#) - Online: Mar 18  
Worship Sharing on *Walking with the Bible* PHP  
#474

[Nothing in the Way of Beauty Screening and  
Discussion](#) - Hybrid: Mar 31

Film screening and interactive discussion with  
director Sue Schardt and featured artists Chelsea,  
tina, and Phoebe

[With The Spring Term, Primitive Quakerism  
Revived](#) - Hybrid: Tuesdays, Apr 1-29

A weekly seminar series with Peter Blood

[With The Spring Term, The Right Time to Change](#) -  
On Campus: Apr 7, 9, 11

A course to investigate our deeply held beliefs with  
Dwight Dunston

[With The Spring Term, Journey Inward, Journey  
Outward](#) - On Campus: Apr 21, 23, 25

A course to co-create community that nurtures and  
inspires, with John Baird

[View All Events](#)



## **AN URGENT CALL**

### **THE QUAKER CALL NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE**

Marian Beane, Bruce Birchard, Sam Caldwell, Gretchen Castle, Mary Ellen McNish, Diane Randall, Jim Waddington, and Michael Wajda (Clerk).

We on the Urgent Call Steering Committee are writing to bring you up to date on our leading, our plan for another national zoom call, and to encourage you to consider some immediate actions to be taking.

Right now, we are under the weight of the serious political and societal crisis we are experiencing. President Trump, Elon Musk, and their allies are acting swiftly to seize overwhelming governmental power in a direct attack on the U.S. Constitution's most important guiding principle: the separation of powers into legislative, executive, and judicial branches. We know the seriousness of these actions and the anxiety that they are causing for so many people. We are clear to continue our support of Friends who are called to both prayer and action.

### **An Administrative Coup**

Some historians are calling what is happening an "administrative coup." Donald Trump, Elon Musk and their allies are seeking to dismantle the governmental structure created in the Constitution through a barrage of executive orders, refusals to respect acts of Congress, closing or severe limitations of many governmental departments and programs, various lawsuits, and other means. All of this is intended to lead to the assumption of dictatorial powers by the President of the United States and the executive branch of government. If successful, the result will be the destruction of democracy in our country.

At the same time, resistance by government officials, cities and states, non-governmental organizations, and grassroots citizens is growing. A big question is whether, and to what extent, the judicial system—including the Supreme Court—will prove a bulwark against these unconstitutional attempts to seize power and, if so, whether their decisions will be respected by Trump, Musk and their co-conspirators. We must stay grounded, maintain hope, and seek ways that we each individually and together can take action.

### **The Urgent Call**

Over the past three years, we have called upon Friends to discern whether, and if so, how they are called to act in this time of growing crisis.

We have done most of our work through a series of national Zoom calls. One seasoned Friend spoke recently that one of our most important contributions has been "to support

Friends to stay spiritually grounded” during this time of crisis. As we all journey through these perilous times in our country, we still feel called to this ministry of encouraging spiritually grounded action.

As to some specific actions that you can take right now, here is a link to a piece by Robert Reich entitled [“What You Can Do.”](#) We encourage you to consider which of these actions are grounded in your Quaker experience and understanding. We also would like to lift up an effort by The People’s Union USA organized the February 28<sup>th</sup> Economic Blackout. For details about future economic blackouts, [click here](#) for more information and to discern if you are called to participate.

We are so grateful for the community we have felt among so many Friends across the country during these past three years. We remain open and prayerful that we all will be faithful to what might be asked of us in the months and years to come. The Living Presence has not left us.

We will be in touch soon with our plan for another national zoom gathering.

Yours in the Light, The Urgent Call Steering Committee

## **DON'T FORGET TO BE HAPPY** by Pablo Neruda

You start dying slowly  
If you do not travel,  
If you do not read,  
If you do not listen to the sounds of life,  
If you do not appreciate yourself.  
You start dying slowly:  
When you kill your self-esteem,  
When you do not let others help you.  
You start dying slowly:  
If you become a slave to your habits,  
Walking every day on the same paths...  
If you do not change your routine,  
If you do not wear different colors,  
Or speak to those you don't know.

You start dying slowly:  
If you avoid feeling passion  
And their turbulent emotions—  
Those that make your eyes glisten  
And your heart beat fast.  
You start dying slowly:  
If you do not risk the safe for the  
uncertain,  
If you do not chase a dream,  
If you do not allow yourself,  
At least once in your lifetime,  
To run away from sensible advice.  
Don't let yourself die slowly.  
Do not forget to be happy!

# Grass Valley Friends Meeting Contact Information (1-16-24)

## COMMITTEES: (convener or clerk in bold)

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

**Welcome:** Peter O'Rourke (ex-officio, Website and Facebook coordinator), Kathy McCreery, Don McCormick, Pat Phillips, Cheryl Hendrickson, Cindy Bliss, Lo Hamm, CJ Patterson, Judy Hamilton (ex-officio, email coordinator).

**Spirit and Witness:** Amy Cooke, Stuart Smith, Reed Hamilton, Sharon Davisson, Dean Olson, Dorothy Henderson (ex-officio, GVFM Clerk of the Meeting),

**Children's Program:** Keely McDonald, Dorothy Henderson, Doug Hamm, Judy Hamilton, Dean Olson, Reed Hamilton, Don McCormick, David Cowan, Lo Hamm.

**Nominating Committee:** (*terms as noted*)

- Judy Hamilton: 2022 - 2026
- Gordon Starr: 2022 - 2020
- Fosten Wilson: 2024 – 2026
- Dean Olson: 2-23 - 2025

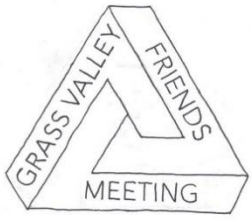
## OFFICER HOLDERS

- **Clerk:** Dorothy Henderson (530-575-5988) [dorothyjohenderson@gmail.com](mailto:dorothyjohenderson@gmail.com)
- **Elder to Clerk:** Gordon Starr (530-878-1237) [gstarr121@aol.com](mailto:gstarr121@aol.com)
- **Recording Clerk:** Jennifer Smith (916-663-3539) [sewsmitharts@yahoo.com](mailto:sewsmitharts@yahoo.com)
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- **Tech Support/Zoom Calendar:** Hailey Wilson [seahorseleaf@protonmail.com](mailto:seahorseleaf@protonmail.com)
- **Website/Facebook Coordinator:** Peter O'Rourke (209-291-8211) [peterorouke2001@yahoo.com](mailto:peterorouke2001@yahoo.com), Amy Cooke (530-559-9158) [amylisette@gmail.com](mailto:amylisette@gmail.com)
- **Librarian:** Don McCormick (310-597-9469) [donmccormick2@gmail.com](mailto:donmccormick2@gmail.com)
- **Directory Clerk:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) [ntowhee@gmail.com](mailto:ntowhee@gmail.com)
- **Mail Clerk:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366 [deanolson44@gmail.com](mailto:deanolson44@gmail.com)

**Representatives:** one-year terms

*Please note: Most organizations no longer have representatives from GVFM. They are held in two committees, Welcome and Spirit and Witness. The following organizations are the exceptions:*

- **Interfaith Nevada County:** Dianne Marshall
- **Pacific Yearly Meeting:** Doug Hamm
- **College Park Quarterly Meeting:** Doug Hamm



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