

Friends note that they get no feedback on their ideas, even positive. "Do we take each other for granted?" Do we adequately support and trust our committees? Do we recognize that some long-time, hard working attenders have legitimate reasons for not becoming members?

We find mention of clearness and support committees once or twice and believe they are active in most meetings. A number of meetings are struggling with financial stresses, cutting back on giving to worthy organizations or undertaking modest fund-raising projects.

Births, transfers, new members and deaths are reported often. Our aging demographic is of concern to many, along with the related manpower shortages. Sacramento has energetically been pursuing the Quaker Quest program intended to attract newcomers to our circles. A "Quaker in the Corner" or "Friendly Heart" is identified to answer newcomer questions after worship in some meetings. Many Friends are involved in quarterly and yearly meeting work, in our corporations, the AFSC and other Friends organizations – there is much demand on our time.

Interesting ideas that other meetings might want to emulate were described.

- Instead of the Quaker Quest program, San Francisco has Quaker posters in their sidewalk windows and an information booth at the annual Gay Pride festival.
- Redding Meeting holds an annual open house called Meet the Quakers.
- Redding has also done some focused work on formally becoming a "confirming church" for lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender and questioning people.
- Redwood Forest runs a summer Peace Camp as a form of outreach for community children and their families.
- Berkeley is completing an oral history project involving interviews with long-time Friends. (Davis has done this, too, and perhaps others.)
- Teens in Berkeley wrote and performed a series of mini-plays about Quaker heroes.
- In Central Coast, youth are active in the meeting, attending the meeting retreat and PYM, and sponsoring a "chatbox" session to discuss core beliefs.
- To deepen the sense of worship, "a minister among us" is invited to speak of his or her gifts and callings at each meeting for business in San Francisco.

Berkeley is starting a major building renovation project, which is causing many shifts in practice and responsibility. Three Davis Friends accompanied a Nigerian member back to her homeland, where they provided medical services and jump-started a village clinic. San Francisco and Grass Valley are involved in various ways with SF Friends School and Woolman Semester.

The full reports, including those which come in after today, will be posted on the CPQM web site, and the interests and concerns expressed will be used in planning the theme and focus of future quarterly gatherings.

*Prepared by Elizabeth Boardman, Clerk of CPQM M&O, Davis Meeting.*