**College Park Quarterly Meeting**

Tenth Month 18-20, 2013, Sierra Friends Center

**Opening Plenary**

**Welcome**

Opening Plenary started at 9:15 am. Presiding Clerk Eric Moon (Berkeley) welcomed us to this 222nd session of College Park Quarterly Meeting. He introduced Lisa Hubbell (Strawberry Creek) as Assistant Clerk and Tom Yamaguchi (Strawberry Creek) as Recording Clerk.

**Roll Call and Introductions**

The Assistant Clerk led the roll call. Members and attenders from the following meetings and worship groups were present at the plenary:

Apple Seed

Berkeley

Central Coast

Chico

Davis

Delta

Grass Valley

Humboldt

Lake County Worship Group

Live Oak

Marin

Palo Alto

Redding

Redwood Forest

Reno

Sacramento

San Francisco

San Jose

Santa Cruz

Soledad

Strawberry Creek

**Visitors from other monthly meetings and organizations**

Carl Sigmond (Germantown Monthly Meeting, Philadelphia YM), who is the Media and Technology Intern and was a student at Woolman Semester in 2009

Valentine Purell of Big Island Hawaii, who is a student at Woolman Semester

Alyssa Nelson (Davis) is PYM Youth Program Coordinator.

Kitty Mizuno (Haddonfield Monthly Meeting, Philadelphia YM), is a friend in residence at Ben Lomond Quaker Center

Lucia Van Diepen (Live Oak) brings greetings from the worship group in Sing Sing Prison, where she is an active.

**Children’s Program**

Delcy Steffy (Sacramento) introduced the children’s program, which is in Madrone.

**Teen Program**

Kathy Runyan (Santa Cruz) and Hannah Mackinney (Strawberry Creek) introduced the teen program. Hannah is one of the teen co-clerks along with Shannon Fagen (Reno), Rachel Arnold (Palo Alto), and Anna Lichterman (Strawberry Creek). The teens will lead the concentric circles activity. Later, they will lead a group on gender identity.

The Clerk invited us to attend teen business meetings, which he has found inspirational.

**Interest groups**

Arrangement coordinators Owain Elliot-Sowaal (San Francisco) and Gordon Starr (Grass Valley) announced locations for the interest groups, which are indicated on the map on the reverse side of schedule.

Bob Runyan (Chico) will lead the group based on the quarterly meeting theme “Taking Stock.”

Rebecca Senoglu (Chico) will lead the group on green burials and home funerals. There is a 10-minute video and Powerpoint presentation.

Alyssa Nelson (Davis) and Hannah Mackinney (Strawberry Creek) will lead the group on gender identity, gender diversity, and gender inclusion.

Barbara Christwitz (Redwood Forest) will lead a group on Peace Prayer Dances.

Marjorie Fox, who is the new Head of School for the Woolman Semester, will be leading a lunch table on the Woolman Semester and a tour afterward.

**Announcements**

The book “A Short History of the Early Years of Ben Lomond Quaker Center” by John deValcourt is for sale for a donation of $20.

Julian Garrett (San Jose) and Rebecca Senoglu (Chico) are organizing Family Night.

**Plenary I**

Alyssa Nelson (Davis) and Hannah Mackinney (Strawberry Creek) introduced the Concentric Circles activity. We responded to queries on gender identity and gender stereotypes. Later, we reflected how we neglect to ask others what gender they prefer to be addressed. This is one way we can be transgender allies. A member of Davis Meeting said that meeting has just acquired a book on gender dysphoria called “Becoming a Visible Man” by Jamison Green.

**College Park Friends Educational Association**

Clerk of the CPFEA Board Sharon Stewart (Grass Valley) presented the report, which is attached.

Woolman is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary, including ten years as the Woolman Semester. 25 students are enrolled this semester, the highest number yet. A school garden project started in March. “Classes in Peace, Social Justice, and Environmental Sustainability remain at the core of the educational program and are clearly aligned with Quaker values. Students learn nonviolent communication as they learn also to speak their own individual truth.” Woolman is in the process of renewing accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). The fiscal year ended within budget and money in the bank. $187, 000 in loans were forgiven. Woolman needs students for the spring semester, as well as continued financial support.

Marjorie Fox reintroduced herself as a person coming to Quakerism as a practicing Buddhist. She started the job in January and thanked her Committee for Care for their support. She then introduced a few of the students and interns.

Carl Sigmond is performing Information Technology work, as well as helping with peace documentaries.

Sophie Brinker is the Intern Coordinator. She is teaching Quaker process to 25 students and 12 staff. She shared a wheel of discernment painting, which provides a guide on when to speak during worship. She also showed the “Get curious” poster, which lists the following questions:

What need is being met or not being met?

What are you/others really longing for?

What did you mean when you said?

Caitlin Mazzarella found out about Woolman online. She left a conservative school that was not meeting her needs. She read a poem by Cathleen Porep from the 1979-80 year book.

Valentine Purell is spending his second year here. He had heard of Woolman from his mother years ago. He is learning how to think more holistically.

The Clerk invited friends to speak to Nominating about serving on the CPFEA board.

Teens left at 11:40 for their business meeting.

**Nominating Committee**

Clerk Jeff Richman (Live Oak) gave the Nominating Committee report, which is attached. He introduced the current committee members.

New nominations are listed in bold.

Owain Elliott-Sowaal (San Francisco) is nominated for arrangements coordinator for a term ending 5/14. Linda Selph (Berkeley) and Barb Tittle (Strawberry Creek) are nominated to the Ben Lomond Quaker Center Board through 5/31/16.

Friends may speak to Nominating Committee members about questions and concerns.

**Naming Committee**

Amy Southwick (Appleseed) reported for Naming Committee.

Jeff Richmond (Live Oak) and Karen Morgan (Redwood Forest) are completing their terms.

Jeff is nominated to serve on Nominating for one additional year until January 2015, but not as clerk.

Sarah Tyrell (Berkeley) who is currently on the committee is nominated to serve as clerk until January 2015.

Nora Cooke (Grass Valley) is nominated join the committee with a term that begins January 2015 and ends January 2017. She is currently out of the country, but has expressed her willingness to serve.

Karen Morgan is nominated to continue serving on Nominating Committee for an additional three years.

**Guidelines for the Care Relationship of CPQM with Corporations Under its Care**

Doug Milhous (Redding) presented the report on the proposed guidelines for the care relationship between the quarter and corporations under its care. He distributed copies of the report in two versions: the full report and an amended version. He invited us to discuss the report throughout the day, and introduced the other members of the ad hoc committee.

The FASE Board had minuted their approval, and the ad hoc committee is seeking approval from the other corporations. They intend to seek approval at the winter quarterly meeting.

A request was made to post the report on the CPQM web site.

**Minute from Delta Meeting divide the current Pacific Yearly Meeting into two smaller meetings**

Judy Bunting, Clerk of Delta Meeting, introduced the minute, which was approved by Delta Meeting on 10/13/13. That minute is attached.

Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends will be divided into two geographically appropriate Yearly Meetings. The names of there (sic) Yearly Meetings will be determined by the two existing Quarterly Meetings, one to be named by Southern California Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, and one to be named by College Park Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. Monthly Meetings, Preparative Meetings, Worship Groups and individuals will choose which Yearly Meeting they wish to be associated with. These choices will not be subject to review or refusal by the existing Yearly Meeting and Quarterly Meetings or by the newly created Yearly Meetings.

The minute grew from a concern over the high cost of attendance, travel distance, and environmental impact of holding the annual sessions, which impact Friends ability to attend. Copies of the minute are available for monthly meetings to take and discuss. Delta Meeting would like to bring the minute to a future quarterly or yearly meeting session.

**Taking Stock**

Bob Runyan of Ministry and Oversight Committee facilitated the activity based on our theme “Taking Stock.” Friends were asked to provide a written response to the following query:

In my opinion: the mission/purpose of Quakerism or the RSOF is to:

Afterward, Bob and Eric Moon read the written responses aloud. A sense of unity was felt by a number of Friends, noting similarities among the various responses. Bob asked us to consider how are our meetings are doing at achieving what we have written on our sheets. Is there a way that we can engage this theme in future community meetings?

**Announcements**

Those who need to register should speak with Sandy Kewman, registrar, or Carol Fuller assistant registrar. They have worship sharing group assignments. Worship sharing will follow lunch and will address the following queries:

Share times when you thought that your Meeting was at low ebb or times when it felt like it was alive and full of energy. What made it feel that way?

What am I willing to do to improve my home Meeting or Worship Group?

What am I willing to do at Quarterly Meeting to make it more meaningful to me?

Eric Moon (Berkeley) has twenty copies of CPQM directory for five dollars each. If you want a free PDF version, give Eric your email address.

Rebecca Senoglu (Chico) has a signup sheet for family night.

Sophie Brinker is making apple cider in the cider press outside the dining hall.

**Plenary II**

**Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Paul Harris (Redwood Forest) delivered the report, which is attached. Send check requests to Paul for reimbursement.

**Friends Committee on Legislation of California**

There was no report from FCL CA, as listed on the agenda. The Clerk urged us to support that organization.

The Recording Clerk read minutes for the opening and first plenaries. Further revisions are needed, and the Recording Clerk will bring them back for a second reading tomorrow.

**Announcements**

Tom Farley (Palo Alto) spoke about the Earthlight Book Store and shared some of the titles for sale. Suggestions for books Friends would like to be sold by the store may be given to Tom and Sandy Farley (Palo Alto).

AFSC and FCNL have collaborated to produce a new book called “Shared Security, Reimagining U.S. Foreign Policy.” Elizabeth Boardman (Davis) has brought copies to share. She encourages Friends to send it to their legislators.

Tockhwock (Appleseed) is selling his posters illustrating 350 years of Friends history for six dollars.

Jim Anderson (Chico) announced upcoming sessions of Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas. Meetings will be held in four locations, two in North America and two in Central America. One of the North American locations is Sacramento. That meeting will be held March 14 to 16. A registration form is being developed.

Delta Meeting invited us to a meeting for worship at Lawrence Livermore Lab on the second Sunday of December. Gathering starts at 10:30 am, with worship at 11 am. This will be followed by a potluck lunch.

**Coming events at Sierra Friends Center**

Kiln-Firing Harvest Dance on October 25 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

Emma’s Revolution Benefit Concert at Unity in the Gold Country Church, Grass Valley, November 7 at 7:30 pm.

**Plenary III**

Plenary started at 8:55 am.

Minutes were read for Plenary I and Plenary II approved, as well as minutes for the opening plenary, which were read yesterday.

We accepted the Treasurer’s report, which was read yesterday.

The Clerk read nominations seasoning from yesterday. The nominations were approved.

The Clerk read nominations from Naming Committee seasoning from yesterday. Nora Cooke will be begin her term next year. The nominations were approved.

**Registrar’s Report**

Sandy Kewman reported the attendance for this quarterly meeting session. We had 106 attenders, plus 3 FAPS. There were, 12 teens, 6 children, and 88 adults. Four Friends underwrote the attendance of five other friends, in addition to several other donations to both SFC and CPQM. The Registrar appreciates everyone’s cooperation and flexibility particularly in regard to the limited number of beds this year.

The Clerk noted that a number of registrations arrived after the due date and urged Friends to plan ahead. Sandy plans to send an advance email to regular quarterly meeting attenders. One Friend requested special contact with young people who come to quarter, but who do not identify with a monthly meeting. The Clerk suggested having a page of contacts for such Friends in the directory.

The Assistant Clerk said she had heard from other Friends the suggestion that monthly meetings provide scholarships for first time attenders to quarterly.

Bob Runyan has been updating the quarterly meeting website. He asked if a web site coordinator be added as a future nominated position.

**Ministry and Oversight Report**

Nancy Nano (Redwood Forest) gave the report, which is attached. It includes the process through which this session’s theme was selected. Other themes considered included consideration of the “different types of families which we now have in our Communities. We have families of divorce, families with same sex parents, blended families, and families with other different issues.”

Other excerpts from the report:

“This year the Ministry and Oversight Committee decided to have different Clerks for each of the Quarterly Meetings. Nancy Nanna is the Clerk for the Fall Quarterly, Meg Given is the Clerk for Winter Quarterly and Barbara Christwitz is the Clerk for the Spring Quarterly.”

“Rachael Findley and Stephen Matchett paid several visits to Marin Meeting at their request. They wanted help to become clear about becoming a Worship Group or remaining a Monthly Meeting. They decided to remain a Monthly Meeting.”

“If Friends wish to contact the Ministry and Oversight Committee, they should contact Denis Thalson at dthalson@earthlink.net or phone at (519)704-9561.”

A Friend requested that the clerks be designated on the Nominating Report, as well as the directory. This information will be added to the quick notes that will be sent out to meetings, as well.

**Upcoming weekend at Quaker Center**

Ray Ritchpater (Palo Alto) spoke for the Quaker Center workshop he is facilitating with Brian Vura-Weis (Palo Alto) on October 25th to 27th. It is titled “What is Your Ism.” There are very few of us who are birthright Friends, he said, and the workshop explores our wide variety of beliefs and traditions we bring from other faiths.

**Announcements**

The Assistant Clerk will be sending the quarterly meeting quick notes next week. All material will be mailed out by the Assistant Clerk. Send text announcements for wider distribution only to Assistant Clerk by Wednesday.

A Friend asked that the quick notes be placed on the web site for meetings that fail to receive them by email.

Marin Friends Meeting has a web site at www.marinquakers.org. They are putting out a call to web masters of other meetings to link to their website. Contact Marin Meeting Clerk Sarah Asch, marinfriendsmeeting@gmail.com.

Julian Garrett (San Jose) announced the Young Friends New Year’s Gathering from December 28, 2013 to January 2, 2014. For information, go to www.NewYearsGathering.org.

**Plenary IV**

Plenary IV started at 11:20 am.

Delcy Steffy reported for the children’s program. The children shared activities they enjoyed this weekend, including doing Claymation and taking a walk to the lake. They made solar prints this morning. The Claymation video will be shown during lunch.

Arrangements Coordinator Owain Elliott-Sowaal (San Francisco) asked Friends to sign up for final clean up. Those who will be at the final evaluation meetings are excused from final cleanup duties.

**Teen Epistle**

Nate Walker (Palo Alto) and Anna Lichterman (Strawberry Creek) read the teen epistle. During the weekend, they discussed how they “can make non gender binary Friends feel welcome in the community.” They discussed possible changes in sleeping arrangements to make trans\* Friends feel welcome, but they were unable to find unity.

The teens decided to create and a discernment committee on revising the teen handbook. The committee will be composed of Anna Lichterman, Nathan Walker, Marina Coffman (Reno), and one other adult Friend. They are also considering one other Friend for the committee.

The teens strongly recommend a threshing session at the winter quarter session in hopes that the teen program could get a better sense of the greater meeting.

They concluded with the reading of an epistle from Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

**Nancy and Tristan Anderson**

Friends listened to a brief update on Tristan Anderson (Grass Valley), who was severely injured in 2009 during a demonstration against opposing the apartheid wall in Palestine. They have filed two criminal cases and one civic case against the Israeli military. They have won one criminal case in the Israeli supreme court, which determined that the injury was a result of negligence. This decision will lead to a more thorough investigation. They are pursuing these legal cases because their outcomes may help future cases that hold the Israeli military accountable. Witness testimony on one of the cases begins on November 21. Friends are invited to talk with Tristan and Nancy during lunch. We are requested to not touch Tristan’s left side, which causes him great pain. Touching his right side is OK.

Tristan was interviewed by Assistant Clerk Lisa Hubbell. He has been active in the Occupy movement and returns to the Oakland area every few weeks to stay with friends. He has helped with a library established in an abandoned building in the Fruitvale area of Oakland, the Victor Martinez People’s Library. He is also involved in a project that fixes up bicycles for homeless persons. He continues his interest in photography, taking pictures during his travels. He has shown his photographs in Oakland and at the Summer Thyme’s Bakery and Deli in Grass Valley that is owned and operated by Amy and Chamba Cooke (Grass Valley). Tristan expects to have a showing at Sierra Friends Center. Tristan described his rehabilitation process. He started with the use of a walker and now walks with a staff. He practices walking every day and is very excited to find he can walk again. The part of his brain that controls the left side of his body is severely damaged. Friends are asked to hold him in the Light as his cases come up for trial and for his continued healing.

The minutes for plenaries II, III, and IV were read and approved.

The next session will be the Winter Quarterly Meeting at San Francisco Meetinghouse on January 19. There will be an overnight stay for teens.

Respectfully submitted, Signed,

Tom Yamaguchi, Recording Clerk Eric Moon, Presiding Clerk

**Attachments:**

College Park Friends Educational Association (CPFEA) Report

Delta Meeting minute on division of Pacific Yearly Meeting into two yearly meetings

Guidelines for the Care Relationship of College Park Quarterly Meeting with Corporations Under Its Care (abbreviated and full report)

Ministry and Oversight Report

Nominating Committee Report

Naming Committee Report

Teen Epistle

Treasurer’s Reports