

The Daily Miracle

Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Friday, Seventh Month Thirty-First, 2009

Friday's Schedule

6:30-8:00	Transformative Quakers
6:30-8:00	Bible Study
7:00-8:00	Outdoor Worship
7:30- 8:30	Breakfast
8:45-10:15	Worship
10:30-11:45	Worship Sharing
12:00- 1:00	Lunch
1:15- 3:15	Plenary VIII
3:30- 4:45	Interest Groups
5:00- 6:00	Dinner
6:45- 8:15	Community Night
8:30	Open time and 12 step

Friday's Menu

Breakfast

Boiled eggs
potatoes
Soy patties
Toast station
Cream of barley
Sliced fruit platter
Cold cereal: variety
Yogurt, raisins, brown sugar
Cottage cheese
Fruit, cottage cheese
OJ, tea, coffee, milk

Lunch

Beef hamburgers

Veggie burgers (see next article regarding cautions)

Wheat rolls

Tomato, onion, cheese

Corn on the cob

Bowl of fruits

Salad: field greens

Dressings: 3 types

Fruit and Dessert: cookies

Beverage: lemonade

Dinner

Entrée: tagine recipe

A veg and chicken version

Tabouli, hummus

Olive and tomato pickle

Veg: roasted veg

Salad: mixed greens

Salad dressing: 3 kinds

Bread, butter, couscous

Fruit platter

Dessert: fudge

Beverage: ice tea, water at tables

What can I eat?

Look for more ingredient labels tomorrow on the right hand table. The veggie burgers contain many allergens, and there are 3 different kinds. If you don't want to eat the meat, seek direction and alternatives in the kitchen

Interest Groups 3:30- 4:45

Perils of Eating while Quaker

Sponsor: Unity with Nature Committee
Location: Sequoia Garden Room

California Climate Change Policy

Sponsor: Friends Committee on Legislation
Location: Maple

War Tax Resistance

Sponsor: Peace and Social Concerns Com
Location Eucalyptus Living Room

Friendly Aging

Sponsor: Friends Services for the Elderly
Location: Pines Living Room

Quakers and Race with Vanessa Julye

Sponsor: Ministry and Oversight Com
Location: Tent

Meeting for Healing

Sponsor: Ministry and Oversight Com
Location: Fox Cabin

Deepening Worship

Sponsor: Ministry and Oversight Com
Location: Sequoia Living Room

A New Congress and President, Fresh Opportunities for Friends with the 111th Congress

Sponsor: FCNL
Location: Cypress Living Room

CA Climate Change and Water
by Karen Street

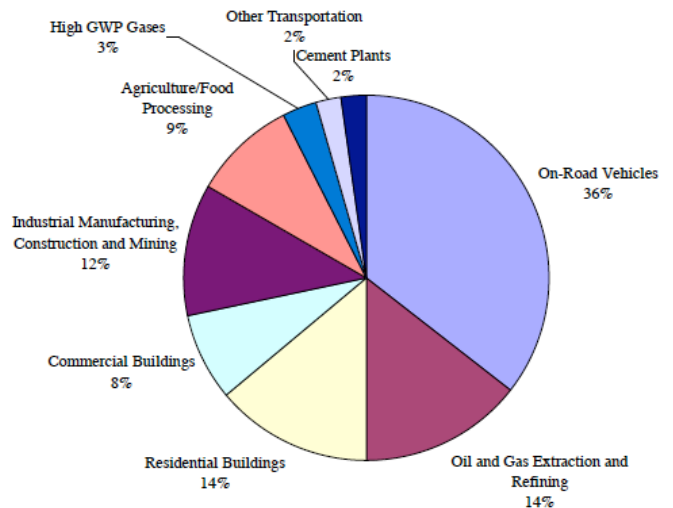
In 1999, California entered what climatologists believe to be a permanent drought due to climate change. Additionally, the snow pack is disappearing. The optimistic scenario for CA: 47% of the snow pack will gone by century end. The pessimistic scenario: 70-90% gone by century end. Current greenhouse gas emissions are greater than assumed for the worst case scenario.

Secretary of Energy Steven Chu said about the worst-case scenario: "I don't think the

American public has grasped in its gut what could happen." "I don't see how agriculture can continue. California produces 20 percent of the agriculture in the United States. I don't actually see how they can keep their cities going."

The worst-case scenario may not be worst enough. According to the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (2009): Irreversible climate change due to carbon dioxide emissions, "Among illustrative irreversible impacts that should be expected if atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations increase...to a peak of 450 - 600 parts per million... are irreversible dry-season rainfall reductions in several regions comparable to "dust-bowl" era and inexorable sea level rise."

We can expect to see these on every inhabited continent, including southwest North America.



CA plans to address climate change start from these GHG emissions. Upstream emissions are not counted (e.g., add 25% to transportation to cover the costs of getting us the gasoline). Sectors such as flying and shipping are also excluded. One quarter of emissions come from electricity. Come learn more and share what you know about CA climate change policy in today's interest group.

Open Letter to the Yearly Meeting

Dear Friends of Pacific Yearly Meeting,
Some Friends of Color came together during our annual sessions at Walker Creek Ranch on July 29th and 30th in Petaluma, CA. During our time together we identified common experiences from attending annual sessions. We have felt interracial tensions in our community. There have been times when we have felt isolated and not acknowledged in a manner that is consistent with our cultural traditions. It is important to us that we are recognized as fully functioning, literate, spiritual persons of equal value as the friends that you already know here.

We request opportunities be provided for people of color to come together and get acquainted with Vanessa as a facilitator next year. We would like for the Yearly meeting's Ministry and Oversight Committee to request that Friends General Conference have Vanessa Julye attend our annual sessions in 2010.

We would like to suggest that we all become conscious of the way in which new people are greeted in the following ways.

- 1) Roll call can incorporate having new people identified so that we can welcome them and know who they are.
- 2) We improve the way that we greet one another. Whenever we see someone we don't know make sure that we look them directly in the eye and greet them with the intention of getting to know them better.

Also that a time be scheduled on a daily basis for youth and adults to come together for dialog on topics of mutual concern. Our intention with this statement is that we seek out each other and affirm our gifts.

Sharon Beckman – Redwood Forest Meeting;
Anthony Chang – Honolulu Meeting;
Kamillah Fairchild – Las Vegas Worship Group;
Jessie Funes - Appleseed Meeting;
Diego Navarro – Santa Cruz Meeting;
Charla Robertson – Orange Grove Meeting;
Mariana Ruybalid – Berkeley Meeting; Alice Talbot –

Honolulu Meeting; Davetta Williams –
Claremont Meeting

Proposed Minute on Youth Coordinator

The updated versions of the proposal and appendices (110 pages) are available online at www.pacificyearlymeeting.org. Paper copies are also available, in the Quiet Room (Trout) and at the back of the plenary tent.

Here is the minute read by the Presiding Clerk and to be considered at today's Plenary VIII at 1:15 PM:

We approve moving forward with the revised Youth Coordinator Position Proposal for a 3 year trial period and ask for yearly written reports to be presented to our annual sessions and also ask for an assessment of the project at the end of the three years. Further we ask the committee to consider the needs of our youth from 10 through Young Friends, especially addressing the needs of our Monthly and Quarterly Meetings who ask for our help. We also ask the Coordinator and the committee to help us address the issues of safety raised by our Meetings, parents, and youth.

From Lisa Hubbell (Strawberry Creek Meeting) to Friends in Pacific Yearly Meeting, as we consider the Youth Coordinator proposal:

It's easy to fall into thinking that we are presented with only two choices: to approve, or not approve, the proposal that the committee has brought to us. Quaker business process offers us much more than that. Some of us who read the proposal may have looked at it in terms of whether we were for it or against it. We may have come to Yearly Meeting believing that our own position, and the positions of others, would show how much we and our meetings cared about youth, and perhaps how much we cared about our monthly meetings, or about people who don't attend Yearly Meeting.

The beauty and power and spiritual essence of Quaker business are that we are not here for a vote. We gather with the opportunity to open ourselves to the Spirit that is in our midst.

We are not here to make a black-and-white decision, or to compromise on some shade of grey. We may unite on something we have already heard. Another way may open, which none of us have yet brought into the plenary tent.

We are here to listen, in love, to the glimpses of Truth that shine through each one of us.

To really listen.

To give, and receive, and let go of, each message.

To trust that all of us are loved and heard.

God's economy is bigger than the world's economy.

The work of the Spirit is bigger than the work of any of our committees.

Divine love, and the love within this community, are bigger than this proposal.

May our hearts and our spirits, our ears and our minds, remain tender towards each other. May we hold each other in the Light, and proceed as way opens.

In faithfulness and love,

Lisa Hubbell
(Strawberry Creek Meeting)

Wanted - Website Coordinator

Pacific Yearly Meeting's Electronic Communications subcommittee is looking to fill a vacancy to manage and update PYM's website as directed by the subcommittee. This is a volunteer position with a three-year term. Knowledge of basic HTML, CGI code and interfacing with the hosting provider required. Submit your name and list your experience as a website coordinator to Don Bean, Electronic Communications subcommittee clerk at electronic@pacificyearlymeeting.org

Wanted - Website Designer

Pacific Yearly Meeting's Electronic Communications subcommittee is looking for a Friend with HTML skills in designing a new website for PYM. We are looking to improve the navigation as well as the overall look to the site. Knowledge of on-line Calendar function and on-line document sharing e.g. Google Docs is required. This is a one time project, and once completed, subsequent updates will be managed by the PYM's Website Coordinator. Submit your name and list sites you've created to Don Bean, Electronic Communications subcommittee clerk at electronic@pacificyearlymeeting.org

Invest in People, Not Corporations

Microfinance investing! OikoCredit.org is an interfaith-supported microcredit organization. Come learn more, watch a 12-minute DVD, and find out how you (and your meeting) can get involved! 6:15 Friday in Maple. Expected to last around 20 minutes.

Draft Epistle Input

The Epistle Committee invites your input on the draft epistle. Join us for dinner tonight at the outside of the dining hall at 5:30 PM. Chris Mohr, Kitty Bergel, Eli Fowler

Lunch with PYM Reps to FCNL

Old and new PYM representatives to FCNL will lunch together by the windows facing the Plenary Tent today.

Lost Earring

An abalone earring, oval shape on top, triangle abalone dangle silver wire. (Yes, this is a second lost abalone earring, not a repeat. Yesterday's lost earring was found) Contact Marion Newton.

Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCLCA)

Our goal is to be a voice for your values in Sacramento and to advocate for laws and policies that respect the inherent dignity of every person.

Founded by Quakers in 1952, we have a full time lobbyist at the Capitol and an outreach program to support activism in Meetings throughout California. Our printed and online newsletters and Action Alerts provide timely information and analysis on California's political process from a perspective aligned with Friends' testimonies. We invite you to stop by our display table and to sign up for our Action Network at fclca.org For more information, please contact Kevan Insko, kevan@fclca.org

Simple Meal Information

The lunch we shared on Wednesday, rice and beans, follows the Quaker custom of a "simple meal," one that simulates the repast of a person in a Third-World country and one that has less environmental impact. When monthly meetings sponsor simple meals, it is common practice for the proceeds to go to a relevant nonprofit, such as AFSC, Right Sharing of World Resources, Feeding America and Action Against Hunger-- USA. We are waiting to find out how much we saved.

Thanks for your help,
PYM Unity with Nature Committee

Children's Program Supplies for Sale

The Children's Program is carrying too many supplies up and down California and would like to offer First Day Schools our extras at \$0 sale, This afternoon, outside the Dining Hall. Contact Heather Levien, Children's Program Coordinator.

Choral Singing

Choral singing will happen today from 4:45 to 5:45 in the Maple Room as a rehearsal for the Community Night. New members welcome.

JYM Oak Trees Planted at WCR

At PYM here at Walker Creek Ranch in 1993, JYM planted Valley Oak trees on the little ridge between the parking lot and Maple. Give them your blessings if you have time. Rolene Walker.

Reaching out to PYM Friends

Heather Raitt will be at the following address until October and hopes to relocate to the Bay Area permanently. She would appreciate visits and/or phone calls. She is a long time attender of past PYM gatherings.

Heather Raitt
McClure Rehab Center
2910 McClure St
Oakland, CA
Cell 510-432-0665

Quaker Earthcare Witness Conference in October

The annual conference of Quaker Earthcare Witness – the national organization that originally sprung from our Unity With Nature committee- will be held in Bellingham, Washington, October 8-12, 2009.

This is your single best opportunity to meet over a hundred Quaker environmental activists from a dozen states. This year, Tom Farley (Palo Alto MM) will be a speaker, and Kathy Hyzy (editor of *Western Friend*) will be the keynote speaker. For more information, contact me dpj1942@earthlink.net or look at their website www.quakerearthcare.org
Joe Morris, Unity With Nature

Session Evaluation Meeting

The evaluation meeting for this annual session will be held in Maple at 1:00 PM Saturday. PYM officers and committee clerks are asked to attend or provide their feedback to Sue Torrey before leaving Walker Creek Ranch.

John Pixley's Blog

Friends may want to find out what's on John Pixley's mind at <http://queerx3.blogspot.com> This could be an easier way to get to know him.

Visalia Fruit Basket of the Valley

The Friends-based intentional community has two lots available due to the stressful economics:

One 5 acre lot has underground electric service and a well. It is contiguous to the 330 acre Kaweah Oaks Nature Preserve and Quaker Oaks Farm.

One lot is also 5 acres with a 5 bedroom 2 1/2 baths. The home is designed for two families and has porches on all sides and a two car garage and is straw bale construction with a 40R insulation value.

Both properties are within walking distance from Visalia Friends Meeting. For information, contact Bill Lovett (559) 594-4009

College Park Quarterly Meeting Directories

Seventy-five individual Friends, as well as our PYM officers, have acquired paper copies of the new! Updated! Improved! 2009 College Park Quarterly directory – thanks to David Morse and bookstore volunteers for retailing these. Another 50-100 paper copies will be available at October CPQM at Sierra Friends Center, price \$5.00. The directory is also available at no charge as a PDF format (file size about 1 MB). Request yours from Eric Moon at ericmoon@juno.com

Users are asked not to duplicate this PDF themselves; if you hear of Friends who want one, please send the email address to Eric.

Sierra Friends Center and The Woolman Semester

Sierra Friends Center is moving forward in some exciting ways with new ideas and opportunities. We are looking forward to a new course. Woolman Sustainability Intensives is a series of four one-week intensives for adults offering daily lessons and practice in Nonviolent Communication and Permaculture Design. Dorothy Henderson

will teach the Nonviolent Communication lessons and Doug Hamm, with others, will teach permaculture. The individual weeks are seasonal and site based, occurring in March, October and January. Each intensive is self-contained and integrated into the year long series as a whole.

We are growing from 16 students from the last Fall semester to 20-22 this semester and we expect to have 18 students in the Spring, up from 13.

Students have classes in Peace Studies, Environmental Sustainability, World Issues, Humanities and Ethics, and Nonviolent Communication. They have shared work with staff and community members with such jobs as gardening, chopping wood, and preparing meals. Their service trips vary from local work with Habitat for Humanity – arriving there on bicycles, longer trips to Visalia to work with self-help building groups and to Mexico to work on construction projects and in a health clinic.

Please come by the Sierra Friends Center table in Maple Room to pick up a ballpoint pen, a pin to wear, look at our view book and at some pictures on the laptop. (Use the up and down arrow keys to select pictures.)

Time to Think about Rides Home

A Rides easel board is located inside the front entrance to the dining room. Please post the rides that you need. If you have extra space in your vehicle, please study the Rides board and sign in to offer a ride to the individual who requested it. It's a grassroots process! Carol Mosher, Arrangements

CPQM Fall session planning

Clerks of CPQM committees are asked to meet Friday at lunch in the southwest (nearest the plenary tent) corner of the dining hall. Others with programmatic ideas and/or wanting to volunteer are also invited. The

preliminary theme statement for this session is:

Recognizing and Deepening our Quaker Faith - Of all the spiritual paths in this world, why would one choose to be a Quaker? What uniqueness does the Religious Society of Friends possess that justifies its distinction from other forms of worship ... other contemplative practices ... other journeys to the Center? ... If Friends follow a true path, how do we see and teach that path? Whatever it is Quakers uniquely do, how can we do it better?

Recommendation of Karen Street's article on "The Nuclear Energy Debate among Friends"

The July, 2009, issue of Friends Journal contains an article by Karen Street with the title "The Nuclear Energy Debate among Friends: Another round." I have found this 8-page-long article one singly well researched. In my opinion, some Friends' opposition to nuclear power is rooted less in an objective analysis of its advantages and disadvantages than in a visceral (and legitimate) revulsion to the development and use of nuclear weapons. Karen's article makes a convincing argument that in the face of an inevitable future energy use increase on our planet, nuclear power is an economic and competitive alternative to other sources of energy (e.g.: coal and natural gas) to mitigate the impact of global warming.

Instead of spending effort to oppose peaceful nuclear power development, Friends might do better to focus their work toward – just as an example – a Middle East nuclear weapons-free zone.

-Hubert Morel-Seytoux

Website Help Wanted

Know website design? Interested in Latin America? Help debug and maintain the new Latin American Concerns Committee website, and learn about what's going on in that part of the world, including cheap, Friendly places to stay when you travel. View site at temporary URL www.myrrh-art.com/LACC/index.html . Contact: Trudy "Myrrh" Reagan, Deer Cottage at PYM trudymyrrh@earthlink.net

Posters Opposing Torture

All representatives of Meetings are invited to take posters opposing torture from the table in Maple Hall to your Meetings and other churches in your locality. They were ordered and brought here for you! It is imperative that prosecutions follow any investigations. If not, Alfred McCoy writes in A Question of Torture: "[The world will think] we tired to correct, and we didn't correct, and they'll realize this is in fact American State policy, that torture is part of the apparatus of American power."

See <http://no2torture.org>

Plenary Tent at Walker Creek Ranch by Trudy "Myrrh" Reagan

