

College Park Quarterly Meeting
May 18-20, 2018
Ben Lomond Quaker Center

Clerk, Sandy Kewman, opened the 236th Session of College Park Quarterly Meeting and welcomed everyone from Summar and Julian's three month old baby, Kallan, to Walt Jones, Delta FM; and Tom King, San Jose FM; from Humboldt FM to Monterey Peninsula FM.

Bob and Kathy Runyan welcomed us for their last time as Ben Lomond Quaker Center directors to Spring Quarterly Meeting, and informed us about the center.

The Teen Program, led by Maren Hurn (Santa Cruz FM) and Karen Morgan (Redwood Forest FM), with Keenan Lorenzato and Jessie Mitchell as the Friendly Adult Presences, currently has only one teen present but hopes to have as many as five as the morning progresses.

Cheryl Hendrickson (San Francisco FM) gave us an overview of the Children's Program this weekend. The focus is on the parable of the Good Shepherd and the Mustard Seed. The group will explore outside to find objects to help them connect with the story. Along with Cheryl, Alice Elliott-Sowaal (San Francisco FM) leads the Children's program with assistance from Neil Fullagar (San Francisco FM), and Lee Sisson (Palo Alto FM), and Mark Runyan (Santa Cruz FM) are the hired Children's helpers.

The Clerk reminded us that we are meeting on land that is the ancestral home of the Ohlone people. Within our gatherings we have the intention of acknowledging the people who stewarded the land upon which we meet each time.

The theme of this Quarterly Meeting is inspired by Paul Buckley's book, *Primitive Quakerism Revived*. Religious revival often happens during times when there are many changes happening. Early Quakerism certainly took place at a tumultuous time. Revivals can take place when religious bodies notice that they have accommodated themselves too much to the customs around them. They attempt to get back to the vital root. What is that healthy root stock of Quakerism? Who are we as Quakers? What is the way to rejuvenating the Religious Society of Friends of the Truth and what is in the way?

Jim Anderson, Clerk of M&O: This revival theme was the topic of the meeting of Ministry and Oversight last night, and it has been a theme among Quakers quite a number of times. There's difficulty in finding Friends ready and willing to serve in a volunteer movement for the betterment of world.

What can we bring to all of us? So a few of us are going to share, not as answers to this question but as a framing. What was rising up for me is a quote from the first of the advices in Britain Yearly Meeting's *Faith and Practice*: "Take heed, dear Friends, to the promptings of love and truth in your hearts. Trust them as the leadings of God whose Light shows us our darkness and brings us to new life." It seems appealing to us to be engaged with the world in ways that don't give us the time to be of service. We need a path to a new life that gives us the freedom and calls us to be of service.

Kathy Runyan (Santa Cruz): The idea behind early Quakerism sometimes seems simple now: let go of the laity and let all of us be ministers, but there's a lot more responsibility to being a minister besides speaking in meeting. When we first came to work at Quaker Center, I also agreed to be on teen committee. The work here was all new, and a lot of it was challenging. I was encouraged for others to lay down my work with the Teen Committee, but I said no; that's the work that feeds me. I remember hearing a talk by Ben Pink Dandelion. He said he always says yes when Nominating asks him to do something, because it will increase his prayer life.

Eric Sabelman (Palo Alto) : We have made changes in the Palo Alto meeting with the intention of getting rid of things that are in the way; we may not know what the way is, but we know what's getting in the way. For example, recently we've been working on how to encourage more people to be part of Business Meeting. For years our announcement has been that "members are obliged to come." But what are the incentives? For example, in attending Quarterly Meeting, come and see what it would be like to be Quaker 24 hours a day.

Barbara Babin (Redwood Forest): Barbara asked us to recall the physical experience of being in the right place at right time: at a gathered meeting, sensing a movement of Spirit, whether it was comfortable or not, making that experience the center – we get to be together in many ways, just to be open and explore ways to revitalize faith and practice together.

The clerk thanked the Friends who spoke. She asked “Is God at the center of our lives?” For her, Quarterly meeting has contributed greatly toward directing her toward the Light. As Pennington says, each day we can choose anew to be open to the Light. She expressed her gratitude for the time she was encouraged to work as an Arrangements Clerk and then Registrar which she enjoyed very much. She expressed her gratitude for Friends patience as she continues to learn what it means to clerk. She invited us to realign so God is central in each of our lives.

Nominating Report 1: Janet Wile (Apple Seed FM), Clerk of Nominating Committee gave us their first report (attached in archived minutes). Bob Runyan, Jan Turner, and Nate Secrest are the other Nominating Committee members. We will consider these names until tomorrow morning. Anyone with concerns should speak with a member of the Nominating Committee before Sunday's plenary. College Park Friends Educational Association is seeking more Quaker members for their board. See Sarah Tyrrell (Berkeley FM) and Lisa Hubbel if interested.

Sandy thanked the Nominating Committee for all of their work.

Naming Committee: The Clerk directed Friends to continue worship and out of the silence name Friends who might serve on the Naming Committee to nominate four Friends to the Nominating Committee for a term of 3 years. A number of names came out of silent worship and will consult with these friends about whether they would be willing to serve and report back at the afternoon plenary.

Interest Group Introductions: The Clerk read the descriptions of the afternoon Interest Groups..
Quaker Regional Gatherings with Jim and Janet Leslie

Regional gatherings of neighboring meetings provide a more informal, intimate, and easy-to-organize occasion for sharing Quaker life. We will describe a few examples of this, suggest how meetings might try this out, and propose the possibility of experimenting with three or four such gatherings in the place of a single winterquarterly gathering in 2019.

The Woolman Workgroup led by Lisa Frankel (CPFEA board member)

Woolman at Sierra Friends Center is in the middle of a strategic planning process that will guide us as we care for our site, establish and maintain programs to carry forward our mission and ground all of our work in sustainability and health. Please come to this interest group to contribute your thoughts, worship and discernment to this process.

Listening to the Spirit and to That of God in One Another with Barbara Babin

Our Quaker tradition is rich with examples of Friends who have listened to the “still, small voice” and found themselves being moved and transformed by Spirit. What are some of the ways that we do this inner listening today? What does our Faith and Practice have to say about listening? Let's explore how we can tune in more deeply to what Spirit is asking of us.

Plenary 2:

Assistant Clerk, Carl Sigmond, welcomed us to the second plenary session

Ben Lomond Quaker Center Report: Thom McCue (Live Oak FM), co-clerk of the Ben Lomond Quaker Center Board made their report (upended to minutes). He told us that he has been coming here since he was 19; he's been kicked off the property, gotten married here and has seen friends' ashes scattered here and has come closer to God here. He's sure the same is true for a lot of us.

He's reviewed the history for the last year and seen that there have been 62 rental groups and 42 personal retreats. About 10% are directly Quaker groups. Revenue from the other groups support the place for Quaker activities. He went on to describe the variety of groups and programs that Quaker Center supports.

There have been staff changes and there will be more:

For example, Kathy and Bob Runyan, have decided not to apply for another contract extension. The board celebrates the time that they've been here, and they've begun a search for the next Director or Directors.

Nominating Committee Update: Janet Wile reported for the Nominating Committee that Marcia Roberts (Akron , OH FM and currently attending RFFM) and Liz Baker(Sacramento FM) have both expressed interest in being Assistant Registrar. It was recommended that they form a Registration Committee. Janet Wile has expressed interest in joining the Teen Committee. This is the first reading of these names, and they will be considered with the others until tomorrow morning.

The minutes from this morning were read and approved with minor corrections.

Sunday, May 20, 2018

Nominating Committee Report: The second reading of the Nominating Committee's slate was given by Committee Clerk, Janet Wile. There was a question about clerks or convenors of the committees. The clerk requested that the Nominating Committee members consult briefly and come back to us on that issue.

Upon their return, the slate included committee clerks and it was approved. (Attached to minutes)

Naming Committee: has three people willing to serve: Thistle West (convenor) Don Sands and Nancy Nana. These people begin service now for a one year term. We will take up the need for an alternate to Naming Committee at the 2018 Fall CPQM gathering. We approved the three members of this committee.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Yamaguchi delivered the Treasurer's Report (attached to minutes). Chase Bank will no longer accept checks made out to "CPQM," so please spell out the name "College Park Quarterly Meeting" when you are writing a check.

Registrar's Report: The clerk gave the Registrar's Report (attached in archived minutes), since the Registrar, Peter Arnold, could not be present. 88 people attended this Quarterly Meeting: 77 adults, 10 children and teens and 1 baby. The following are the numbers of people who attended from various meetings:

Apple Seed	2
Berkeley	6
Carson City WG	0
Central Coast	0
Chico	3
Davis	1
Delta	1
Friends House WG	2
Fresno	3
Grass Valley	6
Humboldt	1
Lake County WG	7
Live Oak	1
Mendocino	0
Monterey	2
Napa	0
Palo Alto	5
Redding	2
Redwood Forest	6
Reno	0
Sacramento	3
San Francisco	10

San Jose	6
Santa Cruz	12
Soledad WG	0
Southern Humboldt WG	0
Strawberry Creek	6
Ukiah WG	0
Visalia	0
Outside of CPQM	1
San Francisco Mennonite	1
Akron Friends Meeting	1

Ad Hoc Working Group: Jim Anderson gave a report on the interest group on regional gatherings and presented a minute from the group:

“Regional gatherings of neighboring meetings provide informal, intimate and easy-to-organize occasions for sharing Quaker life. Friends at the interest group on Quaker regional gatherings this weekend propose exploring the possibility of a two-year experiment in which several local regional gatherings would replace our single-site winter quarter beginning in 2019. We ask the ad hoc working group formed at the interest group to engage in this exploration over the summer, communicate with meetings about this possibility, and bring to the fall quarterly sessions a detailed proposal for our consideration.”

A friend asked what the time frame is for preparing the winter quarter. Do we have enough time to prepare for this this year? An experienced friend suggested that we do.

Another friend remarked that this is one hundred years since the College Park Quarter began to recognize monthly meetings. Palo Alto formed then. This proposal will affect things like the bookstore and the children’s program; it takes more energy to divide and produce them. Will these be all on one day?

The working group invites further questions and has considered some of these issues already. A proposal will come to fall quarter. The members of the working group are: Jim Anderson, Liz Baker, Janet Leslie, Kathy Runyan, Ann Marie Snell, Eric Sabelman, Ann Marie Snell, and Tom Yamaguchi. Please contact them if you have comments or suggestions regarding the proposal.

We approved the minute.

Children's Report: The Children’s Program came into Meeting singing and shared their epistle about their experiences this weekend.

We closed with worship.

Faithfully submitted,

Sandy Kewman
CPQM Clerk

Heather Levien
CPQM Recording Clerk