

PALO ALTO FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

Fifth Month, 2011

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Advices and Queries for Fifth Month: **Harmony with Creation**

It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world, that they were better studied and knowing in the Creation of it. For how could [they] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the Great Creator stare them in the face, in all and every part thereof? - *William Penn, Some Fruits of Solitude, 1693*

God is revealed in all Creation. We humans belong to the whole interdependent community of life on earth. Rejoice in the beauty, complexity, and mystery of creation, with gratitude to be part of its unfolding. Take time to learn how this community of life is organized and how it interacts. Live according to principles of right relationship and right action within this larger whole.

Be aware of the influence humans have on the health and viability of life on earth. Call attention to what fosters or harms earth's exquisite beauty, balances and interdependencies. Guided by Spirit, work to translate this understanding into ways of living that reflect our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations.

In what ways do I express gratitude for the wondrous expressions of life on Earth?

Do I consider the damage I might do to the Earth's vulnerable systems in choices I make of what I do, what I buy, and how I spend my time?

In our witness for the global environment, are we careful to consider justice and the well-being of the world's poorest people?

Does our way of life threaten the viability of life on Earth?

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

9:00 to 10:00 am Adult Education, New Meeting House (NMH), 1st & 3rd First Days & on 4th & 5th First Days by arrangement.
10:00 to 10:25 Hymn Singing at NMH.
10:30 to 11:30 Meeting for Worship at New Meeting House.
10:30 to 11:15 First Day School for children in Old Meeting House (OMH – n.b., also now known as the "School House").
11:15 to 11:30 Children join adults for Meeting for Worship in NMH
11:30 to 11:45 Introductions and announcements

MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS is held on the second First Day of the month, following light refreshments after Meeting for Worship. The next Business Meeting is on May 8, 2011.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE (in NMH): Meeting for Worship – each First Day at 10:30 AM.
Mid-Week Evening Worship – each Wednesday at 6:00 PM.
Mindfulness Meditation – each Thursday at 7:15 AM

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APR

24 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.

24 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch – (see note below).

25 Mon 3 - 6:30 pm PAFM / Urban Ministry Meal Preparation – (see note below).

26 Tue 7:00 pm Worship Sharing for Caregivers – NMH (see note below).?

27 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.

28 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).

MAY

1 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH.

1 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.

- 4 **Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
 5 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
 8 **Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
 8 Sun noon Light lunch provided prior to Meeting for Business - OMH.
 8 Sun 12:15 pm Meeting for Business – NMH (see note above).
 11 **Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
 12 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
 13 **Fri – 15 Sun College Park Quarterly Meeting – Ben Lomond Quaker Center (see note below).**
 15 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH
 15 **Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
 15 Sun 11:45 am Collection for Ecumenical Hunger by Community Service Committee – NMH (see note below).
 15 Sun 12:15 pm Adult Ed. – Series on The Habit of Prayer and Reflection – NMH (see note below).
 15 Sun [Deadline for *submittal of Newsletter articles - if email send to moriii@yahoo.com.*]
 18 **Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
 19 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
 19 Thurs 7:00 pm Oversight Committee meeting – Library.
 22 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Series on Quaker Practices and Our Meeting – NMH (see note below).
 22 **Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
 22 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch – (see note below).
 24 Tue 7:00 pm Worship Sharing for Caregivers – NMH (see note below).?
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 26 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
 29 **Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
 30 Mon 3 - 6:30 pm PAFM / Urban Ministry Meal Preparation – (see note below).

CALENDAR EXPANSION – DETAILS

*** STANFORD QUAKER ACTIVITIES: STANFORD QUAKER ACTIVITIES: Stanford students interested in on-campus Quaker activities should contact Hannah Popick hannapopick@gmail.com , 650-644-5130. The group has shelf space in the Religious Groups Library of Old Union at Stanford. We would love to add your favorite Quaker book to the shelf. Books we have already received: http://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=pEJ3Q-pGqqEnf_0LgUUVLGA

*** ADULT EDUCATION DISCUSSION: **Reading and Discussion** led by Henry Jason each 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday at 9 am – NMH. We are reading and discussing Francis Howgill's 1658 work "Some of the Mysteries of God's Kingdom Declared".

Adult Education has two other series right now. The series on **The Habit of Prayer and Reflection** continues after worship on Third Firstdays. The series on **Quaker Practices and our Meeting** is on Fourth Firstdays at 9 a.m. If you have ideas or questions on the Reflection series, talk to Claire Arnold; for the Practices series, talk to Diane Pasta.

*** SPIRITUAL FORMATION GROUP: There is a spiritual formation group that meets on Wednesdays about twice a month. For more information talk to Jerry McBride, Susan Murphy, or Jennifer Summit.

*** COLLECTION FOR ECUMENICAL HUNGER PROGRAM (EHP): Community Service Committee the EHP after the rise of Meeting each third First Day – at the front door. EHP provides emergency food, clothing, case management, household essentials, and resource referrals to families in need in East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and Palo Alto.

*** HOMELESS MEALS - OPPORTUNITY FOR COMM-UNITY SERVICE – We help prepare the food and serve it to the Homeless at the First Methodist Church in Palo Alto as part of the Urban Ministry meal program. Scheduled dates for the balance of 2011 are: 4/25, 5/30, none in June, 7/4, 8/8, 9/12, 10/17, 11/21, and 12/26. Contact Marie Simirenko for more information - 650-961-1724.

*** THURSDAY MORNING MINDFULNESS MEDITATION: The Thursday morning meditation group meets in the New Meeting House at 7:15 am; practice time goes from 7:30 am to 8:30 am. All are welcome, including those new to meditation or experienced. Linea Stewart and the regular Thursday participants share the facilitation of the meditation group. For more info and a schedule of the practices, you may contact Trudy Reagan after meeting for worship on First days or by email, trudymyrrh@earthlink.net contact.

*** FOURTH FIRST-DAY PROVIDED LUNCH: PAFM provides a lunch on ***fourth*** First Day. This allows Friends an opportunity to get to know each other better. Friends, attenders, visitors, and newcomers are all welcome.

A special table is set aside for newcomers to meet with Friends and find out more about Quakerism and about our Meeting, its members & activities, as well as an opportunity for us to know you better. A member of Oversight will be at the table. All newcomers are welcome - as are any Friends who might be inclined to join the gathering. The term "newcomers" includes those who have recently begun attending, as well as those who feel "new" to the Meeting, regardless of how long they have been attending.

*** WORSHIP SHARING FOR CAREGIVERS: This is a group sponsored by Oversight and open to anyone caring for a loved

one of any age – infant to adult – who would like to explore how our Quaker beliefs and experiences can be a part of this loving undertaking. Contact Arden Pierce at 650-494-1631 or ardenhram@aol.com or Mary Lou Moses at 650-424-4342 for info. All are welcome. Arden

*** SUPPORT: If you have wondered what Friends do when we are in distress or need help, given that we do not have a minister - the answer is that we turn to members of the Oversight committee. Be advised that the greeters you see each First Day are on the Oversight Committee. Please feel free to talk to a member of Oversight about such concerns...after meeting,...or call or email them.

*** Rainy days are with us. Please take into consideration your ability to move quickly relative to other members of the meeting when you are choosing a parking spot. Try to leave a few close spots for members who may not be able to dodge raindrops as well as yourself.

*** Friends are reminded that there are those among us who have allergies, often severe. We must avoid certain food products especially in the School House because of the allergies of children attending Friends Nursery School. Some among us are also allergic to artificial fragrances (perfumes, colognes, after-shaves).

NEWS OF PEOPLE AND EVENTS

SPRING QUARTERLY MEETING: The CPQM planning committee has completed all the advance arrangements for the Spring Gathering of College Park Quarterly Meeting, May 13-15, 2011 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center. Please use this link to get the relevant materials. <http://collegepark.quaker.org/>. Please encourage car-pooling. Please note the registration deadline. Questions? Please e-mail or call Elizabeth Boardman eboardman@sbcglobal.net (530-759-1980) or e-mail Presiding Clerk Bob Runyan, bobrunyan@hotmail.com

CHILDCARE DURING MEETING FOR BUSINESS: During monthly Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, childcare will be provided for all age children from 12:15 to 1:45 pm in the School House. The regular staff for the preschool program, Jadranka Tanovic and Sangeta Tamang, provide the childcare. Advance sign-up is not required, but children should be in the program by 12:30. (If no children show up, the staff will leave at 12:45.)

NEWS OF AN ABSENT FRIEND: Olivia de Haulleville is living in a cabin in the desert at Yucca Valley, hauling in her own water, and finding it takes a lot of energy. She has had two hips replaced. She used to teach movement meditation in prisons, and now teaches it in the community. She appreciates how meeting paid for her gas to go to the prisons, and asks to be remembered to meeting.

RIDES TO/FROM MEETING: Oversight keeps a list of people seeking rides and a list of people who are willing to offer rides to and/or from Meeting on either a regular or occasional basis. Contact anyone on the committee if you or someone you would like to be on either list.

NEWS FROM QUAKER CENTER: The transition of Co-Directors from Jacob and Gretta Stone to Kathy and Bob Runyan is going well. We hope that many Friends will come see us in our new roles here during Quarterly Meeting, May 13-15th. We also invite Friends to join us for our **June 3rd-5th program, Creating the Future of Quaker Center**, when we will look deeply at our mission and discern how best to fulfill it and serve Friends and others.

Ben Lomond Quaker Camp welcomes rising 5th – 7th graders to join to explore Friends testimonies through creative group and individual projects. Activities include: swimming, hiking, campfires, music, story-telling, beach trips, and community service. For more information visit: www.quakercenter.org. **Or call directors, Kathy or Bob Runyan: 831-336-8333.**

Internship Opening in Buildings, Grounds, and Non-Profit Management (*Couples are encouraged to apply and job-share*): Quaker Center offers an extraordinary opportunity to live and work amidst 80 acres of redwood forest while exploring Quakerism and developing job skills for one year. There are two main areas of work: **Forest, buildings and grounds management** presents opportunities for forest management, wood-splitting, landscape design, gardening, plumbing, electrical and carpentry work under the mentorship of the Maintenance Manager. **Non-profit management** involves interacting with individual constituents by phone, managing booking logistics, preparing for and working with groups on site, as well as future program planning, marketing, and fundraising under the mentorship of the Co-Directors.

Should a couple job-share this internship, there would likely be some overlap and shared work. Compensation includes: relocation allowance, monthly stipend, one-bedroom apartment with full kitchen, education allowance, and 100% coverage of health care costs. For more information visit: <http://www.quakercenter.org/about-2/internship/> Please send a cover letter, resume and three references with phone numbers to: Quaker Center. Re: Internship P.O. Box 686 Ben Lomond, CA 95005. **Application deadline: May 15, 2011**

AFSC News: A New vision of the CA Budget The Healing Justice Program hosted the Northern California launch of the "Budget for Humanity", as part of AFSC work with the CURB Coalition (Californians United for a Responsible Budget). The Budget for Humanity shows a number of ways that legislators could save money by reducing the prison population or implementing policies that provided rehabilitation to prisoners so that recidivism could be reduced (now at 70% in

California). The 'Budget identifies several Billions of \$\$ in potential savings. Read all about it in the latest issues of *Street Spirit*, which contains an article by AFSC staff member Eric Moon.

Momentum is building. The NAACP issued a national report on the overuse of incarceration and its cost to the taxpayer. They were joined by some conservative Republicans and by the Prison Guards' union in California, among others.

Peace Program The Peace Programs had a very successful 'Walk Against Genocide' on Saturday, April 12th. Close to 500 people turned out for a three-mile walk around Lake Merritt in Oakland. The following Tuesday AFSC joined groups around the country in "Global Day of Action on Military Spending". A press conference was held in downtown Oakland, with a banner that depicts the way federal budget money is distributed. AFSC staff members Stephen McNeil and Sandra Schwartz, joined by 5 members of San Francisco Meeting, handed out 1,000 leaflets at one BART station early in the morning and provided leaflets for 17 others! This continues to be an excellent way to reach people who are normally beyond our grasp.

Don't forget the upcoming AFSC dinner. See the Flyer:



Save the Date!

American Friends Service Committee's Annual Dinner

"Edges of Justice"

an evening with Michelle Alexander
(author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, www.newjimcrow.com)
and special guest King Downing of AFSC

Dinner by Feast of Fools catering and music by Band Without Borders. There will be a silent art auction featuring the work of *Street Spirit* artists. Proceeds benefit AFSC's Healing and Economic Justice programs in the Bay Area.

When: Thursday, May 26, 2011, 6:00pm
Where: First Unitarian Universalist Church
1187 Franklin Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

Formal invitation to follow...

For more information contact Julia Parish at jparish@afsc.org or 415-565-0201 ext. 16.

THE PENINSULA PEACE AND JUSTICE CENTER: The Center's Calendar is at: <http://www.peaceandjustice.org>

2011 SERVICE LEARNING TRIP TO EL SALVADOR: A fabulous two-week package: the first week will help you build basic conversational Spanish or improve your Spanish. Week 2 in Perquin for service in the communities of El Gigante and Suenos. Dates: June 12-26. Fees, excluding airfare, are \$735/week and include all meals, lodging, entrance fees, class fees, and in-country transportation. Information and registration at: www.pafmelsalvadorprojects.org/teentrips.htm. Or contact Barbara Babin, at quakeryouthtrips@yahoo.com. 650-454-0216 to receive information by email or regular mail.

NEWS FROM SIERRA FRIENDS CENTER: from Dorothy Henderson, Head of School. This has been an eventful beginning to spring at Sierra Friends Center. As most of you know by now, Kathy and Bob Runyan have moved on from Woolman to become the Co-Directors of Quaker Center in Ben Lomond California. On March 12th, 2011, we gathered for a Farewell Meeting for Worship and Dinner to say goodbye to Kathy and Bob and their boys. They will be missed.

As I write this, our students are returning from Mexico. For many, this is the most meaningful experience of the semester, bringing together the issues of environmental and social justice, as well as the connections between power and non-violence. Our website, www.woolman.org will carry their words about this experience in the coming weeks.

It isn't too early to remind you that the 15th Woolman Semester culminating events will be happening in May. On Wednesday, May 18th at 7pm in the Meeting House on campus, the students will present their Youth as Peacebuilders Projects from their Global Issues class. On Friday, May 20th, at 7pm, the Peace Documentaries will get their first showing

in downtown Grass Valley. Saturday the 21st, at 9am there will be a tour and demonstration of the Environmental Science Sustainability projects on campus.

Finally, and really not to be missed, the 15th Woolman Semester Graduation will take place at 9am on Saturday, May 28th in the Meeting House on campus. If you want to be inspired by a new generation of scholar activists who can help you to feel hope for the future, please join us for this celebration!

NEIGHBORS EAST AND WEST TRAVEL TO PALESTINE – ISRAEL: 13 - day visit to Palestine and Israel In June, 2011. Participants will gain an informed perspective regarding efforts to establish a just and balanced peaceful settlement in the region. There will be ample time to visit many of the historic and religious sites in this land which is holy to Muslims, Christians and Jews.

This program will involve visits to Bethlehem, Ramallah, Nablus, Hebron and other towns and cities on the West Bank, and Haifa, Jerusalem and Nazareth in Israel. In the course of these visits participants will have the opportunity to meet with representatives of many active organizations, including (among several others) Christian Peacemaker Teams, faculty and students at Bethlehem, the Arab Human Rights Organization the Rapprochement Centre in Bethlehem, and B'tselem (an Israeli Human Rights organization.)

The primary leader and facilitator for this program is Dr. Tony Bing, emeritus professor from Earlham College. Dr. Bing has visited the Holy Land thirty-five times in the past twenty-seven years, often leading groups similar to ours. He has connections in both Palestine and Israel, and will provide participants with a unique perspective.

Also helping with leadership and travel arrangements are Sam and Ruth Neff, who, in the past twenty-six years, have led or facilitated seventeen or more trips to (the former) Soviet Union, Cuba, and Iran. Trip Summary:

- Tentative dates: June 13 – June 26
- Accommodations in three star hotels. Dinner & breakfast provided; overnight home stays in Bethlehem and Bil'in.
- All transportation and English-speaking guides included
- Transfers to and from Tel Aviv Airport
- Cost: \$1400 for 12 days in Palestine and Israel, based on sixteen participants. Airfare to Israel not included.
- For further information contact Sam or Ruth Neff at samn@earlham.edu, or phone (406) 862-1629. Itinerary and application forms will soon be available at <http://neighborseastandwest.org>.

Note: Trip organizers Sam and Ruth Neff have visited our Meeting. They are also seeking donors to support scholarships for young people who can't afford to go.

SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 5TH, 7:30PM - MUSIC IN THE MEETINGHOUSE - A CONCERT OF "NEW WINE IN OLD BOTTLES" to benefit FCL-CA - After collaborating in last year's concert for the Friends Committee on Legislation of California in music of the 17th and 18th centuries, violinist Anthony Martin and harpsichordist Jonathan Davis return with Yueh Chou, bassoon, for a program that mixes the Baroque with Early (20th Century) Music. Tickets at the door for a suggested donation of \$25 adult, \$15 age under 18. All proceeds go to support FCL-CA. For information, contact: Eric Sabelman, esabelman@aol.com, 650-322-2455

SOUTH BAY SANCTUARY COVENANT: invites you to a lively, passionate presentation from our delegation to El Salvador with a focus on Liberation and the Struggle for Human Rights. Sunday, May 22 at 4:00 PM. Program and Salvadoran Pupusa Dinner. First Presbyterian Church. 1140 Cowper Street, Palo Alto. **Please RSVP to steering@southbaysanctuary.org.** 650-494-8340

HELP CENTRAL AMERICAN REFUGEES WHILE YOU HELP YOURSELF: Reliable, hard-working men and women need jobs while they rebuild their lives. SBSC Job Hotline: (650) 494-8340.

Directory Changes (details to be posted in the office)

- New email for Hubert Morel-Seytoux
- New address for Tom and Carol Lustenader

To Submit Newsletter Items: See the Schedule on page 2 for the deadline for the next issue. You may *e-mail* Newsletter submissions to newsletter@pafm.org or moriii@yahoo.com If you wish to receive the newsletter by email - or wish to discontinue - please visit <http://lists.pafm.org/listinfo.cgi/newsletter-pafm.org>. [Ed.'s note: If you sign up to receive the Newsletter by email, make sure to put the following address in your email address book: moriii@yahoo.com. The NL is sent out from that address. Some email "Spam" filters may reject such a message if the sender address is unknown.]

If you have an e-mail address, please join our Meeting's e-mail discussion list. To subscribe - visit <https://mailman.stanford.edu/mailman/listinfo/pafriends>. To post a message to all on the list, send the message to pafriends@lists.stanford.edu. If you have any questions, contact Jerry McBride jlmbridemail@yahoo.com 964-2869.

