



Please think Green before printing this e-mail

PALO ALTO FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

Fifth Month, 2012

957 Colorado Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94303
(650) 856-0744

Co-Clerks: George Mills and Eric Sabelman
clerk@pafm.org

Treasurer: **Forest Preston**
650-839-1077 forest.preston@gmail.com

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 13, 2012.

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

~~ In this Issue ~~

Advices and Queries for Fourth Month	1	News of People and Events	3
Sunday Morning Schedule	1	Minutes of 3-11-12 Meeting for Business.....	5
Calendar Expansion – Details	2		

APR

- 22 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 22 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch this month – (see note below).
- 24 Tues 7:00 pm Caregivers Group meeting – Schoolhouse (see note below).
- 25 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 26 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 29 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH.
- 29 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**

MAY

- 2 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
3 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
5 Sat 9 am – 1 pm Buildings and Grounds Workday.
6 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH.
6 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
6 Sun 12:15 pm Adult Ed. Series on “To Be Broken and Tender” – NMH (see note below).
9 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
10 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
13 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
13 Sun noon Light lunch provided prior to Meeting for Business - OMH.
13 Sun 12:15 pm Meeting for Business – NMH (see note above).
16 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
17 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
20 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
20 Sun 11:45 am Collection for Ecumenical Hunger by Community Service Committee – NMH (see note below).
20 Sun [Deadline for submittal of Newsletter articles - if email send to moriii@yahoo.com.]
20 Sun 12:15 pm Adult Ed. – “Rebuilding to Remain” Discussion led by Donna Baranski-Walker – NMH.
22 Tues 7:00 pm Caregivers Group meeting – Schoolhouse (see note below).
23 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
24 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
24 Thurs 7:00 pm Care and Concerns Committee Meeting – Library (see note below).
27 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.
27 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch this month – (see note below).
30 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.
31 Thurs 7:15 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).

CALENDAR EXPANSION – DETAILS

*** STANFORD QUAKER ACTIVITIES: Stanford students interested in on-campus Quaker activities should contact Daniel Steinbock <daniel@steinbock.org>. Meetings are held in the CIRCLE sanctuary on the 3rd floor of Old Union. Contact Daniel for current schedule. The group has shelf space in the CIRCLE Library and we would love to add your favorite Quaker book to the shelf. Books we have already received: <http://bit.ly/qbooklist>.

*** 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 a 1648 book written by Robert Wilkinson entitled The Saint's Travel to the Land of Canaan: Wherein are Discovered Seventeen False Rests Short of the Spiritual Coming of Christ in the Saints: Together with a Brief Discovery of What the Spiritual Coming of Christ is, Who is the Alone Rest and Centre of Spirits. All are welcome No preparation is necessary. A pdf of the work is available; please inquire if interested in acquiring a copy. Contact Henry Jason.

May 20th at 12:15 pm: Donna Baranski-Walker will update the Meeting regarding a program called, "Rebuilding to Remain." A group of architects and engineers spent 10 days working with villagers to design their future homes returning home to the land they own in a Palestinian village slated for demolition by the Israeli Army. The villagers believe if they do nothing, their village will disappear. This program raises funds for 30 homes, providing down-payment on each home, a revolving mortgage loan fund, and funds for coordination of worldwide advocacy to keep the village standing. The villagers are putting their own savings in to match the down-payment, and they will help with finishing of their homes too. In a brave move towards conflict resolution, the mayor of the village invited the Brigadier General of the Israeli Army to meet with him to discuss the lifting of demolition orders. Hear the full story May 20th.

Series on “To be Broken and Tender”: The series will be held 12:15- 1:45 (though you can leave early if you need to) on the first First Day of each month. It will be six sessions: Apr. 1, May 6, Jun. 3, Jul. 12, Aug. 5, Sep. 2. Reading will be Margery Post Abbott's book, *To Be Broken and Tender: A Quaker Theology for Today*, available in the office for \$20 (ask Diane Pasta or Tom Farley). If you want the book, but cannot afford it, talk to Diane or inquire at Care and Concerns for a subsidy.

*** 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 is a vital part of the local safety net providing emergency food, clothing, case management, household essentials, and resource referrals to families in need in East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and Palo Alto. Second Harvest brings a truckload of fresh produce 12 times a year, on the first Tuesday. Meeting collected \$ \$228 in contributions for EHP in April.

*** HOMELESS MEALS - OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY 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 2012 are 5/14, 6/18, 7/23, 8/27, (none for Sept.), 10/1, 11/5, 12/10. Contact Marie Simirenko for more info - 650-961-1724.

*** THURSDAY MORNING MINDFULNESS MEDITATION: Thursday morning meditation - newcomers welcome. Doors open at 7:15 am with quiet music. At 7:30 am, we have a short Buddhist guidance, and a half-hour meditation. Afterwards, we discuss how the meditation was for us, finishing at 8:15 or 8:30. We are following the teachings of the Vietnamese Buddhist monk, Thich Nhat Hanh, similar to Quaker philosophy but with additional insights. We discuss meditation technique, which is also helpful to people on Sunday!

*** 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 Care & Concerns 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 Care and Concerns 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. The group has changed its meeting time back to fourth Tuesdays. The group meets in the Schoolhouse. Contact Arden Pierce at 650-494-1631 or ardenhram@aol.com or Mary Lou Moses at 650-424-4342 for info. All are welcome.

*** 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 Care and Concerns committee. Be advised that the greeters you see each First Day are on the Care and Concerns Committee. Please feel free to talk to a member of Care and Concerns about such concerns...after meeting,...or call or email them.

*** 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

CPQM SPRING 2012 QUARTERLY MEETING: Friends are invited to the spring 2012 gathering of College Park Quarterly Meeting, May 18-20 at Ben Lomond Quaker Center. The theme for this quarterly meeting is "Beyond Membership: Growing as Friends." The invitation and information sheet and the registration form are now available at <http://collegetpark.quaker.org>.

MAY 2012 NEWS FROM QUAKER CENTER: Are you ready to face the fate we all share? Please join us **June 1st - 3rd** as we take a Friendly look at end of life blessings and challenges. **Claire Gorfinkel and Mary Ann Percy** will lead us lead us in a workshop entitled, "**Celebrating Aging and Facing the Inevitable.**" They will share information resources for support including: advance care planning, recognizing the inevitable, and building more caring communities that will help us all enjoy the spiritual gifts of the diverse adventures of growing older so that we can age wisely and well. Find out more and register early online at <http://www.quakercenter.org/celebrating-aging-and-facing-the-inevitable>.

Quaker Center Summer Youth Camps will once again be directed by Stephen Myers but we've made some adjustments to better meet the needs of campers. Please note the **new age ranges** for all the camps and the **new theme of the older teens camp**.

- **June 23rd - 30th: Quaker Camp:** for rising 4th, 5th, or 6th graders to explore Quaker testimonies experientially. Activities include: community building games, swimming, hiking around Quaker Center, campfires, music, story-telling, community service, and a field trip to the beach.

- **July 7th - 15th: Service Camp:** for teens entering 7th, 8th, or 9th grade to serve others while having a good time. We will be of service in the local community and go on hikes in the area, including some of both at Quaker Center. We'll also take field trips to a local Friend's pool and to the beach.

- **July 22nd - 28th: Peace Action Camp:** at La Jolla Friends Meeting for rising 10th- 12th grade teens to explore inward and outward nonviolence, including nonviolent direct action, community service, and outdoor adventure with Jim Summers as a San Diego area resource.

For more information visit www.quakercenter.org or call Quaker Center at 831-336-8333. If you feel like you're missing out on all the fun of summer camp, you're in luck. All ages are welcome to our annual **Family Work Camp** from **July 29th - August 5th**. Join us for a week of putting our hands and hearts to work on improvements to Quaker Center facilities while building community among us too. Summer is just around the corner so register early online, <http://www.quakercenter.org/programs/register>

SAVE THE DATE: The Christian Friends Conference will be held June 2, 9-5 in the Schoolhouse.

QUAKER QUEST: For Friends who want to know more about the Quaker Quest program being explored in Meeting - www.friendsjournal.org/quaker-quest is a link to the article that was distributed in M4B in January. In addition, www.quakerquestfgc.org has a variety of materials that may answer some questions.

The first step is information gathering to determine if we want to do a full day workshop with a Quaker Quest Travel Team. Meg Givens, Ray Richspater and Talley Kenyon are a working group under Worship and Ministry for this first step. If you have questions, please let one of them know.

COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2012: The committee approved the following distribution from its 2012 budget.

\$ 600.00 Peninsula Interfaith Action
\$ 250.00 InnVision with a memo note for the Opportunity Center
\$ 50.00 InnVision (general; no memo note)
\$ 100.00 Catholic Worker of Redwood City
\$ 50.00 Planned Parenthood Mar Monte
\$ 50.00 Free at Last
\$ 25.00 Hidden Villa with a memo note for the Camp scholarships
\$ 25.00 Support Network for Battered Women

B&G WORKDAY PAFM: Sat. May 5 .9 to 1 or any part thereof*. Weed, prune, remove privet, clean eaves, remove stumps, wash windows, etc. *Come and join us for snacks, Friendly company, and working toward good stewardship.

NEWS FROM QUAKER CENTER: Our next workshop, *Celebrating Aging and Facing the Inevitable* will be held from **June 1st - 3rd**. **Claire Gorfinkel and Mary Ann Percy** from Southern California Quarterly Meeting will lead us in celebrating the spiritual and other gifts of aging, sharing information resources for support including: Advance Care Planning, recognizing the inevitable, and building more caring communities that will help us all enjoy the diverse adventures of growing older so that we can age wisely and well. Please register online at <http://www.quakercenter.org/programs/register/>

AFSC NEWS: A New Regional Director. The Director of AFSC Western Region has been appointed. She is Sonia Tuma, previously Regional Director of AFSC's Central Regional Office in Des Moines. The office for the new expanded Region will be in San Francisco. Sonia will officially begin her duties June 20, 2012. Welcome Sonia!

Street Spirit and the Occupy Movement Last month I spoke of the issue highlighting the value and effectiveness of non-violence in protest movements. That issue has been a sell-out. For the first time in its history there had to be a reprint. People from as far afield as Seattle and Chicago requested copies. A total stranger came into the SF office and took as many copies as they had to distribute among Occupy activists. As the Occupy movement gears up for spring activities the Street Spirit articles are going to play an important role in their decision making.

Citizenship classes AFSC staff in the Central Valley are, once again, organizing citizenship classes. They will be held in four locations in Tulare County and be run by volunteers. The aim is to offer 100 people the skills they need to become US citizens. – *Ruth Fraser*

THE PEACE AND JUSTICE CALENDAR: A service of the Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness Committee of Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting, this calendar is posted for easy reference:

<http://groups.google.com/group/bayareaquakers>

Other events calendars of interest are available at:

IndyBay Calendar: <http://www.indybay.org/calendar/>

Global Exchange: <http://www.globalexchange.org>

KPFA: <http://kpfa.org>

Political Events Calendar: <http://www.politicaeventscalendar.org>

Ecoevents: <http://www.ecovegevents.com>

Ecology Center: <http://www.ecologycenter.org>

The Squid List: <http://laughingsquid.com/squidlist/events/>

NEW ITEM: The Mt. Diablo Peace Center Calendar can be found at: <http://mtdpc.org/calendar.php?act=calendar>

UPCOMING EVENTS AT WOOLMAN:

Spring Clean-Volunteer Day, Apr 28, 8:30-3:30, Woolman Campus

Speak Truth To Power Student Presentations, May 20, 12:30, Woolman Campus

Student Peace Documentary Premiere, May 18, 7:00pm, Universalist Unitarian Church, Grass Valley

Sustainability Project Demonstrations, May 19, 9 to noon, Woolman Campus

Baccalaureate, May 19, 7:00pm, Woolman Campus

Graduation, 9:00am, May 26, Woolman Campus

Sierra Friends Camp—Session 1: July 1-13th;

Session 2: July 15 - 27th

Session 3: July 29 - Aug 4

Teen Leadership Camp—First Session: July 1-15th;
Session 2: July 21-Aug 4

Family Work Camp, June 17-24

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: John Calvi will address PYM at the annual session at Walker Creek Ranch, August 13-18, 2012. He is a healer, has done extensive work on torture, founding Quaker Initiative to End Torture (QUIT), and works from a position of humility, that is, he accepts whatever remuneration a group can provide. His writings include a pamphlet, *The Dance Between Hope and Fear*, an address that he gave to Southeastern Yearly Meeting in 1992. It is also called the Annual Walton Lecture and was reprinted in 2001. He is a member of Putney Monthly Meeting in Vermont and lives with his partner of many years, Marshall Brewer. For more information about Calvi's ministry, see his website: <http://www.johncalvi.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.)

RIDES TO/FROM MEETING: Care and Concerns Committee 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.

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

SOUTH BAY SANCTUARY COVENANT: Invites you to join us for highlights from our 2012 delegates focused on protecting Salvadoran Human Rights and the Environment and Jose Artiga, Executive Director of SHARE Foundation: Campaign for Permanent Residency for those with Temporary Protective Status – TPS. Delicious Salvadoran pupusa and enchilada dinner. Salvadoran crafts for sale. Sunday, April 29, 2012 at 4:00 PM First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1140 Cowper Street, Palo Alto 94301. Suggested donation for program including dinner: \$20/adult & \$5-\$15/student (No one turned away for lack of funds) Please call 650-494-8340 or email steering@southbaysanctuary.org to RSVP.

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.

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 jlmcbriemail@yahoo.com 964-2869.
