



Please think Green before printing this e-mail

PALO ALTO FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

Ninth Month, 2012

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Advices and Queries for Ninth Month: Integrity and Personal Conduct

... let your yea be yea, and your nay, nay. James 5:12, King James Version

Integrity has always been a goal of Friends. It is essential to trust, to all communication between people and between people and God. Integrity grounds our beliefs, thoughts, and actions in our spiritual center and makes us whole.

Friends believe that we are called to speak the truth. A single standard of truth requires us to conduct ourselves in ways that are honest, direct, and plain, and to make our choices, both large and small, in accord with the urgings of the Spirit. It follows that we object to taking an oath, which presupposes a variable standard of truth. Be true to your word.

From early days Friends have opposed gambling and practices based on chance. These activities profit from the inevitable loss of others, promote greed, and conflict with good stewardship. Public lotteries have not furthered their purported benefit to the public good. All addictions are of concern.

As the use of alcohol and tobacco all too often entail serious risks to self and others, Friends who serve alcohol at home should be diligent in offering alternatives. Alcohol should not be served at Meeting gatherings.

Find recreation that brings you joy and energy. Be aware of how your choices affect yourself and others.

- How do I strive to maintain the integrity of my inner and outer lives?
- Do I act on my principles even when this entails difficult consequences?
- Am I honest and truthful in all that I say and do, even when a compromise might be easier or more popular?
- Am I reflective about the ways I gain my wealth and income and sensitive to their impacts on others?
- Is my life so filled with the Spirit that I am free from the misuse of alcohol and other drugs, and of excesses of any kind?
- Do we, in our Meeting, hold ourselves accountable to one another as do members of a healthy family?

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 will be on September 9, 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

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AUG

CALENDAR

- 26 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 26 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch this month – (see note below).
- 28 Tues 7:00 pm Caregivers Group meeting – Schoolhouse (see note below).
- 29 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 30 Thurs 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).

SEP

- 2 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH.
- 2 **Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 2 Sun 12:15 pm Adult Ed. Series on “To Be Broken and Tender” – NMH (see note below).
- 5 **Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 6 Thurs 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 9 **Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 9 Sun noon Light lunch provided prior to Meeting for Business - OMH.
- 9 Sun 12:15 pm Meeting for Business – NMH (see note above).
- 12 **Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 13 Thurs 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 16 **Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 16 Sun 11:45 am Collection for Ecumenical Hunger by Community Service Committee – NMH (see note below).
- 16 Sun [Deadline for submittal of Newsletter articles - if email send to moriiii@yahoo.com.]
- 19 **Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 20 Thurs 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 20 Thurs 7:00 pm Care and Concerns Committee Meeting – Library (see note below).
- 23 **Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 23 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch this month – (see note below).
- 26 **Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 27 Thurs 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 29 Sat 9 AM – 4PM Harvest Festival – Meetinghouses and grounds (see note below).
- 30 **Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**

CALENDAR EXPANSION – DETAILS

*** STANFORD QUAKER ACTIVITIES: Stanford students interested in on-campus activities may contact Talley Kenyon at talleykenyon@gmail.org. 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.

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. There will be one more session: 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.

*** 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 \$155.01 in contributions for EHP in August.

*** 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 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 7:30 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.

*** SUPPORT & CONCERNS: 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, by phone, or email. You may also join us to express concerns during the first segment of our usual meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 7 pm in the Meetinghouse Library. Please contact the clerk Judith Bush (650-962-1318, judith@grey-cat.com) to confirm that there are no meeting changes and ensure time on the agenda.

*** 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

FCL-CA FUNRAISER AT BERKELEY FRIENDS CHURCH: Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Ernest Bicknell's Birth and Benefit for the 60th Anniversary of *Friends Committee on Legislation of California*. Bick was looking forward to the fundraiser for FCL which was to be held for his 100th Birthday. He would not be disappointed to know that this will happen in his memory.

When: Sept. 15th, 2012 (Sat.) 2 to 5 PM. RSVPs are appreciated by Weds., Sept.12. George Millikan at gemillikan@earthlink.net or send a note to the BFM Peace & Social Order Committee, 2151 Vine St., Berkeley, CA 94709.

Where: Berkeley Friends Church. 1600 Sacramento St.

What: Update on FCLCA Activities by Jim Lindburg, Legislative Director; Shared Reminiscences of Bick from friends and family; Buffet (lots of food and drink); Entertainment (folksinger Kitty Von Braskat-Crowe); Birthday Cake; Socializing; Bulgarian Folk Dancing (led by Bliana Stremaska); Giving opportunity: You will be invited to make gifts to FCLCA in units of 100.

FCLCA has advocated for an end to California's death penalty since its founding in 1952 and has since 2011, served on the steering committee of the SAFE California initiative to end the death penalty (which will appear on the November 2012 ballot as Proposition 34). FCLCA needs your support and financial help to fight for this and other priorities, such as single payer health care and prison reform for California. If you can't make it for the fun, you can still send a centennial contribution in memory of Bick to FCLCA in Sacramento.

HARVEST FESTIVAL: September 29, 2012. Benefits *Friends Committee on Legislation – California* and provides a month of time to work together and have fun together and then to savor the fruits of our labors. Please mark the date on your calendar and join in. We welcome your donations for this year's Harvest Festival (see guidelines below). We began accepting donations on Saturday, August 18. The last day for book donations is September 9. Donations will also be accepted on the following Saturdays:

August 25	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
September 1	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
September 8	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
September 15	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
September 22	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

If you cannot deliver items on those days, please see that they are protected from dampness by putting them in covered boxes or plastic bags. You can leave them on the far side of the container next to the fence.

COME TO A "PRICING PARTY"

Our popular "pricing parties" will also be held on all of these dates from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. We hope you will volunteer to help for an hour or more on any or all of these Saturdays. To volunteer, sign up on the Harvest Festival schedule in the Meeting House foyer or contact Deirdre Moore at (650- 396-7145) or Sylvia Walker 650-521-1530 (mobile).

RUMMAGE GUIDELINES

Please bring items that fit these guidelines:

- It is clean and in excellent condition.
- I would buy it. - I would pay at least \$1.00 for it.

Items to bring:

- Treasures and art with attached information and price
- Children's toys and clothes
- Books (in good condition) **by September 9**
- Commercially produced CDs, DVDs, records, tapes, & videos
- Seasonal items - Costumes for all ages
- International items - Jewelry
- Household - Linens

- Scarves, purses
- Baskets
- Garden items
- Sports and camping equipment

Bring the following items with your name & phone so you can take back if not sold:

- Furniture
- Items with electrical cords
- Bicycles and scooters
- Golf clubs
- Exercise machines

WE CANNOT TAKE

- Adult clothing & shoes
- Infant & child car seats
- Anything with a circuit board — phones, TVs, computer equipment, etc.
- Magazines (includes National Geographic)
- Outdated textbooks
- Paints, chemicals, or any hazardous material
- Cosmetics & personal care products

WE ALSO NEED

Clean, sturdy boxes with tops that can be taped closed.

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP BOARD - Check in the lobby starting Aug. 26th. Sign up early to reserve your favorite activity and time.

PUBLICITY - Pick one thing you can do to help out and sign up so no one duplicates efforts. Check in the lobby.

THANK YOU!

PASS FOR BEN LOMOND CENTER'S QUAKER WORKSHOPS: *Care and Concerns* has bought an annual pass to Ben Lomond Center's Quaker workshops out of the Education Fund. The intent of this pass purchase is to support attendance at Ben Lomond Center's Quaker events for those who would not be able to attend due to cost. While the pass supports just one registration per event, the fund may be used as well for these events. We will review your requests for assistance up to thirty days in advance, ideally at our regular meeting. If no one requests financial assistance, we will use the pass for those in our community who have let the committee know of their intent to register, splitting the pass with up to two registrations.

SEPTEMBER 2012 NEWS FROM QUAKER CENTER: We've had a busy summer with many youth and intergenerational camps and programs. We are looking forward to having a wider age range at all our programs. San Francisco Friend, Neil Fullagar, has offered his professional childcare services for most Quaker Center programs in the near future, with children joining us for meals and playing with Neil and his assistant during program sessions.

As summer comes to a close we will be offering ***Clerking Among Friends***, co-led by Barbara Babin and Shayne Lightner from **August 31 - September 2nd**. Delve into the many facets of clerking, including service and leadership as spiritual practices and the role of the clerk in shaping Meetings for Business that are truly meetings for worship. Find out more about the focus of this program and register online at <http://www.quakercenter.org/clerking-among-friends>.

Jim Anderson has planned our first ever week-long program, ***Quakers...in the Life***, from **Sept. 23-29th** with an inspiring line up of Friends, including Eric Moon, Rachel Findley, Stephen Matchett, Diego Navarro, Kathy Hyzy, and Paul Harris. Each will lead a session one day, though most of them will be staying for much of the week. The title phrase is an old Quaker term referring to a sense of being gathered in a powerful unity, a sense of presence directing our lives. We see the traces: in our tradition, the lives of earlier Friends, in writings deeply entered into, in occasions of joint work, study, worship, and service, in strong and deepening friendships. We hope you will join us. Find out more and register online at:

<http://www.quakercenter.org/quakers-in-the-life/>.

AFSC Dispatch : AFSC youth program mural in Oakland The AFSC youth program participants are painting a portable mural in the Fruitvale district of Oakland. The mural will be based at Oakland's social justice high school, the Street Academy at 29th and Telegraph. If you have high school age kids who want to be involved, call the office and talk to Pablo or Sandy: (415) 565-0201.

Central Valley AFSC citizenship classes A necessary precondition to participating in the electoral process is becoming a citizen. In support of that effort, staff in the Farmersville office have been training volunteers to teach citizenship classes. So far they have trained over 100 people but usually there are long waiting lists of folks wanting to take the classes. AFSC hopes that through the training, more people can become citizens and will then be able to participate in the electoral process, and other kinds of civic engagement, to make their voices heard. Previous rounds of trainings were grant funded but funding has since run out. Still, volunteers remain interested and committed enough that they are now conducting the citizenship classes on a volunteer basis. However, many of the volunteers do still need help with transportation. If people want to donate, they can send a check earmarked for the citizenship classes to the AFSC San Francisco office, 65 Ninth St., SF 94103. The citizenship classes may be having an effect. While we cannot provide actual numbers there is evidence of a surge in Latino voters in the Valley.

Hunger Strike one year on July 2012 marks the 1-year anniversary of hunger strike held by prisoners in the California correctional system to protest the egregious use of solitary confinement in the system. The coalition that formed to

support the hunger strike has been holding events around the state, including building a mock solitary confinement cell and bringing it to Mime Troupe performances. Despite the passage of time, the agreements that were reached to settle the strike still aren't implemented. The (California) Department of Corrections will only say that they are working on it. Still, the hunger strike and its aftermath have brought much-needed attention to California's use of solitary confinement. For example, for the first time in its history, last month the US Congress held hearings on the issue.

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>

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>

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.

GREG KERBER HAS A COUPLE OF REQUESTS:

1. Greg needs to rent or purchase a car.
 2. He has a large (25" or 27") Sharp TV for sale.
- Contact Greg at (650) 853-0425 if you can help.

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 jlmcbridemail@yahoo.com 964-2869.

Palo Alto Friends Meeting Directory

The new Meeting Directory has been published and copies have been placed in the Library.

Here are the directory changes. The details will be posted in the office as usual.

Marcia Anderson New email address

Unity with Nature Committee No clerk appointed at this time. Please refer any enquires to Co-clerks of Monthly Meeting.

REFLECTIONS ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO QUAKER ORGANIZATIONS:

- by Carin Pacifico.

A recent post on the website "Mondoweiss" reminded me of why our contributions to Quaker organizations are so important in helping to imagine, and so shape, justice and peace in the Holy Land and elsewhere. Justice, of course, does not just "happen." Like art it requires both imagination and creativity. The quotes that I "tweeted" during my recent trip to I/P were from the pamphlet which the Ramallah Meeting makes available to guests. Below that is a discussion of an important new book about the apartheid system to which Palestinian Christians and Palestinian Muslims in Ramallah and the Jordan Valley are subjected. The full article is available on mondoweiss.net

I was delighted to discover, in discussions with people in Ramallah just how influential is the Ramallah Friends School. It was very like the strange experience among Quakers of discovering that so many African Americans know what a "Quaker" is, (people who risked something to help), even though so few attend Quaker meeting. In Ramallah the young Palestinians are often "overtly a-religious" but they do know what Quakers are. The Friends High School has even educated the "dumb jocks" of the Palestinian national sports teams! The Quaker influence, for both toleration and public integrity, is one of the hopeful things upon which a fair, multi-religious society can be built. From there, possibly, the model could be extended to the neighbors, who knows?.

- Carin Pacifico@sandhillexit: "the 1967 Israeli War..All the Meeting Minutes were lost or destroyed...records of births, marriages, deaths and property. All..was gone."
- Carin Pacifico@sandhillexit: "I remember that the singing was in Arabic with...hymns...my sister complained about how difficult it was to read music backwards."
- Carin Pacifico@sandhillexit: "Friends are..few in number...because their manner..is that of simplicity and informality. These do not appeal to the oriental mind (sic)"

and then this.....

The final event for After Zionism is in Ramallah at the Quaker's Friends Meeting House with Omar Barghouti and Joseph Dana. Being the last night of Ramadan, the space was still quickly filled with a smattering of Palestinians, Western aid workers and writers. Barghouti explains how the challenge for a democratic future is to decolonise Israel both ideologically and practically. There needs to be a just way to compensate all citizens, Jews, Palestinians or others, who have been expelled since 1948. He says that a distinction between public and private land and property would be taken into account in one, democratic state. Barghouti's chapter in After Zionism outlines how this could happen.

His key point is that colonial privileges currently enjoyed by Jewish colonists in the West Bank must stop immediately, like at the end of apartheid South Africa. I like his line that Jews living in Brooklyn can't behave in a brutal way towards Arabs as they do if they move to the occupied territories. Barghouti sounds an optimistic tone by arguing a combination of the Arab Spring, BDS and a multi-polar world is making it easier to imagine the end of Zionist exclusion. It will be increasingly hard to maintain a ghettoised Jewish state in the heart of a democratic region.

I'm encouraged to hear Barghouti say that in the last 12-18 months, BDS is suddenly taking off across the world. He says he can't keep up with the number of university campuses wanting to initiate programs against Israel firms and campaigns to convince Western musicians and artists not to play Israel. I'm told that Israeli music promoters are paying 2-3 times the normal rate to convince foreigners to come because the political price for doing so is growing.

Cultural isolation for Israelis is far from complete but it's undeniably on the rise. For example, the fact that Madonna recently felt the need to try and bring peace activists from both sides during her show - Israeli liberal Zionists came while anti-occupation activists refused - shows the campaign is starting to bite.

During the Q and A - many in the audience were Westerners working for Western NGOs in Palestine - there was a palpable frustration with the role of these organisations in perpetuating the conflict rather than solving it. "Are we helping manage the occupation for Israel?", one Australian asks. Some Palestinians, while liking the idea of a one-state solution, wonder how it will be achieved with such a powerful Zionist state next door. Dana says that now is not the time to be talking about the composition of a future state but rather we should better understand today's reality and act accordingly. I say that Western audiences are yet to be seriously exposed to the idea of a anything other than the two-state equation and a "peace process" so if not now, when? Similar discussions occur during book events in London, including at the Frontline Club and SOAS.

Palestine is a contradiction. Dana and I hang out at a public pool in Ramallah. It's full of parents with their children swimming in the cool water. There's a pool bar serving beer on tap. Palestinian women are sitting in skimpy bikinis. This is not the image of Palestine that we're used to seeing. Ramallah is a relatively liberal and Christian-dominated city and it's unlikely many other places in the West Bank, and certainly not Gaza, would allow such behaviour, but despite growing conservatism, liberal life goes on. It's yet another example of the Ramallah bubble.

Palo Alto Meeting manages a number of funds which have been established over the years for the benefit of the community. We publish a description of these fund annually. The descriptions follow.

PALO ALTO FRIENDS MEETING
Religious Society of Friends
Description of funds - for community use

Last updated May 2012

FUNDS OF PALO ALTO FRIENDS MEETING

As of January, 2012, Palo Alto Friends Meeting manages three funds for the benefit of members, attenders, and their families; two funds for the benefit of the Meeting as a whole; one fund to benefit special or emergency needs outside of the Meeting; and one fund each for use at the discretion of the Library Committee, Unity with Nature Committee, El Salvador Committee, and Stanford Student Group. Current balances for each fund are reported quarterly to our Meeting for Business by the treasurer.

Here are descriptions for each of these funds:

FUNDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF MEMBERS, ATTENDERS, AND THEIR FAMILIES

Education Fund - This fund is administered by the Care and Concerns Committee, formerly called the Oversight Committee. It is intended for Quaker related educational needs and/or scholarship for members, attenders and family members. There is a \$500 per person per year maximum limit for this fund. The applicant should explain the need fully including the requested amount and present the request either in person or in writing at a regularly scheduled Committee meeting. Decisions by the Committee are generally confidential on requests from individuals. More weight will be given to requests that have either a direct or indirect benefit to the Meeting as a whole. The fund can be used either for receiving or giving Quaker related educational materials, classes, workshops or other experiences. Some good examples of how this fund might be used are fees for a conference or program at Ben Lomond Quaker Center, purchase of books for a summer study series sponsored by Worship and Ministry or fees for a workshop that has some relation to Quaker faith and practice, but not necessarily sponsored by a Quaker organization (e.g. nonviolence training by CCCO). It is generally intended that this fund be used by individuals that would have difficulty accomplishing the particular educational experience without this help. A good test might be to ask, "Would I forego the experience if the money were not available?" - or asked another way - "Is the money an obstacle to my attendance?" In early 2012 this fund held about \$2,100.

Fund for Concerns - This fund was established several years ago by combining several small bequests. It too is administered by the Care and Concerns committee, formerly called the Oversight Committee. It is intended to help any member or attender to pay for expenses associated with service work in the community. The applicant should explain the need fully including the requested amount and present the request either in person or in writing at a regularly scheduled Committee meeting. The applicant would have a clearness committee since the person performing the service often represents our Meeting in a public way and should be helped to be an ambassador of Quaker values in the larger community. Although the clearness process is confidential, money distributed from this fund need not necessarily be kept confidential. In early 2012 this fund held about \$1,150.

Sharing Fund - This fund is administered by the Care and Concerns Committee, formerly called the Oversight Committee. It is intended for personal emergency or hardship situations experienced by members or attenders. All discussions and decisions are confidential. The applicant should explain the need fully including the requested amount and present the request either in person or in writing at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee. Money distributed from this fund is usually in the form of a loan which will be repaid as mutually agreed upon between the Committee and the applicant. In some cases a grant may be made with no expectation of repayment. We ask all recipients of money from the Sharing Fund to be mindful of the fact that money repaid to the fund can then be made available to others in need. Although there is no minimum or maximum limit on the amount of each request, the amount loaned or granted may not exceed the amount needed to cover the emergency or hardship situation. If necessary, due to the emergency nature of the request, either a special called meeting of the Committee can be held, or if that is not possible, then the clerk of the Meeting, the clerk of the Committee, and one other clerk must agree with the request before the loan or grant can be given. The amount of the loan or grant is determined by the Committee balanced between each specific request, the overall needs of the larger Meeting community, and preserving part of the fund for future needs. It is not necessarily the case that the amount requested is the amount actually lent or granted. In early 2012 this fund held about \$37,200.

FUNDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE MEETING AS A WHOLE

Major Maintenance Reserve Fund - This fund has been set up for major maintenance and capital item replacement for our Meeting House, the School house, and the property and grounds. These funds are used for expenses not covered by the annual Maintenance and Repair budget, which covers on-going expenses for maintenance. In our annual budget we also have a line for Major Maintenance or Capital Replacement; the amount budgeted is used for major maintenance or capital item replacement during the year, and any unspent balance at the end of the year is rolled over into this fund. Examples of typical uses of this fund are new roof, painting, carpeting, major landscaping, driveway paving, facility upgrades, and other capital expenses which are required at long time intervals, e.g., 5-30 years. The Buildings and Grounds Committee reports or clears uses of this fund at Meeting for Business. In early 2012 this fund held about \$54,500.

Forsythe Memorial Building Fund - This fund was established by Minute 1998.27 at the Meeting for Business of the Seventh Month, 1998. The minute reads as follows:
The Meeting approved the committee's recommendation that the Diana Forsythe bequest be kept in a segregated ledger account, that it be used for maintenance and/or improvements to the buildings and grounds, and that these moneys be used for improvements or major maintenance before meeting reserve funds be used for the same purpose. In early 2012 this fund held about \$11,700.

FUND TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OR EMERGENCY NEEDS OUTSIDE OF THE MEETING

Special Needs Fund - This is to be used to help local, state, national or international organizations or individuals with important work consistent with Quaker values where a contribution from our Meeting can make a real difference. Any standing committee of the Meeting can request any amount up to and including the full amount remaining in the fund. The request is made at the Monthly Meeting for Business and is seasoned one month. It is not to be used for needs of our own Meeting, as those needs should be within our budget. This Fund is not used for recurring support to an organization. In early 2012 this fund held about \$2,500.

FUND FOR USE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Book Support Fund - This fund was established by a donor in order to purchase materials to enrich our library collections. The funds are intended to be used to purchase items that might not otherwise be possible from the annual Library budget. The Library Committee determines the uses of this fund and the Meeting for Business does not need to approve these expenditures. In early 2012 this fund held about \$180.

FUND FOR USE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE UNITY WITH NATURE COMMITTEE

Environmental Education Fund - This fund is to be used under the considered discretion of the Unity with Nature Committee. The funds may be used as the Unity with Nature Committee deems most appropriate. Meeting for Business does not need to approve the expenditures but should be kept informed. Ideas on good uses of these funds are cordially invited from the meeting community, communicated via any member of the Unity with Nature Committee. In early 2012 this fund held about \$1,900.

FUND FOR USE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE EL SALVADOR COMMITTEE

El Salvador Projects Fund - This fund is managed by the El Salvador Committee. Donors from around the country mail checks to the Palo Alto Friends Meeting designating the donation as either for general projects or for the Committee's university loan program. Funds are disbursed by the El Salvador Committee through the Field Director in El Salvador. No approval by Business Meeting is needed, but regular reports of income to and expense from this fund are given to Business Meeting by the treasurer. In early 2012 this fund held about \$21,000.

FUND FOR USE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE STANFORD STUDENT GROUP

Stanford Student Group Fund - This fund is managed by the Stanford Student Quaker Group. This fund was established by Palo Alto Friends Meeting to enable the Quaker student group at Stanford to be reimbursed expenses as needed, including expenses of books, pamphlets, and special projects. No approval by Business Meeting is needed; the treasurer pays expenses of the Stanford students upon their request. In early 2012 this fund held about \$500.