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**PALO ALTO FRIENDS NEWSLETTER**

Sixth Month, 2015

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**Advices and Queries for Sixth Month: Social and Civic Responsibility**

In the words of William Penn, "True godliness don't [sic] draw men out of the world, but enables them to live better in it and excites their endeavors to mend it." Elsewhere he commented: "It is a reproach to religion and government to suffer so much poverty and excess."

Poverty within a wealthy society is unjust, cruel, and often linked to skin color, gender, and language. We must examine our own privilege and role in the economic order that deepens this disparity. Friends should be alert to oppression and injustice, and persistent in working against them.

We value our part in shaping the laws of our country. Our task is to see that laws serve God's purposes and build a just social order. Our first allegiance should be to God, and if this conflicts with any compulsion of the state, we serve our country best by remaining true to our higher loyalty.

If, by divine leading, our attention is focused on a law that is contrary to God's law, we must proceed with care. Before acting, Friends should pray for further guidance and speak with the Meeting, family members, and all those who might be affected by the decision. If a decision involves disobedience to the law, we should make the grounds of our action clear to all concerned and be prepared to suffer any penalties without evasion. As a community, we must care for those who suffer for conscience's sake.

- What am I doing to carry my share of responsibility for the government of our community, nation, and world?
- Am I persistent in my efforts to promote constructive change?
- *How do we attend to the suffering of others in our local community, in our state and nation, and in the world community?*
- *Do we try to understand the causes of suffering, and do we address them as a Meeting?*
- *How do we, individually and as a Meeting, support the organizations that work to bring the testimonies of Friends into reality in our society?*

† Some queries are intended for individuals.

*Italicized queries are intended for the Meeting collectively.*

**SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE**

- 9:00 to 10:00 am Adult Education, New Meeting House (NMH), 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> First Days & on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 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 Meeting for Business will be held on June 14, 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 Wednesday at 7:30 AM.

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**CALENDAR**

**MAY(5<sup>TH</sup> MONTH)**

- 27 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).  
**27 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**  
 31 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH. (see note below)  
**31 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**  
 31 Sun 12:15:pm Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (see note below).

#### **JUN(6<sup>TH</sup> MONTH)**

- 3 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).  
**3 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**  
 7 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (see note below).  
**7 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**  
 10 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).  
**10 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**  
**14 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**  
 14 Sun noon Light lunch provided prior to Meeting for Business - OMH.  
 14 Sun 12:15 pm Meeting for Business – NMH (see note above).  
 17 Weds 7:00 pm Care and Concerns Committee Meeting  
 17 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).  
**17 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**  
 21 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (see note below).  
**21 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**  
 21 Sun 11:45 am Collection for Ecumenical Hunger by Community Service Committee – NMH (see note below).  
 21 Sun 12:15:pm FCNL Speaker: Quaker Advocacy and Faith – NMH (see note below).  
 21 Sun [*Deadline for submittal of Newsletter articles - if email send to [moriii@yahoo.com](mailto:moriii@yahoo.com).*]  
 24 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).  
**24 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**  
**28 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**  
 28 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch – (see note below).

#### **CALENDAR EXPANSION – DETAILS**

\*\*\* ADULT EDUCATION DISCUSSION: **Reading and Discussion** led by Henry Jason each 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 9 am – NMH. We are reading a 1794 work entitled "A Few Reasons for Leaving the National Established Mode of Worship". In this work John Spalding describes his reasons for converting from Anglicanism to Quakerism. This work continues from his other work (The Convincement and Religious Progress of John Spalding) and gives a good description of traditional, classical Quaker principles and beliefs. All are welcome. No preparation is necessary. Please inquire, if interested in acquiring a copy. Contact Henry Jason.

\*\*\* FCNL SPEAKER: Quaker Advocacy and Faith. June 21st: - Stay after meeting to hear a speaker from the FCNL. Young adult Friend Olivia Henry, an attender of San Francisco Friends Meeting, is a former program assistant at the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). She will speak about how her work in Quaker advocacy on the Hill deepened her faith in people power--and brought her back to Friends practice. Olivia will also do some FCNL myth-busting, share recent success stories and talk about how Bay Area Friends can act.

\*\*\* COLLECTION FOR ECUMENICAL HUNGER PROGRAM (EHP): Community Service Committee collects donations for 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.

\*\*\* VOLUNTEER MEAL PREPARATION FOR HOMELESS - OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE: We help prepare the food and serve it to the Homeless at the First Methodist Church in Palo Alto (corner of Hamilton & Webster) one Monday a month from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. Please contact Janet Murphy <[janeta.murphy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janeta.murphy@sbcglobal.net)>; to volunteer. Thanks!

\*\*\* WEDNESDAY MORNING MINDFULNESS MEDITATION: (formerly on Thursday morning) - 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 second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Meetinghouse Library. Please contact one of the co-clerks, Bill Bauriedel ([bill.bauriedel@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:bill.bauriedel@stanfordalumni.org), 650-493-1364,) or Hulda Muaka ([huldamuaka@hotmail.com](mailto:huldamuaka@hotmail.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).

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## NEWS OF PEOPLE AND EVENTS

PYM's 2015 Annual Session: Registration for is now open. Join us at Walker Creek Ranch in Marin County July 13-18, 2015 to explore and experience "**Fruits of the Spirit: Love and Justice**" together with our beloved community.

Please go to: <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org> and click on the link: "Register online for PYM 2015". We encourage you to register online if feasible; if not, click on the link: "Download and print the paper registration form" and send in the registration form.

**Note: Registrations submitted after June 8, 2015 include a 5% late charge.**

Questions about financial assistance ("attendance assistance") may be directed to your local Meeting, as well as to the PYM contact person listed, at your earliest opportunity.

**AFGHAN GIRLS SCHOOLS:** Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 pm. San Francisco Friends Meeting House, 65 Ninth Street. In 2002, with the support of the American Quaker community, a school of 200 girls was founded in Akora Khattak, a U.N. refugee camp near Peshawar, Pakistan. Now, 13 years later, there are 2 schools with over 600 little refugee girls. Please join us for a memorable presentation of the ongoing education of these Afghan refugee girls including a 30 minute film showing the girls in their classrooms!

At 1: pm the presentation will be made by Percy Hicks-Severn and Sue Scott who are part of the Afghan Girls Schools Committee. There will be gifts of Afghan jewelry and clothing given as a thank you for donations. Amazingly, \$75 educates 1 refugee girl for 1 year!

**PALO ALTO FRIENDS NURSERY SCHOOL:** If you are looking for a nurturing, loving and magical preschool for your 3 or 4 year old child, consider the Palo Alto Friends Nursery School. Our(Grace Cheng) Palo Alto Friends Nursery School family has grown up here, and I can't imagine any better place for kids.

Openings for fall of 2015 for children turning 3 or 4 by November 1, 2015. Feel free to call and schedule a tour: 650-856-6152, email [pafns@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pafns@sbcglobal.net). website: [www.pafns.org](http://www.pafns.org).

If you have any questions about the school that I can answer from a parent's perspective, send me an email or call me ([grace\\_cheng\\_md@yahoo.com](mailto:grace_cheng_md@yahoo.com), 650-575-3290).

**ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH IN THE WIDER QUAKER COMMUNITY:** Alyssa Nelson - Youth Programs Coordinator, Pacific Yearly Meeting (530) 563-6369 <http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/youth/>

**FCL-CA: The Spring FCLCA Newsletter is now online with a feature article about one of the leading environmental justice organizations in California,** the Community Water Center out of Visalia in Tulare County.

And we have another inspiring story about a workshop on grassroots lobbying recently presented to a great group of eighth-graders visiting the Capitol from the San Francisco Friends School (thanks, FCL Ed. Fund donors).

Our [Spring FCLCA Newsletter](#) also features a comprehensive article about current bills in the Legislature from your FCLCA lobbyist, Jim Lindburg. Some highlights:

- **AB 512**, a bill we are co-sponsoring to reduce prison recidivism, passed the Assembly Public Safety Committee!
- We're advocating for several bills that address the **issue of excessive force by police and racial profiling**.
- We're working hard to win **three proven ways of reducing poverty**: increased childcare slots, a higher minimum wage and an earned income tax credit.
- We're supporting the **strong environmental legislation** that has been introduced this session.
- We're taking a leading role in organizing **opposition** to a bill that ties driver's licenses to Selective Service registration.

<http://www.fclca.org/images/stories/pdfs/finalspring2015newsletter.pdf>

**JUNE NEWS FROM BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER:** Quaker Center Summer Youth Camps are right around the corner this summer with Camps Director, Anna Lisa Chacon for the younger kids' camps and with Stephen Myers and Mary Klein for Peace Action Camp. For more information visit <http://www.quakercenter.org/summer-youth-camps/> or call Bob or Kathy Runyan, Co-Directors at Quaker Center at 831-336-8333 with questions.

Family Work Camp is the best family vacation deal around at only \$60 - \$140 for the full week, which includes meals and lodging. All ages are welcome! We'll work on improvements to Quaker Center facilities while building community among us. This week of July 27th – August 1<sup>st</sup> will include working, cooking, eating and playing together. Please register online at <http://www.quakercenter.org/family-work-camp/>.

Join us for *Rise Again: A Weekend of Joyous Song*, with the authors of Rise Up Singing, Annie Patterson and Peter Blood, Sept. 4-6th. Annie & Peter will teach & lead songs out of their long-awaited just-released songbook Rise Again, which includes 1200 new songs in the same format as Rise Up Singing. We have reserved both lodges for this workshop and still we expect it to fill, so please register early at <http://www.quakercenter.org/rise-again-a-weekend-of-joyous-song/>.

**NEWS FROM SIERRA FRIENDS CENTER:** There is still space in Camp Woolman (9-14) and Teen Leadership Camp (15-16). The Teen Camp offers a 2-week Hiking camp and a 1-week Farm to Fork camp. Registration is open for Family Work Camp, June 14-21. See <http://camp.woolman.org/>.

Farm to Table Manager Maggie McProud is expanding the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program at Woolman this summer. Plus we're adding Vermicomposting to the Woolman garden! We have a new wooden structure to house the worms that will help turn our compost into beautiful rich soil. Come check it out!

Peace Studies and Global Thinking teachers Lisa Putkey and Amelia Nebenzahl facilitated the Radical Learning for Change trip with Spring Semester students, culminating in a May Day Labor March in Oakland.

Emily Wheeler, Woolman's Outreach and Admissions Director, visited Monteverde Friends School in April where past Woolman intern Heather Livingston has been teaching. Emily spoke with many prospective Woolman students!

Check out 2 new blog posts, from Red Feola, who is in charge of keeping our infrastructure ticking, and from Amelia, sharing a global and critical perspective. <http://blog.woolman.org/>  
If you are on Facebook, come visit us at [www.facebook.com/woolmansemester](http://www.facebook.com/woolmansemester)

**QUAKER BOLIVIA LINK:** PAFM supports QBL, an organization devoted to helping indigenous people in Bolivia, many of them Quakers, wrest a living from poor soil. Google qbl.org for more.

**AFSC:** Upcoming events sponsored/supported by the AFSC.

*70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hiroshima/Nagasaki bombings* Thursday, August 6th, 8am. Livermore laboratory's NW corner, at Vasco & Patterson Pass, Livermore.

Contact [smcneil@afsc.org](mailto:smcneil@afsc.org) for more information.

**PAFM EL SALVADOR PROJECTS:** If you would like to know more about the projects and how your donation is making life changes to youth in El Salvador please go to our Web Page [www.pafmelsalvadorprojects.org](http://www.pafmelsalvadorprojects.org) or join our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Palo-Alto-Friends-Meeting-El-Salvador-Projects/141667842557541>.

**SAVE THE DATES!** September 30 - October 2, 2015 – Quaker Fundraisers Gathering. Wyndham Philadelphia Historic District, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. For more information call us at 215-241-7272 or email at [info@friendsfiduciary.org](mailto:info@friendsfiduciary.org).

**THE PEACE AND JUSTICE CALENDAR:** A service of the Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness Committee of Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting. <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 regularly or occasionally. Contact anyone on the committee if you or someone you know would like to be on either list.

**HELP YOURSELF WHILE HELPING A WONDERFUL WORKER:!** Central American workers are eager to help you! Child/elder care • cleaning • painting • Spanish lessons • personal assistance • gardening • repairs • carpentry. Call South Bay Sanctuary Covenant Information at (650) 494-8340.

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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](mailto:newsletter@pafm.org) or [moriii@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:pafriends@lists.stanford.edu). If you have any questions, contact Jerry McBride [jlmcbridemail@yahoo.com](mailto:jlmcbridemail@yahoo.com) 650-384-9817.

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**OUR DEAR FRIEND SITA DE LEEUW DIED PEACEFULLY ON  
MONDAY EVENING, MAY 18 AT LYTTON GARDENS IN PALO ALTO.  
A MEMORIAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 20 AT 2:00 PM.**

MAYBE THE BEST  
WAY TO HONOR THE  
FALLEN...

...WOULD BE  
TO FIND MORE WAYS  
TO NOT SEND OTHERS  
TO JOIN THEM.



John Cole  
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