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**PALO ALTO FRIENDS NEWSLETTER**

**Third Month, 2014**

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**Advices and Queries for Third Month: Meeting for Worship for Business**

Come to Meeting with hearts and minds prepared to be open and faithful to the leadings of the Spirit. Then the conduct of business will lead to truth, unity, and love.

When a matter is before the Meeting for Business, each person present contributes to the corporate search for a decision that accords with the will of God. Inaction is a form of action. Silent worship in the Meeting for Business contributes to the process of achieving unity.

Listen attentively to others' words and use the silence between messages to reflect carefully on what you might contribute. When you are clear, speak simply what is in your heart, without repeating what has already been offered. While making your insights clear, lay aside personal opinions and attend to what God requires.

- Do I attend Meeting for Business regularly?
- Do I speak in Meeting for Business only when I am led to speak?
- *Is the Meeting for Business held as a Meeting for Worship in which we seek divine guidance for our actions?*
- *Are we tender and considerate of different views, coming to a decision only when we have found unity?*
- *Do we give prayerful support for our clerks that they may be sensitive to the movement of the Spirit among us?*

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 Business Meeting will be on March 9, 2014.

- 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 Third Month .....	1	Calendar Expansion — Details .....	2
Sunday Morning Schedule .....	1	News of People and Events .....	3
Calendar.....	1	Minutes of 2.10.13 Business Meeting.....	5
Calendar Expansion — Details .....	2		

**CALENDAR**

**FEB (2<sup>ND</sup> MONTH)**

- 23 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 23 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch – (see note below).
- 26 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 26 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**

**MAR (3<sup>RD</sup> MONTH)**

- 2 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – NMH (see note below).
- 2 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 5 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).

- 5 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 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 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 12 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 12 Weds 7:00 pm Care and Concerns Committee Meeting – Library (see note below).
- 14-16 Fri-Sun Meeting Retreat – Ben Lomond Quaker Center - The Kaleidoscope of Community. (see note below).**
- 16 Sun 9:00 am Adult Ed. – Reading & Discussion – 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 [moriii@yahoo.com](mailto:moriii@yahoo.com).*]
- 19 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 19 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 24 Sun 10:30 - 11:30 am Meeting for Worship – NMH.**
- 22 Sat 6-8pm Sharing of Life Stories – Potluck and discussion (Adult Ed) – OMH (see note below).
- 23 Sun noon Fourth First Day Provided Lunch – (see note below).
- 26 Weds 7:30 am Mindfulness Meditation – NMH (see note below).
- 26 Weds 6:00 pm Midweek Meeting for Worship – NMH.**

## **CALENDAR EXPANSION – DETAILS**

\*\*\* THE KALEIDOSCOPE OF COMMUNITY: PAFM ANNUAL RETREAT AT BLQC, MARCH 14-16TH AT BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER. You are invited to join the meeting in its annual retreat at BLQC sponsored by the W&M committee. We will be gathering around and building ties to our faith and community through worship, play, and just spending time together. Contact Ray Rischpater, [kf6gpe@gmail.com](mailto:kf6gpe@gmail.com), for registration information, or pick up a registration form after meeting at the meeting house.

\*\*\* 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 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.

### **Additional Adult Ed sessions:**

\*\*\* SHARING OUR LIFE STORIES: Sat. Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6 to 8 pm. The Care and Concerns committee invites you to the third of a series of potlucks followed by two long time members or attenders who will share with us some of their life journey in an interview style presentation. We will gather at 6pm for a potluck dinner and fellowship in the schoolhouse and begin the two presentations at 7pm. Each interview will be 30 minutes and we will finish by 8pm. The names of the two people presenting will not be announced prior to the potluck so don't ask! Be prepared to be surprised! Children are encouraged to come. Childcare will be provided for any child who is too young or does not wish to listen to the interviews. For this third potluck we ask those whose last name begins with A through D to bring vegetables (hot or cold), E through J salad, K and Q dessert and/or bread and R through Z main dish. We will rotate these responsibilities for future potlucks. Please come!

\*\*\* 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. Meeting collected \$458.63 in contributions for EHP in December, 2013.

\*\*\* 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 Marie Simirenko at (650) 961-1724 if you wish 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 third Thursday of the month at 7 pm in the Meetinghouse Library. Please contact the clerk Bill Bauriedel ([bill.bauriedel@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:bill.bauriedel@stanfordalumni.org), 650-493-1364,) to confirm that there are no meeting changes and ensure time on the agenda.

\*\*\* With the possibility of rainy days finally rejoining 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).

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## **NEWS OF PEOPLE AND EVENTS**

### **MARCH 2014 NEWS FROM BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER:**

**Treasurers, accountants, bookkeepers, and finance committee members: this workshop is for you!** Please join us for an open conversation about how finances can better express our Quaker values. This program, *Friends Finances through the Lens of Spirit* will be similar to the financial management program Quaker Center offered in 2010 and **Jill Hoyenga is returning to co-lead it with Jeff Perkins**, Executive Director of Friends Fiduciary. Anyone who is interested in Friends' finances is welcome to come and engage with the financial concerns of Friends groups of all sizes. *We encourage meetings, churches, and organizations to support those involved in financial decision-making to attend from March 21st-23rd. Find out more and register online at: <http://www.quakercenter.org/friends-finances/>.*

**Seed and Soil: Growing the Beloved Community**, begins **Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**.

**Jim Anderson**, will return to co-facilitate another weeklong program with **Marilee Eusebio, and Diego Navarro**. Each day will be grounded in expectant worship, group study, worship sharing, and time to explore other daily spiritual practices. We hope that this week of community life and personal reflection will be a time of spiritual refreshment and help us to return to our meetings and daily life as instruments of renewal— as both seed and soil. For more information call Kathy or Bob Runyan at 831-336-8333 and to register online see <http://www.quakercenter.org/seed-and-soil-growing-the-beloved-community/>.

**Childcare will be available for all Quaker Center programs with at least one week advance notice.**

**AFSC February Bulletin: 67 Sueños** - AFSC's youth program, 67 Sueños, is sponsoring an important event on March 7 from 6-9 p.m. in Oakland to showcase their latest mural about the Bracero Program in Stockton California. The youth developed a mural about the program last summer, which will be on display. They also recorded stories from people who came to this country to work in the fields. It is a crucial conversation to have as Congress debates immigration policy changes that may well include a new "guest worker" proposal. How can we have such a program without exploiting workers, or putting workers in jeopardy of deportation at the hands of unscrupulous employers. Come and join the discussion. A screenshot of the beautiful flyer for the event may be downloaded at: <http://oaklandquakers.org/AFSC/Flyers/Showcase.png>

**Professor Mukesh Kapila** - AFSC is sponsoring the speaking tour of Professor Mukesh Kapila, author of "Against the Tide of Evil," his story of work to get the international community to have a robust response to mass atrocities and genocide. He is speaking at the following venues at the end of February:

- Tues., Feb 25, 12 noon - World Affairs Council, Sacramento, hosted by Pacific McGeorge School of Law, 3200 Fifth Avenue, Classroom A, Sacramento, CA
- Tues., Feb. 25, 7:00 pm - Shasta College, Room 802, Redding, CA.
- Weds., Feb 26, 12 noon - Santa Clara University, Arts and Sciences Building, Wiegand Room, 55 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA,
- Weds., Feb. 26, 7:30 pm - Westminster Presbyterian Church, 240 Tiburon Blvd., Tiburon, CA
- Thurs., Feb. 27, 12 Noon - Stanford Univ, Palo Alto, CA
- Thurs., Feb.. 27, 6pm - Monterey Institute of International Studies, Irvine Auditorium, Monterey, CA

### **AFSC National Office March Call for Spirited Action**

The March "Call for Spirited Action" conference call will take place on March 15, 2014 from 10:30AM - 12PM EDT. The title is "Ending the New Jim Crow and mass incarceration" and is led by Lewis Webb (AFSC) and John and Gail

Fletcher (Norman Friends Meeting). You can participate in the conference call by dialing: 1-866-740-1260 and entering the access code 2419995#. All Friends invited to participate!

**Deportations** - Since the beginning of the Obama Administration, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has deported approximately 2 million people. In Alameda County alone, ICE deports about 1,000 people every month. Many immigration activists have decided recently to build a new movement to stop the busses that ICE uses to send people away. The activists held their first action in Arizona and followed with another here in San Francisco in October. AFSC's Pablo Paredes, and his high school students participated in San Francisco. You can see video at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=0alSHaPWs-l](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=0alSHaPWs-l)

**Hunger Strike** - Following the 60 day hunger strike by prisoners, the Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition continues to push for policy changes. On October 9th, the Senate and Assembly Public Safety Committees held the first of several legislative hearings. The following week, the UN Rapporteur on Torture visited both Los Angeles and the Bay Area, speaking out and hearing from survivors of solitary confinement as well as their family members. Hundreds of people turned out at these events and an important new relationship has been formed.

**Socially Responsible Investing** - Socially responsible investors have historically not had access to research and reporting on abuses and violations of human rights by corporations doing business in Israel/ Palestine. In an effort to provide some of that missing information, the Middle East program of the American Friends Service Committee together with Jewish Voice for Peace have created a new quarterly newsletter. To subscribe: [www.InvestmentScreen.org/News](http://www.InvestmentScreen.org/News)

**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.

**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.

**FCL-CA:** Friends Committee on Legislation of California would like to thank all the Friends and Friends Meetings who supported our work here in Sacramento in 2013. It was a good year – among the highlights: Senate Bill 260, a bill co-sponsored by FCLCA that established a special parole process for those sentenced as juveniles to long adult terms, was passed by the Legislature and signed by the governor. FCLCA lobbied on 58 bills, including criminal justice, immigrant rights, clean elections and gun safety; FCLCA activists sent 9,179 messages to their legislators and Gov. Brown through our Action Alerts and petitions. Now we need to ask for your support in our fall fund drive. We invite you to become a contributing member of FCLCA or to renew your support. You can make a single contribution or become a monthly sustainer (we especially need sustainers) online at [www.fclca.org](http://www.fclca.org). Or you can call us at (916) 443-3734 to arrange a gift or send a gift by mail to FCLCA, 1225 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 220, Sacramento, CA 95814. For more information, contact [Kevan@fclca.org](mailto:Kevan@fclca.org). **Newsletter:** Available on-line at: <http://www.fclca.org/images/stories/pdfs/fallnewsletter2013.pdf>

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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 [jlmcbriemail@yahoo.com](mailto:jlmcbriemail@yahoo.com) 964-2869.

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Let us no longer be blinded by the dim theology that only in the far seeing vision discovers a millennium, when violence shall no more be heard in the land wasting nor destruction in her borders; but let us behold it now, nigh at the door lending faith and confidence to our hopes, assuring us that even we ourselves shall be instrumental in proclaiming liberty to the captive.

*~ Lucretia Mott, 1793-1880*