

# Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

June 2017

Of the Religious Society of Friends

## Newsletter

<http://strawberrycreek.quaker.org>

This newsletter can be accessed by email or at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/StrawberryCreek>

### REGULAR EVENTS & CALENDAR

#### SUNDAYS

**Meeting for Worship** 10:00 AM. Held at the Berkeley Technology Academy, 2701 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, corner of Derby St., Berkeley. Religious Education (Sept–June) and childcare (year-round) provided 9:45 AM. to end of Meeting for Worship. Please arrive with children before 10:00 AM; no guaranteed childcare after 10:15 AM. After announcements, all are welcome to stay for refreshments. Please bring your own reusable cup and utensils.

**Oakland Worship Group** 5 PM. At the home of Karen and Peter Lin, 296 Rishell Drive. For more information, call (510) 530-0479 or visit <http://www.oaklandquakers.org>

**WEDNESDAYS Mid Week Morning Worship** 7:00 AM Berkeley Friends Meeting, 2151 Vine Street.

Contact Peter Lin, 510-917-2013, peterlin [at] speedymail [dot] org

**THURSDAYS Mid Week Evening Worship** 7:00 PM Berkeley Friends Meeting, 2151 Vine Street.

SUNDAY, June 4

**Advices and Queries on Harmony with Creation** read by Worship and Ministry Committee during the first 15 minutes of meeting for worship

**Young Adult Brunch.** 12:00 PM Contact Amy Dewey for details, (510) 628-0826

**Twelve Step Meeting.** 12:00 PM Anyone in any 12 step group is invited. Contact Darcy Stanley at (415) 595-2348 or [darcy393@gmail.com](mailto:darcy393@gmail.com)

**Quaker Political Action Worship Group** 11:45 AM and Mondays at 10:00 AM. Contact Laura Boles

SUNDAY, June 11

**Business Meeting** 11:50 AM

SUNDAY, June 18

**Worship Sharing** Before Meeting 9:00 AM Contact Al Thompson for information.

WEDNESDAY, June 21

**Handwork Group** 6:00 PM Contact Beth Rodman (510) 365-1685

**Quakerly Singing** 7:00 PM Contact Clifford Ham (802) 377-7956

SUNDAY, June 25 **Committee Sunday**

**Newsletter Deadline for July/August** [newsletter@strawberrycreekquakers.org](mailto:newsletter@strawberrycreekquakers.org)

SUNDAY, July 2

**Advices and Queries on Meeting for Worship** read by Facilities Committee during the first 15 minutes of meeting for worship

**Young Adult Brunch.** 12:00 PM Contact Amy Dewey for details, (510) 628-0826

**Twelve Step Meeting.** 12:00 PM Anyone in any 12 step group is invited. Contact Darcy Stanley at (415) 595-2348 or [darcy393@gmail.com](mailto:darcy393@gmail.com)

**Quaker Political Action Worship Group** 11:45 AM and Mondays at 10:00 AM. Contact Laura Boles

#### News and Announcements

##### Strawberry Creek Meeting Calendar

The meeting's calendar, a Google app, is viewable on the Strawberry Creek web site,

<http://strawberrycreek.quaker.org/calendar.php>.

Events may be updated on the calendar after publication in the monthly newsletter. Contact the newsletter editor,

[newsletter@strawberrycreekquakers.org](mailto:newsletter@strawberrycreekquakers.org), to get your event listed.

##### Care of Meeting

by John McCarthy

Nametags. Thanks to Lee Douglas, Jed Appelman and John McCarthy, the Meeting has provided nametags to help Strawberries get to know each other since we are a large meeting. We are

encouraged to pick them up before meeting and leave them in the special holders at the end.

Scholarships. Strawberry Creek Meeting has a modest budget (\$2,500) to help subsidize members and faithful attenders who would like to participate in wider Quaker community events (e.g., Annual Gatherings of Pacific Yearly Meeting or Friends General Conference) but need financial assistance in order to do so. There are only enough funds to support partial scholarships. Please send email to John McCarthy.

**Strawberry Creek Friends Group on Facebook**  
by Barbara Birch

38 Strawberries who use Facebook have joined a Facebook group created for the meeting by the Communications Committee. The group is called Strawberry Creek Friends Group. The purpose of the Facebook group is to create an on-line space for Strawberries to share updates and pictures informally with each other. The best way to become part of the group is to search for it on Facebook and then request to join. Talk to Barbara Birch if you have questions or concerns.

**Quakerly Singing**  
by Clifford Ham

Quakerly Singing, third Wednesday, May 17, 7 to 9 PM, at Lydia Bryans, 1617 Channing Way, Berkeley. Contact Clifford Ham for information: (802) 377-7956.

**Political Action Worship Group**  
by Laura Boles

The Quaker Political Action Worship Group meets every Monday from 10-11 am at Ian Whitmarshes' house, 739 Alcatraz Ave. and the first Sunday of the month, after rise of Meeting, at 11:45 am to 1:20 am. This group meets to discern a deeper connection between our Quaker tradition and practice and our ongoing political activism. This group is for anyone who is politically active right now, or anyone who wishes to become more politically active. For more information, please contact Laura Boles (boles9552@gmail.com) or Ian Whitmarsh (ianwhitmarsh@gmail.com).

**BOCA Q & A**

By Kathy Barnhart

June 18 (12-1:30) Reverend Daniel Buford will be telling us about and answering our questions about BOCA (Berkeley Organizing Congregations for Action). This is an interdenominational coalition of at least 17 congregations in Berkeley that can join together to act on behalf of local, common issues of concern. Berkeley Vine St. Meeting has joined, and if it is of interest to our meeting, we might consider joining. Please join us for this after-Meeting adult ed session. Any questions or if childcare is needed, please contact Kathy Barnhart (841-7875)

**Christian Friends Conference in Palo Alto**  
by Tom Yamaguchi

On Saturday, June 17, the quarterly gathering of the Christian Friends Conference-Western Region will take place from 9 AM to 3 PM at the Palo Alto Friends Meetinghouse, 957 Colorado Avenue. The CFC is a group composed of Christian Quakers from around the Bay Area. They meet for Bible reading, waiting worship in the traditional manner of Friends, and fellowship. For more information, you may contact Brian Young, pastor of Berkeley Friends Church, (510) 524-4112.

**Ben Lomond Quaker Center**  
by Kathy Runyan

Ben Lomond Quaker Center is offering a \$50 discount to campers who register as friends (or siblings) for Quaker and Service Camp from Saturday, June 24th- Saturday, July 1st. We welcome all kids, Quaker or otherwise, to join us for Quaker Camp and Service Camp. Join us to explore some of the values that Quakers hold close to heart: community, peace, equality, integrity, simplicity, and earthcare, through creative projects and activities.

Quaker Camp. Stay at Quaker Center for a week of fun and personal growth, for kids entering the 4th, 5th, or 6th grade, will be held in the Redwood Lodge at Quaker Center. Activities include: fun community building exercises, games, swimming, hiking around Quaker Center, campfires, music, story-telling, community service, trips to local beaches and parks, with experiential learning of Quaker practices. Most of all, come make new

friends and have a great time with the camp staff!  
Cost: Sliding Scale, \$420 - \$560 (\$490 standard rate, including a \$100 advance deposit)

Service Camp. A full week of fun, friendship and service, for teens entering 7th, 8th, or 9th grade, will be held in the Orchard Lodge at Quaker Center. Service Camp is about helping others and doing good work while having a good time. We will help organizations that serve the homeless, work with elders, support recycling, protect and clean up the environment, in addition to caring for Quaker Center. We will also hike on local trails including some at Quaker Center and we'll take trips to the beach and a local pool. Come spend time with old friends, make new friends, and hang out with cool counselors too. Cost: Sliding Scale, \$420 - \$560 (\$490 standard rate, including a \$100 advance deposit)

Strawberry Creek has an Annual Pass to Quaker Center, which includes our summer camps: Quaker Camp for rising 4th -6th graders, and Service Camp for rising 7th - 9th graders. We hope you will send one camper to each camp from June 24th - July 1st. For more information please call 831-336-8333 to speak with Kathy Runyan, Camp Director, or visit <http://www.quakercenter.org/programs/summer-youth-camps/> where you can register online.

Finally, the Quaker Center water treatment system suffered under the pressure of the heavy rain. There is a \$12,000 price tag for replacing and upgrading the system. We ask for your help in supporting this complex and delicate enterprise, so that Ben Lomond Quaker Center remains a place for people to reflect, to rest, and to renew. Rain or shine.

### **Pacific Yearly Meeting**

By Sharon Gates

Assistant to the Clerk of PYM

Registration is now open for the 2017 Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Session July 14-19 at Walker Creek Ranch near Petaluma, CA. Please join us. Register at: <https://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/about/annual-session-information/>. Register by June 12 to avoid the late registration fee.

### **2017 Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Session**

By Diego Navarro, Presiding Clerk

What is Spirit calling us to change in ourselves?

What is Spirit calling us to do?

Our keynote speaker, Zachary Moon, grew up in our Yearly Meeting. His work in the world grew out of his own personal transformation and discernment of God's will. His leading has taken him to unexpected work in unexpected places. For the past eight years, he has served as a chaplain with military service members, drawing near to the impact of war and accompanying those suffering from it. Zachary will share how his experience of awakening to the Presence informed his leading.

Like last year's annual session, this annual session is scheduled differently from previous years. Plenary sessions are designed to allow time for Spirit to guide us. Furthermore, the first day of Annual Session will be on Friday and the last day will be on Wednesday. We know that many Friends work and may not have a full week off, so we hope that you can come at least for the weekend if not the full five days. The Meeting for Memorials will be held on Sunday so that more people can attend.

### **2017 Friends General Conference Gathering**

The 2017 gathering of Friends General Conference will be July 2-8 at Niagara University, Niagara Falls, New York. The gathering theme is Ripples Start Where Spirit Moves. The week includes a fantastic selection of Gathering Workshops: Opening to the Heart of Worship, Migrant Rights through Social Change Ministry, Fighting Ethnic and Racial Divisions, or Chanting: Shelter for the Spirit. There will be field trips to Niagara Falls. Registration is now available online. For registration and information, go to [www.FGCgathering.org](http://www.FGCgathering.org). For financial assistance to attend the gathering, contact Care of Meeting Committee. Information on scholarships is at [http://strawberrycreek.quaker.org/job-descriptions/CoM\\_Quaker\\_Events\\_Support\\_Fund\\_5-6-13\\_update](http://strawberrycreek.quaker.org/job-descriptions/CoM_Quaker_Events_Support_Fund_5-6-13_update).

**Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting**  
**Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business**  
**May 14, 2017 Minutes**

The Meeting opened at 11:55 a.m. with silent worship. Ralph Murphy clerked the Meeting. Thirty-one Friends were present. Charlie Blanchard shared responses from the Nominating Committee to the Advices and Queries on Reaching Out. Friends returned to worship to reflect on these and several further responses were made.

The minutes for the April 9, 2017 Meeting for Business were approved as read.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business: We received a thank you note from the Berkeley Food Pantry for the Meeting's annual support. Thomas Yamaguchi (point person), Tom Bird, and Zoe Kohler will be part of the Berkeley Meeting /Strawberry Creek Meeting working group to discuss ways to better coordinate our efforts.. Friends may talk with one of these members with ideas or concerns.

Old Business:

State of the Meeting Report: Rhea Farley read the report for the Writing Committee consisting of Rachel Findley, Peter Lin, and Rhea Farley.

With a minor correction, the Meeting approved the report with appreciation for the work of the Writing Committee. (Copy attached)

Care of the Meeting Committee: Nancy Wilkinson reported that no concerns had been expressed regarding the Care of the Meeting Committee job description. The content has been fit into the standard format proposed by the Communications Committee.

The Meeting approved the Care of the Meeting job description.

Nominating Committee: Co-clerk Henri Ducharme distributed the 2017-2018 slate with eight new names highlighted in yellow. Those nominations that had seasoned over the last month were approved for service.

New Business

Nominating Slate for 2017-2018: Co-clerk Henri Ducharme noted that Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness Committee had difficulty finding members last year and this year, but that both times people stepped forward to serve. There is still a position left to be filled on that committee. A Friend asked whether or not this struggle represented a structural weakness. The clerk noted that this question is before the Ministry & Oversight Committee. We still need a Sierra Friends Center representative. We asked that the Site Committee name be removed from the slate list. These new nominations will season for a month.

Henri and the Committee were thanked for their work. Friends stated appreciation for past findings from the Nominating Committee work. Henri said such a report is forthcoming. Henri and the Committee were thanked for their work.

Care of the Meeting Committee (Membership Requests): Jed Appelman read a report from the David Rutschman membership transfer committee (Jed Appelman, Larry Strain, and Philippa Baron). They reached unity in recommending the transfer request from 57th Street Monthly Meeting (Western Yearly Meeting and Illinois Yearly Meeting). The Care of the Meeting Committee has united in that recommendation.

Carl Anderson read a report from the Nathan Moon membership committee (Carl Anderson, Joyce Samati, and Beth Rodman). They reached unity in recommending the membership request. The Care of the Meeting Committee has united in that recommendation.

Rhea Farley read a report from the Amy Dewy membership committee (Rhea Farley, James Hosley, and Renee Watkins). They reached unity in recommending the membership. The Care of the Meeting Committee has united in that recommendation.

These membership requests will season for a month.

Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness Committee: Co-clerk Susan Strong presented the request for the Meeting's endorsement of hosting the "39 Questions for White People," a requirement of the artist for this interactive installation. It was present at the last Pacific Yearly Meeting session. After two showings in the Meeting room, there will be a worship-sharing session after Meeting. This will be presented probably in the Fall. The Meeting approved hosting the "39 Questions for White People".

**Reports:**

Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness Committee: Co-clerk Susan Strong presented a report on the past year's activities of the Committee. They included: hosting forums on Islam 101, the witness at Standing Rock, the carbon footprint of buildings, and the future of the Dime-a-Gallon fund. The Committee also encouraged Meeting participation in the Women's and Climate Marches, a meeting on Sanctuary Meetings, the Cease Fire Walks in Oakland, and future work with the Berkeley Organizing Congregations for Action (BOCA). The Committee wrote and approved a manual for running the Committee. It decided to cease Dime-a-Gallon mini-grants and wait to grow a more sizeable fund that might have a larger impact.

Retreat Report: Nancy Wilkinson reported that there were three core committee members with five volunteers that brought various pieces to the Retreat program. Nancy thanked Lydia Bryans and Jay Cash for their logistical help. 35 adults and 14 children attended. A Friend noted that this was a wonderful time to get to better know the children. Activities included Quaker Bible reading, a discussion on the Book of Job Ukrainian egg decorating, and worship-sharing reflections on Quaker quotes. More evaluations were turned in this year, which showed engagement. Next year's Retreat at Quaker Center Ben Lomond will be May 4-6, with the cook Todd already recruited.

The Meeting closed at 1:40 p.m. with silent worship.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on June 11, 2017 at 11:50 a.m. at the Berkeley Technology Academy.

Submitted by: Ralph Murphy, Clerk, Alternate Clerk Rachel Findley, and Stephen McNeil, Recording Clerk

**Reports:**

**State of the Meeting  
2017 Report to the Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting**

Clerk of Meeting: Ralph Murphy.  
Alternate Clerk: Rachel Findley.  
Recording Clerk: Stephen McNeil.

Remembering that the full name of our tradition is The Religious Society of Friends of the Truth, we ask how has Truth fared among us this year? In the midst of the tumult, we reach down toward the Root where we may find calm, and joy, and Life. From this plowing up have come new shoots.

**Meeting for Worship**

For much of 2016, events in the larger society had a great impact on Meeting for Worship at Strawberry Creek. Overall attendance at meeting has gone up though a few individuals have stopped coming. Facilities Committee has added additional rows of chairs. Sometimes, those new to Strawberry Creek or new to Quakerism have brought with them new and different understandings of the role of Meeting for Worship and of spoken ministry that long-time members of the community have found unsettling. Our Worship and Ministry Committee has responded to the presence of this new energy - actively working with those new to meeting, widely distributing a pamphlet that describes our meeting's understandings, initiating a second mid-week

Meeting for Worship, and offering an education series on Meeting for Worship. Meeting for Worship at Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting remains gathered, centered and settled. Indeed, some Meetings for Worship in the past year have been particularly so. We are grateful for the gift of worship handed down to us by early Quakers in establishing the practices of Quakerism. We come away from Meeting for Worship feeling that Spirit was present and moving in the meeting and that Meeting for Worship had enriched our lives and opened our hearts.

#### Life of the Meeting

Our Meeting as a whole has been more deeply involved in society over the past year. Now more than ever we are called to undertake much more work, both in support of the Meeting and in the larger society, than we can possibly take on; so we must always seek ways to prune away that which is not essential in accordance with our testimony on simplicity.

The community has had some difficulty involving and retaining new arrivals and young adults. Care of the Meeting Committee is discussing ways to respond to this concern, and to better welcome newcomers and fresh ideas, including the creation of a Welcoming working group. In a number of contexts, friends have expressed the desire for smaller, more intimate gatherings where we might get to know each other better, such as cluster groups, worship sharing, and small group meals. Individual community members have brought people together in a number of informal gatherings.

Nominating Committee has had continuing difficulty filling all of the positions in Meeting standing committees; this year, Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness was particularly affected. At the same time, working groups and ad hoc committees have formed to address existing and arising needs. These less formal groups make it possible for people to engage without making a yearlong commitment, and yet participate more fully in the life of the Meeting, undertake Meeting tasks in new ways, and respond to the leadings of the Spirit in ways that the formal structure may not serve well. In the past year our meeting's two retreats were convened in this manner, as was a regular Saturday play group, a continuing work group on Power, Privilege and Race, and a worship group for activist Quakers. We will continue to work to make our committees functional and inviting.

There has been a significant increase in the number of children attending our First Day Children's Program. The First Day Children's Program has in the not too distant past experienced some challenges. We are encouraged and delighted that attendance has increased significantly in the past year and that the program is robust and engaging. Some parents have expressed a strong interest in developing a curriculum of (absorbing, deep) Quaker religious education that in future may be brought to the children in the Children's Program.

#### Looking for Truth

On January 29, 2017, the Writing Committee convened a listening meeting after Rise of Meeting at the Berkeley Technology Academy. The general sense from that meeting was overwhelmingly positive. Being aware of other concerns, the committee met with a number of other individuals and committees separately to identify additional positives and challenging aspects of our spiritual lives as a Meeting.

#### Final notes

The Worship and Ministry committee oversees anchoring committees to support the work of six Friends who engage in ministry beyond the Meeting, often beyond the Religious Society of Friends. Strawberry Creek does a good job of caring for the members of the meeting community. Our social hour after Rise of Meeting is always lively and rich. We seek to be faithful to the guidance of the Spirit which we can feel in the deep silence of our worship and in our Meeting for Business.

### **PESW 2016 -2017 Year End Report, Earthcare Witness, and Dime-a-Gallon Fund Recommendations** by Susan C. Strong and Kathy Barnhart

1. During the 2016 -2017 Committee Year, Witness Committee offered Meeting a number of "ad hoc" witness opportunities both within SCM and beyond. (Ad Hoc witness opportunities are those which individual Meeting members may choose to join in order to be part of a SCM group action about a current issue.) Some examples

include our SCM participation in The Friday night CeaseFire walks in Oakland, SCM Women's March group organizing with the creation of our new March banner, and also leading the SCM group presence at the April 29th People's Climate March. In addition, Witness committee sponsored SCM participation in the FCNL advocacy trainings at Berkeley Friends Meeting, the FCLCA Silent Auction fundraiser, and the FGC Financial stewardship workshops held at BFM last fall.

2. It is also the role of PESW to provide a forum for considering ideas and support for witness from our ex officio members, members of the Meeting, and outside organizations requesting support, participation or endorsement by Strawberry Creek Meeting. This year Witness Committee clerks represented SCM in an important local organizing effort, BOCA meetings (Berkeley Organizing Congregations for Action).

3. Witness committee organized three well-attended Ed sessions to support our SCM Earthcare witness: Larry Strain on reducing the carbon footprint of buildings, Shelley Tanenbaum on representing QEW at Standing Rock, and a Listening Meeting on the future of our Meeting's Earthcare witness. We also co-sponsored with Berkeley Friends Meeting an informational session on sanctuary meetings. Two more on other topics are forthcoming: the leader of BOCA will speak on 6.18.17, and Rick Herbert intends to present a session on immigration in the fall.

4. In 2016 – 2017 Witness Committee carried out the following additional activities in support of our Earthcare Witness: sponsoring and publicizing our quarterly Locavore potlucks, making four DAG grants that either directly reduced the use of fossil fuels or their derivatives (neonic bee-killing pesticides), helped to foster reduction of carbon in the air (newly planted trees protected from damage by installing trash cans), or funded education about increasing sustainability and fossil fuel use reduction, and completing a discernment process re the immediate future of our Earthcare Witness and the Dime-a-Gallon Fund, approving new recommendations about the latter. Please see below for details:

a. Starting last spring, the committee labored extensively with Meeting concerns and issues re our Earthcare witness and the DAG program at this time in our history and in the context of the growing climate disruption crisis. We then held a general Listening Meeting re concerns about the future of our SCM Earthcare witness at this critical time

b. In April our committee approved the following recommendations about the immediate future of Earthcare Witness and the Dime-a-Gallon Fund at SCM:

The Listening Meeting on Earthcare Witness at SCM was in unity that we need a much stronger Earthcare witness. However, all of the concrete new proposals mentioned at that Listening Meeting were relatively small in scale, and we tabled them until the next Witness committee takes them up. Since we do not have the “much stronger Earthcare witness” the session requested as yet, we approved the following recommendation re the Dime-A-Gallon fund: the project will continue in order to build up larger sums to apply to a more substantial fossil fuel use reduction project. This will mean laying down the current mini-grant program, as it has been felt that the mini-grants take too much of the committee's time and energy to manage at this point.

5. By the beginning of fall 2016, we had completed and approved a manual for running the PESW committee, a more detailed version of our job description that includes in-depth information about the committee's current programs and responsibilities.

### **Care of the Meeting Committee Job Description**

#### **I. Purpose**

The Care of the Meeting Committee oversees and nurtures the corporate and community life of the Meeting. It is responsible for membership in our monthly Meeting. The committee maintains an overview of the Meeting community by staying in touch with Meeting's committees, by direct communication with the Clerk of the Meeting, and by being involved in the life of the Meeting. The committee promotes Quaker process and good order in the Meeting. It works with the Clerk of Meeting on issues needing discernment, and is available to help in reconciling differences that may come about in the Meeting.

## II. Term length

Members are nominated to serve from June through May, and most serve for at least two years, with overlapping lengths of experience on the committee.

## III. Number of Members

The committee typically consists of seven members, including either the Clerk or Alternate Clerk of the Meeting. The committee needs at least five active members.

## IV. Membership Requirements

Care of the Meeting Committee members must be Members of the Religious Society of Friends. Committee members should have been active in Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting for at least two years and should have successfully served on at least one other SCMM committee.

## V. Desirable Qualifications

Members of the committee should be experienced Friends with empathy, good judgment, discretion, and a solid understanding of Quaker process. They should be active in the life of the meeting, including meeting for worship, meeting for worship on the occasion of business, and other Meeting activities, since awareness of the life of the Meeting is essential for members of the Care of Meeting committee.

## VI. Responsibilities

### **Overseeing our Meeting As A Whole**

The committee reviews how our Meeting is working and recommends improvements to Meeting for Business from time to time.

**Supporting Meeting's Committees.** In caring for the corporate life of the Meeting, the committee keeps in touch with Meeting committees by checking in with their clerks (through the "buddy system") and attending meetings of those committees when possible. The committee holds a clerks meeting at least once a year to discuss matters of concern about how committee work is going and about how the overall structure of the Meeting is working. The committee clerk meets as needed with clerks of Mutual Care and Worship & Ministry committees. It provides one member to the ad hoc committee tasked with writing the State of the Meeting report, and schedules listening meetings when needed.

**Meeting Records and Archive.** The committee works with Meeting Officers (particularly the Recorder), and other committees (especially the Communications Committee) to promote and assure good order in the records and permanent archive of our Meeting.

### **Nurturing the Meeting Community**

The committee is responsible for outreach, welcoming, and nurturing newcomers, attenders, and members. It ensures that information about Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting is provided to inquirers, and makes clear to prospective members, including young people, the interest of the Meeting in their joining its fellowship.

**Membership.** The committee considers and recommends action upon requests for membership, associate membership for children of members, and transfer or withdrawal of membership. It appoints membership clearness committees, to be convened by a member of Care of Meeting committee.

**Maintaining Connections.** Periodically the committee reviews the list of members and attenders, and reaches out to those no longer attending Meeting. The committee contacts members and attenders listed in the directory who are not contacted by Nominating committee.

The committee assists the Database Keeper to keep an accurate directory list, with mail and email addresses and telephone numbers, of all members and regular attenders of the Monthly Meeting, and assure its regular publication for Monthly and for Quarterly Meeting Directories.

**Relationships with Quaker Organizations beyond our Meeting.** In cooperation with Representatives and others, the committee encourages learning about and participating in Friends organizations and events outside our Meeting. The committee administers the Quaker Event Support Fund, and administers the Quaker Center annual pass.

**Events and Activities.** The committee helps oversee, organize and support events and activities that nurture the community life of the Meeting, and it maintains a list and schedule of events and activities.

## VII. Revision Date



Initial job description approved January 2006; name changed 9/9/07; revised description approved 12/14/2008; further revisions approved 6-9-13; current version submitted to Meeting for Business 3/12/17 and revised to fit standard job description template 4/20/17.

### **Report from FCLCA**

by Kevan Insko

The national political climate has lent a new sense of urgency to California's legislative session, and thanks to your financial support and activism, FCLCA is able to respond, bringing your "voice of conscience" to the Capitol. FCLCA has taken action on 64 bills – writing letters in support or opposition, testifying in committee hearings, making lobby visits and organizing grassroots efforts with emails, phone calls and in-district visits. Our co-sponsored bill, Senate Bill 180, to repeal sentencing enhancements for prior drug convictions, passed the Senate on May 15 with a vote of 22-13! With your support, FCLCA has been very active in lobbying for Senate Bill 54, to make California a "sanctuary state" – right now we are helping to organize an Interfaith Coalition meeting with the governor's staff. Grassroots activism is blossoming, with more people reaching out to their legislators both here in the Capitol and in their districts. Read our full report to Friends Meetings: go to [www.fclca.org](http://www.fclca.org), click on Action Center, and look under "What's New."

### **CROP Hunger Walk Raises \$32,000**

by Tom Yamaguchi

Our 2017 Berkeley CROP Hunger Walk was held on April 30. Organized by Church World Service, we gathered at Mary Magdalen Church in North Berkeley and walked south through the Gourmet Ghetto after being sent off by Taiko drummers. Trinity Methodist Church provided a mid-walk rest stop. We then returned to Mary Magdalen Church for a celebration with ice cream. Our preliminary totals show that we raised \$32,000 with 160 walkers, surpassing our goal of \$28,000 and 155 walkers. 75% of the money raised will go to the international relief programs of CWS. The remainder will be divided between four local agencies: Berkeley Food Pantry, Dorothy Day House, YEAH!, and Youth Spirit Artworks. Our Berkeley Quakers team had nine walkers and raised \$4,455. Thanks to everyone who supported the 2017 Berkeley CROP Hunger Walk.

### **ADVICES and QUERIES for the Sixth Month: Harmony with Creation**

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?

—Howard Thurman, 1899-1981 (Wider Quaker Fellowship)

time!  
searched out, tracked down, and made to yield the secret of living. Thank God for the fallow  
restoration, of filling up and replenishing. It is the moment when the meaning of all things can be  
creative planning. The time is not wasted. The time of fallowness is a time of rest and  
dead roots, clear the ground... work out new designs by dreaming daring dreams and great and  
*There is a fallow time for the spirit when the soil is barren...* Face it! Then resolutely dig out

**From Rachel Findley's Worship Sharing at the Annual Retreat:**

STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING  
Box 5065, Berkeley, California 94705  
STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING  
Box 5065, Berkeley, California 94705  
Phone messages: 510/524-9186  
<strawberrycreek.quaker.org>

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**First Class Mail**

TO:

May ISSUE 2017  
**TIME VALUE**