

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting

July-August 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

SUNDAY, July 2

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

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

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

SUNDAY, July 9

Business Meeting 11:50 AM

WEDNESDAY, July 12

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

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

SUNDAY, July 16

Worship Sharing 9:00 AM

Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Session at Walker Ranch Retreat Petaluma, CA July 14-19.

SUNDAY, July 23

Committee Sunday

SUNDAY, July 30

Meeting of Strawberry Creek/Berkeley Meeting Working Group 1:00, 2151 Vine St. Berkeley CA

WEDNESDAY, August 2

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

SUNDAY, August 6

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

SUNDAY, August 13

Please note: there is no Business Meeting

WEDNESDAY, August 16

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

Gospel Sing 7:00 PM Contact Clifford Ham, clifforddham@gmail.com

SUNDAY, August 20

Worship Sharing 9:00 AM. Contact Al Thompson, acthompsonx@gmail.com

Quaker Film Series 1:00 2151 Vine St. Berkeley, CA (Check Berkeley Mtg calendar.)

SUNDAY, August 27 **Committee Sunday**

Newsletter Deadline for September newsletter@strawberrycreekquakers.org

SUNDAY, September 3

Advices and Queries on Reaching Out read by Facilities Committee during the first 15 minutes of meeting for worship

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

NEWS & 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, to get your event listed.

Nametag Project

The consensus is that the nametags are helping people get acquainted. Remember to pick up your nametag before meeting and drop it off after meeting. Comments are welcome on the nametags or the process. Please contact Lee Douglas (riedouglas@gmail.com) or Jed Appelman (jed.appelman@gmail.com)

Thursday Evening Worship at Berkeley Meeting

The midweek worship on Thursday evening at Berkeley Meeting will be suspended over the summer. Ministry and Worship Committee will review the need for this group in the fall. Please send comments or concerns to Beth Wrightson (beth.wrightson@gmail.com).

Quakerly Singing

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.

Dinners for Young Friends

Henri Ducharme has been organizing every-other-month dinners for young Friends. Through Nominating Committee interviews he learned that 1) many younger Friends would like to experience being the majority in a room together and 2) some younger Friends, because there are so few of them, often don't know each other! The dinner format that seems to work is six younger Friends hosted by four established Friends. The younger Friends come from all Bay Area meetings and some from no meeting (they may have grown up Quaker or were active in a meeting elsewhere but don't feel drawn to a local meeting.) There have been three dinners so far. The next is in July. For more information, contact Henri at 510-417-5736.

Quakerism and Buddhism Presentation

On Friday, 9/8/17, from 7:00 to 9:00, Steve Smith will speak on Quakerism and Buddhism at Berkeley Friends Meeting. This talk is hosted jointly by Berkeley and Strawberry Creek Friends Meetings. Contact Tom Bird (tbirdmarin@gmail.com)

Political Action Worship Group

The Quaker Political Action Worship Group meets every Monday from 10-11 am at Ian Whitmarshes' house, 739 Alcatraz Ave., cross street is Shattuck 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. In our worship sharing, we might explore, for example, the idea of a calling or leading, how nonviolent action works, how Quaker listening works, barriers to a particularly Quaker expression of political activism, or staying grounded and centered in God while facing the constant barrage of news. We gather together as Quakers to develop the discipline needed to listen for that of God in everyone.

For more information, please contact Laura Boles (boles9552@gmail.com) or Ian Whitmarsh (ianwhitmarsh@gmail.com).

March for Nuclear Abolition and Global Survival

Wednesday, 8/9/17 at Livermore Lab, corner of Vasco and Patterson Pass Roads. At 8:00 a.m. the rally will start, and at 9:00 a.m. there will be a march to the gates of the Lab, where those who choose will peaceably risk arrest. For information, contact Carl Anderson (cna462@fastmail.fm)

Peace Lantern Ceremony

This commemoration is held each August at Berkeley's Aquatic Park. This year, it will be on Saturday, Aug. 5, from about 6:30 to 9 pm. People decorate lanterns and float them on the lagoon. There will also be speakers, including a survivor of the atomic bombing of Aug. 6, 1945. It's a fine event for all ages.

For more information: <http://www.peacelanterns.org/2017-ceremony.html>
Includes parking, what to bring, accessibility for disabled, etc.

Or: <https://www.facebook.com/events/187476085003371/>

March for Nuclear Abolition & Global Survival

No Nukes! No Walls! No Wars! No Warming!

Each August, people go to the nuclear weapons lab in Livermore. This year, the event will be on the morning of Wednesday, August 9. Rally is set for 8 am at the corner of Vasco Road and Patterson Pass Road. The rally will include music by Emma's Revolution. After the rally, about 9 am, we will march about 2/3 of a mile to a gate. There, we will practice nonviolence in various ways, including an option to risk arrest.

For more information: Carl Anderson is on the planning committee. Phone 510 654-4983.

There will also be details at: <http://trivalleycares.org/>

Newcomers Welcoming Brunch

Save the Date. 10/29. For information, contact Rhea Farley (jrf8@humboldt.edu)

Birth Justice Project by Darcy Stanley

The Roots of Labor Birth Collective is a collective of doulas of color who provide free and sliding scale doula services in the community. This group grew out of the training Birth Justice Project helped develop. For more information, go to this link: <https://www.ebtoday.com/stories/pregnant-and-behind-bars>. The one-time grant they got has run out and there are dozens of people asking for their excellent services. Please consider supporting this work at this website: <http://www.rootsoflaborbc.com/>

First Day School Transitions

Our Meeting's Children's Program teachers, Annelise Dohrer and Camille Jackson, are taking a hiatus from our First Day School during September and October, but they plan to be back after that even if it is part-time.

First Day School Teacher(s) Needed

Strawberry Creek Meeting has an immediate opening for a teacher for the First Day Children's Program (Sunday) School. The main duties of the First Day Children's Program teacher are overseeing playtime, games, storytime and supervising arts and crafts projects assisted by two adult volunteers/parents every week. Usually there are 6 to 18 children from infancy to age 16. Hours are from 9:30 to 11:30am every Sunday, year round. Salary is \$25/hour. The possibility exists for two people to share this job, with each person working two weeks of the month.

Qualifications:

Experience with and enthusiasm for working with children. A teaching certificate is not required but consideration will be given to those with experience in the field of children's education or preparing for this.

A key aspect of this job is the incorporation of Quaker values into the Program; therefore an ideal candidate has experience with or knowledge of Quaker traditions. However, training may be available for a motivated individual without such a background.

Ability to supervise two teen-age assistants as well as set-up and clean-up of the space afterward.

Basic computer skills. Some communications will be sent by email.

If you have questions, call Mary at (510)847-4916.

Please send resumes to mwhiteglass@gmail.com and ellenlevin@yahoo.com.

We value diversity and are open to considering applicants of all backgrounds and ages (applicants should be at least 18 years old).

Strawberry Creek Friends Group on Facebook

There is a group on Facebook for Strawberries to interact informally together. If you are a Facebook user and would like to be added, search for the group and send a message asking to be added.

News from Pastor Brian Young

Pastor Young has accepted a call from West Richmond Friends Meeting to serve as their next pastoral minister, beginning in September. He will miss Berkeley Friends Church but will feel at home in the Midwest. He and Stephanie are looking forward to being back in the "thick" of FUM Quakerism. West Richmond played a significant role in his formation during his time at ESR, and it will be a great privilege to be able to give back to this community in service.

News from Quaker Center

Family Work Camp 8/1-6 is only \$50/person for all 5 days. Individuals and families of all ages are welcome to work on improvements to the facilities while building community with one another. Learn more at <http://www.quakercenter.org/family-work-camp/>.

Upcoming Programs:

Colonialism, Racism and White Supremacy 9/1-3/17 with Vanessa Julye. <http://www.quakercenter.org/programs/colonialism-racism-and-white-supremacy/>.

In for the Long Haul: Inspiration, Strength, and Perseverance for the Spiritual Life Today 9/29-10/1 with Lloyd Lee Wilson
Register soon at <http://www.quakercenter.org/programs/in-for-the-long-haul-inspiration-strength-and-perseverance-for-spiritual-life-today/>.

Quaker Centering Consultation 10/20-22/17 with Kathy and Bob Runyan. Strawberry Creek Meeting can send two representatives with complimentary registrations. Representatives must be approved by the M&O before registering. Contact Ralph Murphy (ralphmurphy3@att.net) if you are interested in attending.

Quaker Center is conducting a short survey to get a sense of what we do in Quaker meeting for worship. Regular participants in Quaker worship are asked to fill out the survey at the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/E8RQ1N8rv0fuiXvE2>.

ADVICES & QUERIES FOR SEVENTH MONTH
on HARMONY WITH CREATION

It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world, that they were better studied and knowing in the Creation of it. For how could [they] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the Great Creator stare them in the face, in all and every part thereof?
William Penn, Some Fruits of Solitude, 1693

God is revealed in all Creation. We humans belong to the whole interdependent community of life on earth. Rejoice in the beauty, complexity, and mystery of creation, with gratitude to be part of its unfolding. Take time to learn how this community of life is organized and how it interacts. Live according to principles of right relationship and right action within this larger whole.

Be aware of the influence humans have on the health and viability of life on earth. Call attention to what fosters or harms earth's exquisite beauty, balances and interdependencies. Guided by Spirit, work to translate this understanding into ways of living that reflect our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations.

In what ways do I express gratitude for the wondrous expressions of life on Earth?

Do I consider the damage I might do to the Earth's vulnerable systems in choices I make of what I do, what I buy, and how I spend my time?

In our witness for the global environment, are we careful to consider justice and the well-being of the world's poorest people?

Does our way of life threaten the viability of life on Earth?

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
MEETING FOR WORSHIP ON THE OCCASION OF BUSINESS
June 11, 2017 Minutes

The Meeting opened at 11:55 a.m. with silent worship. Ralph Murphy clerked the Meeting. Thirty-seven Friends were present. Beth Wrightson served as Acting Recording Clerk.

The minutes for the May 14, 2017, Meeting for Business were read. The minutes were approved with the following corrections: in the sections on the Nominating Committee business: Henri Ducharme's position title was changed to "Alternate Clerk"; in the section on the Witness Report: the position title of "co-clerk" was eliminated; in the section in New Business on the Nomination Slate: the committee mentioned in the fourth sentence is changed to "Care of the Meeting Committee"; under Old Business in the section on the Care of the Meeting Committee: the second sentence is changes to read " The content has been fit into the standard format as requested by the Communications Committee"; and several other clerical errors were corrected.

Elizabeth Strain shared responses from the Worship and Ministry Committee to the Advices and Queries on Harmony with Creation. Friends returned to worship to reflect on these.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business:

Shelly Tanenbaum's travel minute was returned by South Central Yearly Meeting, with an endorsement of appreciation on the bottom. Dharma Galang sent a thank-you note on behalf of Berkeley Friends' Church for our assistance with the CROP walk this year. At a Member's suggestion, this note was forwarded to First Day School for viewing by the children.

Old Business:

Nominations (Nominating Committee, Charlie Blanchard) Charlie reported that he had not heard any concerns about the nominations which have seasoned for one month. These were: Frank Satterwhite to Finance, Phyllis Malandra (Clerk) and George Michael Payne to Loaves and Fishes, Roberta Schutz to Mutual Care, and Stephen McNeil (Co-Clerk), David Rutschman (Co-Clerk), Catya de Neergaard, and Avotcja Jiltonilro to Witness. These nominations were approved for service.

Membership Requests (Care of the Meeting Committee, Rhea Farley)The membership transfer request of David Rutschman, and the membership requests of Nathan Moon and Amy Dewey have seasoned over the past month. In each case, no concerns were brought forward to the Care of the Meeting Committee, and in each case the requests were approved. The welcoming committee for David Rutschman will be Barb Tittle, Betsy Morris, and James Hosley, Convener. The welcoming committee for Nathan Moon will be Elaine Emily, Convener, Leonard Joy, and Rhea Farley. The welcoming committee for Amy Dewey will be Tom Yamaguchi, Convener, Rachel Findley, and Al Thompson.

New Business:

Membership Requests (Care of the Meeting Committee, Rhea Farley) Rhea read the report from the Henri Ducharme membership clearness committee (Ralph Murphy, Frank Satterwhite, and Beth Wrightson). They reached unity in recommending the membership request. The Care of the Meeting Committee has united in that recommendation. This membership request will season for a month.

The Clerk read a letter from Sally Kingsland, requesting that her membership be transferred to the Palo Alto Meeting. The Care of the Meeting Committee has united in recommending that the request be approved. This request was approved.

Reports:

Darcy Stanley on Her Ministry Darcy thanked her anchoring committee, Elaine Emily, Laura Magnani, and Carl Magruder, for their service to her. She is laying down her committee as she becomes a nurse midwife and decides how to proceed from here. She described her ministry as a doula to incarcerated women in San Francisco, and how this grew over 6 years to become a ministry at the junction of reproductive justice and racial justice. She is anticipating that her doula group will also lay down their work to let others continue serving incarcerated people having babies in prison. Specifically, the Birth Justice Project, based in Oakland, a group primarily consisting of women of color, has taken on this important work.

Treasurer (Richard Leath) Richard reported that all is mostly predictable, and our deficit is a little higher than usual for this time of year--\$18,000.

Peace, Earthcare and Social Witness Committee (David Rutschman) David reported that the committee is small in size, and they consider it an "open" committee, meaning anyone may join them at their meetings on the Fourth First Day after Rise of Meeting. The committee members wish to help the Meeting by helping to discern members' and attenders' concerns and facilitate action on these. He also announced the Berkeley Organizing Congregations for Action (BOCA) event for next Sunday after the rise of Meeting.

Finance Committee (James Hosley) The committee had looked into when the last review of the Strawberry Creek's financial records was, and found that it was time to conduct a review. The committee researched what other Monthly Meetings did for their reviews, and the committee and the Treasurer came up with a process for doing an internal review. The review was completed in March of 2017, and the books were found to be sound. The committee also added language to its job description to continue this process on a regular basis. There were some questions about checks and balances and transitions between financial officers.

Quarterly Meeting Representative (Tom Yamaguchi) The 2017 spring session of College Park Quarterly Meeting was held at Ben Lomond Quaker Center on May 19-21 on the theme "An Invitation to the Dance: Learning more about and sharing the Quaker way". 68 adults, 7 teenagers, and 6 children attended. Stephen Matchett made a presentation on how San Francisco Meeting welcomes newcomers. The Nominating Committee reported that it is having trouble filling positions. Quaker Center reported that it needed to raise funds to pay for repairs needed because of damage caused to the water tank by a fallen tree. There were four interest groups and a family night. The next Quarterly Meeting will be held October 13 to 15 at Sierra Friends Center.

Nominating Committee (Charlie Blanchard) The committee has some information to pass along to the Care of the Meeting Committee. Altogether, they spoke to 140 people, and the Meeting has 66 people in nominated positions. Many of these people are covering more than one of the Meeting's duties. He reports that all committees are staffed and clerked, and positions are filled, with the exception of the Sierra Friends' Center representative. The Peace Earthcare and Social Witness Committee is small. Many people were not willing to commit to service to a committee for a year, but can perform ad-hoc duties for the Meeting as these arise. Nominating will pass on these names for service such as organizing our gatherings. He notes that usually the ratio of people to jobs is 88-90%.

Announcements

The Meeting closed at about 1:30 p.m. with silent worship.

The next Meeting for Business will be held on July 9, 2017, at 11:50 A.M. at the Berkeley Technology Academy.

Submitted by: Ralph Murphy, Clerk, Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk, and Beth Wrightson, Acting Recording Clerk.

We need both a deeper spirituality and a more outspoken witness. If our spirituality can reach the depths of authentic prayer, our lives will become an authentic witness for justice, peace and the integrity of creation, a witness which becomes the context for our prayer. Out of the depths of authentic prayer comes a longing for peace and a passion for justice. And our response to violence and injustice is to pray more deeply, because only God can show us the way out of the mess that the world is in. And only God gives us the strength to follow that Way. |
—Gordon Matthews, 1989. Quaker Faith and Practice, Britain Yearly Meeting, 1995

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

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TIME VALUE