

Pacific Yearly Meeting
University of San Diego, San Diego, California

7th Month 22, 2002

PLENARY I

The 56th session of Pacific Yearly Meeting opened with worship on 7th Month, 22, 2002, at 7:15 PM in the University Center of the University of San Diego, San Diego, California.

Clerk Shan Cretin welcomed Friends to the annual session. Reading Clerk Walt Kersey read a rhymed verse selection from the 2001 Junior High Epistle of New York Yearly Meeting. Representatives of the University of San Diego greeted Pacific Yearly Meeting with useful information about facilities and logistics.

Roll Call

Friends from these Meetings and worship groups were present. (Also see list of attenders, ATTACHMENT A.)

Central Coast Preparative Meeting
San Luis Obispo Worship Group
Atascadero Worship Group
Sierra Foothills (formerly Amador)
Worship Group
Conejo Valley Worship Group

Marin Monthly Meeting
Marloma/Long Beach Monthly Meeting
Mexico City Monthly Meeting
Monterey Peninsula Monthly Meeting
Napa-Sonoma Monthly Meeting

Las Vegas Worship Group
Southern Humboldt Worship Group
Apple Seed Monthly Meeting
Berkeley Monthly Meeting
Big Island Monthly Meeting

Orange County Monthly Meeting
Orange Grove Monthly Meeting
Pacific Ackworth Monthly Meeting
Palo Alto Monthly Meeting
Redwood Forest Monthly Meeting

Chico Monthly Meeting
Claremont Monthly Meeting
Davis Monthly Meeting
Delta Monthly Meeting
Fresno Monthly Meeting

Sacramento Monthly Meeting
San Diego Monthly Meeting
San Francisco Monthly Meeting
San Jose Monthly Meeting
Santa Barbara Monthly Meeting

Grass Valley Monthly Meeting
Honolulu Monthly Meeting
Humboldt Monthly Meeting
Inland Valley Monthly Meeting
La Jolla Monthly Meeting

Santa Cruz Monthly Meeting
Santa Monica Monthly Meeting
Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Visalia Monthly Meeting

Introductions

Visitors were introduced, including Paul Lacey, clerk to American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) board of directors; Ruth Fraser, Madeline Haggans, Lawrence Reichard and Sonia Tuma, all with AFSC; Arthur Meyer Boyd of Friends Committee on National Legislation; Ira Saletan and Jim Linburg of the Friends Committee on Legislation; Cilde Grover of Friends World Committee on Consultation, Section of the Americas; Cassilde Ntamamiro of Friends Peace Team, Burundi; Katherine Jaramillo from Earlham School of Religion; Bronwen Hillman from PAV-Mexico (Alternatives to Violence Project); Deborah Saunders, representing Pendle Hill; and Anthony Manousos from *Friends Bulletin*. Alyn Euritt a student at Scattergood Friends School, from Penn Valley Monthly Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, was present. Greetings were conveyed to PYM by attenders from North Pacific Yearly Meeting, Iowa Yearly Meeting, Baltimore Yearly Meeting, North Carolina Yearly Meeting (Conservative), Britain Yearly Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Monte Verde Friends in Costa Rica, and from Burundi Yearly Meeting. Paul Niebanck, formerly with Santa Cruz Meeting, sent his greetings.

Logistics and Announcements

The Clerk explained our procedure for Friends to speak from the floor during plenary sessions, using microphones brought to them by members of Ministry and Oversight Committee.

Melissa Lovett-Adair introduced the children participating in the Children's Program and announced orientation Tuesday at 9:00 AM for children and parents. The afternoon schedule this year will be an activity schedule for anyone, of any age, who wishes to participate. Volunteers are encouraged to work with the children. Intergenerational activities are scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings.

Linnea Hanson and Louis Armin-Hoiland introduced the Junior Yearly Meeting Clerks -- Joel Armin-Hoiland and Forest Parker, of Humboldt Meeting, and Ravahn Samati, of Strawberry Creek Meeting --and JYM Ministry and Oversight Committee members. The JYM schedule is available, and Friends are invited to attend interest groups and to be Friendly Adult Presences. A "transition group" will as last year accommodate those moving from the Children's Program to JYM. Parents and sponsors were reminded that JYM is not a 24-hour program and ends at midnight. Parent orientation meeting will follow this plenary.

JYM co-clerk Forest Parker read the following "mutually understood guides for behavior in the PYM community," developed by our Committees for Ministry and Oversight and Junior Yearly Meeting, for PYM attenders of all ages:

We agree to treat every other person with respect; to participate fully in the creation of the PYM community; to be open to appropriate eldering; to not engage in sex outside of committed relationships; to not use recreational drugs, including alcohol.

Stephen Myers, of Santa Cruz Meeting, and Darcy Stanley, of Berkeley Meeting, co-clerks of Young Friends, introduced Young Friends. Young Friends and JYMers then left plenary for their activities.

Arrangements clerks Karen Morgan and Gene Gilmore made several announcements about phones, trams, facilities, schedules, and other matters, then answered questions. Friends were reminded that the University allows nothing to be hung on the walls. Emily Leo is Special Needs Coordinator for this PYM. Gary Wolff introduced the assistive listening devices available for those who need them. Sharon Gates and Rebecca Tillberg explained Worship-Sharing Group assignments. Locations will be announced in the *Daily Miracle* and on bulletin boards.

The Clerk reminded Friends of the schedule of reports, concerns and minutes to be presented in plenary sessions during this week and directed Friends to posters in the lobby outside plenary with text and background information for four proposed minutes.

Epistle Committee

The Epistle Committee for this PYM will be Leonard Joy (convenor), Bruce Folsom, and Sarah Rose House.

Stephen McNeil, Assistant to the Clerk, made several announcements. Minutes were read and approved. Meeting closed with silent worship.

Faithfully submitted,

Shan Cretin, Presiding Clerk

James Summers, Recording Clerk

7th Month 23, 2002

PLENARY II

The meeting opened with worship. Walt Kersey read from the letter of the 2002 Quaker AFSC delegation to Iraq, seven people who traveled to Iraq as an act of conscience, to expand efforts to lift sanctions and to report on deteriorating living conditions of the people of Iraq.

Clerk Shan Cretin reminded us of the area within the plenary room encircled by a loop of speaker cable, as an antenna to assist those with hearing loss. Friends using this system should adjust their hearing aids to the "T" position or use the headsets provided. Karen Street of Berkeley Meeting has information for each Meeting to help us assess needs for assisted hearing systems in our Meetinghouses.

Introductions

The following Friends and visitors introduced themselves: Andrew Secrest, Berkeley Friends Church; Ernest Bicknell, Berkeley Friends Meeting; Rose Emerly, Hawaii, Big Island Monthly Meeting; Jane Blount, La Jolla Friends Meeting.

Naming Committee

Stratton Jaquette, Palo Alto Meeting, reviewed the task of the Naming Committee and introduced committee members Betty Miller, of Apple Seed Meeting, and Gary Wolff, of Orange Grove Meeting. Naming Committee recommended the following Friends for PYM Nominating Committee: Marilee Eusebio of Davis Meeting, term through PYM 2003; Keith Wedmore of San Francisco Meeting, term through PYM 2004, and to serve as Nominating Committee clerk for the coming year; Roy Allen of Berkeley Meeting, Ron Jones of Santa Barbara Meeting, and Rebecca Tillberg of Santa Monica Meeting, terms through PYM 2005.

Stephen McNeil read announcements. Minutes were read and approved for the session thus far.

On Being Led to Witness

The clerk introduced a panel of Friends to speak about their leadings to witness in the world. She suggested that we follow their panel with closing worship and ask our recording clerk to offer a summary minute at tomorrow's plenary.

The Spirit is hard but fair. No one is asked to do everything. We are asked to do that to which we are called and for which we are uniquely prepared.

Plenary heard from Rachel Fretz and Cassilde Ntamamiro, who work with Friends Peace Teams in Burundi; Sandy Farley who works with refugees in Kosovo and Albania; Janet Riley and John Holding who work with the Alternatives to Violence Project in California prisons; Joe Franko who, with Edith Cole, was led to establish a girls' school in Pakistan for Afghani refugees; and Carin Anderson and Chris Moore-Backman who are working with the Fellowship of Reconciliation to be a presence in "peace communities" in Colombia.

Each showed a willingness to be lead and spoke of how they came to recognize the Spirit leading them to their work, from subtle but persistent "hudgetings" to "being hit with a baseball bat." They spoke movingly of their essential connections to their faith communities and the importance of the support those communities provide. The transforming power of the Spirit is evident in their lives, in their work and in the communities that support them. We are grateful for the lives and the work of these Friends.

Meeting closed with worshipful silence.

Faithfully submitted,

Shan Cretin, Presiding Clerk

Jan Tappan, Recording Clerk

7th Month 24, 2002

PLENARY III

Meeting began at 10:00 AM in worship. Walt Kersey read selections from the 2002 epistles of Australia Yearly Meeting and Japan Yearly Meeting, and the 2001 epistles of the Central Friends and the Kindergarten-2nd Grade Friends of North Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Introductions

Ignacio Gonzales from Mexico City Monthly Meeting and Patricia Moore (Chris Moore-Backman's mother) were introduced. The clerk reminded Friends to hold in the Light PYM Friends traveling under concerns in various parts of the globe.

Nominating Committee

Clerk Keith Wedmore reported for Nominating Committee. Friends were invited to consider nominations, presented for our first hearing, and bring any concerns to Nominating Committee before these names are considered for approval on Friday. Clerk Shan Cretin expressed thanks of PYM for the good work of the Nominating Committee throughout this year.

Ministry and Oversight Committee

Clerk Jim Anderson introduced the report of the Committee's work throughout this year (ATTACHMENT B), reading the final paragraph concerning their attempts to support Mexico City Monthly Meeting. Friends throughout Yearly Meeting are invited to consider whether they may have some support to offer Mexico City Meeting. Jim also made available a report produced for the benefit of any Committees considering establishing internship programs (ATTACHMENT C).

Members of Ministry and Oversight Committee read excerpts from State of the Meeting reports received from the Meetings of PYM (ATTACHMENT D). Many excerpts concerned Meetings' responses to the violence of 9-11-2001 attacks and to military threats and other violence that have ensued. Others reflected the leadings of individual Friends working in the service of justice and peace in the world. Some excerpts related stories of Meetings reaching out to the Spirit and reaching into their home communities with their testimonies. It was clear from some passages that finding direction as Meetings does not always come easily for Friends, and that Friends are very concerned about this issue throughout PYM. Who are we, beyond a mutually caring faith community? Many Meetings wrote of where leadings come from and the challenges and joys of taking trusting steps together in the Spirit.

How do Meetings find their corporate witness? Do we bring proposals to meetings for business seeking unity? Do we use planning processes borrowed from the business world, hoping to accomplish a goal expeditiously? Or do we look to individual leadings, seasoning them lovingly in the Meeting community, perhaps with the aid of clearness committees, to let true concerns arise and through nurturing these individual witnesses over time discover our corporate voice?

It was noted that love and a strong sense of community can empower Meetings to accept both problems and new ideas, allowing us to be open to workings of the Spirit. Failure to be clear about what we are or are not, however, can make it difficult to educate newcomers and children, work with other faith traditions or rightly discern what work is truly ours. We do have time-tested spiritual practices that serve us well, allowing, if given sufficient time and scope, both the plumbing of individual spiritual depths and reliable corporate discernment. When this occurs and a Meeting is truly unified in its discernment of the way forward, it can become a minister itself, with Friends as its hands and feet.

Friends were called to a ministry of "earth justice" and cautioned against anthropocentrism in our seekings and ministries. We were reminded that consequences of continuing to ignore the unity of humanity and nature could be catastrophic. Friends pray to be more aware of the Presence, and for help to be more faithful in our lives as individuals and as a community.

Friends Committee on Legislation

Steve Birdlebough, from Friends Committee on Legislation (FCL), reminded us of William Penn's insight that true Godliness does not remove us from the world but moves us to seek to mend it. FCL was formed fifty years ago to do this. Carol Lutness, from Orange Grove Meeting, spoke of producing a video on the last 50 years of FCL. She and Ira Saletan, interviewing 84 people, found an incredible story of an organization not always well known or appreciated, even by Meetings, despite its effectiveness in Sacramento. She introduced FCL staff and volunteers present and reviewed FCL work in Sacramento. This video will be shown at PYM and at Monthly Meetings by visiting representatives.

PYM 2002-1 Pacific Yearly Meeting gives thanks and expresses great appreciation to the Friends Committee on Legislation for fifty years of integrity and effective service in Sacramento.

Meeting closed with a silence full of worship.

Faithfully submitted,

Shan Cretin, Presiding Clerk

James Summers, Recording Clerk

7th Month 25, 2002

PLENARY IV

Meeting began at 10:00 AM following Meeting for Worship. Walt Kersey read epistles from Canadian Yearly Meeting and the Yearly Meeting of Friends in Cuba. Meg Goetz Gaona and Antonio Gaona, of Santa Barbara Meeting, were introduced.

Stephen McNeil, Assistant to the Clerk, read announcements. Recording clerk Jim Summers read the minutes from Plenary III, which we approved. Keith Wedmore brought additional nominations and corrections to our attention. Friends are encouraged to contact members of Nominating Committee with concerns and questions.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Sherri Sisson, of Orange County Meeting, reported on the state of the Yearly Meeting's finances. We thanked Sherri Sisson and accepted the Treasurer's Report.

Finance Committee

Steve Birdlebough, Sacramento Meeting, reported for the Finance Committee on expenses for the current fiscal year and noted the need for augmentation to the budgets for the Finance and Peace and Social Order Committees.

PYM 2002-2. We approve augmenting our 2002 budget, with \$200 for Finance Committee expenses and \$500 for Peace and Social Order Committee, to be balanced by taking an additional \$700 from reserves.

The Finance Committee presented a first reading of the proposed budget for FY 2002/3. We have intentionally spent down our reserves in recent years. Thus, even though the proposed budget is about the same or slightly less than last year, we now need to increase our Meetings' per-member assessment to in order to meet this budget. Friends are invited to bring to Finance Committee comments and concerns about the proposed budget, which we will consider for approval later in the week. We appreciate the careful way our Finance Committee has worked to support our activities to help make our faith visible.

Epistle Committee

Leonard Joy, of Strawberry Creek Meeting, read the preliminary draft of the Epistle. Please give suggestions and comments to members of the Epistle Committee: Sarah Rose House, Bruce Folsom, and Leonard Joy.

Friends World Committee for Consultation

Sandra Farley reported for PYM's representatives to FWCC. Cilde Grover, Executive Secretary of FWCC Section of the Americas, was introduced. Sandra Farley noted that FWCC's financial contributions from Pacific Yearly Meeting members have dropped since the death of Robert Vogel, a very active FWCC fund raiser, and asked that Friends consider donating money to the work of FWCC.

At its annual meeting, FWCC Section of the Americas was led to plan a Peace Conference that will take place January 17-20, 2003, at Guilford College, Greensboro, North Carolina. Rolene Walker spoke to us of plans for this conference, the first that FWCC has called in thirty years. The conference was called to assist Friends to carry out the peace testimony in an increasingly war torn world, examining where the peace testimony has taken us in the past, where it leads us today, and what we can do in the future. To support this conference, PYM approved the following minutes:

PYM 2002-3 We approve \$1000 as a one-time gift to FWCC for the purpose of putting on a Peace Conference in January 2003. We approve \$1,000 to underwrite travel for four delegates to that conference. We ask our Ministry and Oversight Committee to establish a process by which Friends may apply to be delegates and to select our four delegates, working with clerks and M&O of the Young Friends to ensure the inclusion of younger and older Friends.

Cilde Gover noted that there is also opportunity for interested Friends not selected as Yearly Meeting delegates to attend this conference; Friends should contact the FWCC Section of the Americas office for more information.

Colombia Peace Communities

Carin Anderson and Chris Moore-Backman presented background information about the Peace Communities in Colombia and their accompaniment work with the Fellowship of Reconciliation. A minute of support has been seasoned by the Latin America Concerns and Peace and Social Order Committees.

- PYM 2002 4:**
1. We support the Peace Communities of Colombia in their efforts to find a nonviolent path, and we hold in our prayers and loving care Christopher Moore-Backman and Carin Anderson who have been led to bear witness and support the community in San Jose de Apartado. We affirm the spiritual basis for their work in San Jose de Apartado.
 2. We direct the Clerk to inform the President and President-elect of Colombia, President Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell, and the US Ambassador to Colombia, that two members of Pacific Yearly Meeting have been called to accompany and support the Peace Community of San Jose de Apartado, and that Pacific Yearly Meeting is closely monitoring the continuing violence and forced militarization in San Jose de Apartado. We direct the Clerk to ask these officials to ensure that the road from Apartado to San Jose de Apartado is kept safe for all travelers and to support the accompaniment work of the international citizens living in San Jose de Apartado.
 3. We urge Friends Committee on National Legislation to work for changes in US government policy towards Colombia to ensure support for Colombia's Peace Communities and protection for their civilian populations while working towards a just and lasting end to the armed conflict in Colombia.

Minutes were read and approved. Meeting closed with silence.

Faithfully submitted,

Shan Cretin, Presiding Clerk

Jan Tappan, Recording Clerk

7th Month 25, 2002

Plenary V - Memorials

We gathered in our traditional way to celebrate the lives of the members and attenders of our constituent Meetings who have died since our last memorial session. Members of Ministry and Oversight Committee -- Dottie Vura-Weis, Tom Farley, Susie Stanley -- and two Young Friends, Evan Nelson and Kate Newlin, each read one of the following short selections, and then a list of names. In the interspersed worship, Friends recounted stories and characteristics of departed Friends.

Eda Bicknell, Berkeley
Julia Brown, Santa Barbara
Doris Bryant, San Diego
Montford I. Cardwell, San Francisco

Louise Carolyn Conn, Davis
Bernie Firestone, Santa Barbara
Eloise "Cindy" Hewitt, Honolulu
Nancy Cox Hollister, Santa Barbara

Tex Horning, 15th Street, NY/Palo Alto
Walter Lohans, Fresno
John Bard McAllister, Visalia
Thomas McIntyre, Reno

Janet Nolan, Redwood Forest
Helen Malcolm O' Brien, Whitleaf
Peggy Reid, Berkeley
Maggie Reynolds, Santa Cruz

Marye Spencer, Marloma Long Beach
Georgia Travis, San Jose
Samuel Tyson, Delta
Linda Wright, Inland Valley/Las Vegas WG

*Gracias a la vida que me ha dado tanto
Me ha dado la risa y me ha dado el llanto
Asi yo distingo dicha de quebranto
Los dos materiales que forman me canto
Y el canto de ustedes que es el mismo canto
Y el canto de todos que es mi propio canto.*

I give thanks for life that has given me so much,
That has given me smiles and given me tears.
Thus I distinguish between happiness and grief,
The two sources of my song.
And your song is the same song,
and the song of everyone is my own song.
-- Violeta Para, "Gracias a la Vida"

"We bereaved are not alone, we belong to the largest company in all the world--the company of those who have known suffering. When it seems that our sorrow is too great to be borne, let us think of the great family of the heavy-hearted into which our grief has given us entrance, and inevitably, we will feel about us their arms, their sympathy, their understanding." -- Helen Keller

"Death is not a beginning; death is not an end. Who knows when the end is reached? Death may be the beginning of life. How do I know that love of life is not a delusion, after all? How do I know that he who dreads to die, is as a child who has lost the way and cannot find his home? How do I know but that the dead repent of having previously clung to life?" -- Chuang Tzu, 300 BC

"The eternal life is not the future life; it is life in harmony with the true order of things--life in God. We must learn to look upon time as a movement of eternity, as an undulation in the ocean of being. To live, so as to keep this consciousness of ours in perpetual relation with the eternal is to be wise,\; to live, so as to personify and embody the eternal, is to be religious." -- Amiel

"For what is it to die but to stand naked in the wind and to melt into the sun? And what is it to cease breathing, but to free the breath from the restless tides, that it may rise and expand and seek God unencumbered?"
-- Kahlil Gibran

7th Month 26, 2002

PLENARY VI

Meeting began at 10:00 AM following worship, with Walt reading selections from the epistles of the Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church and the Central and South Africa Yearly Meeting.

Brinton Visitor Subcommittee

Sally Davis, Clerk of the Brinton Visitor Subcommittee, reported to us. She recounted the history of the Brinton Visitor Fund, and reminded us that the fund is not endowed. North Pacific Yearly Meeting has requested visitation, and the funds are available. The recommendation of Eric Moon as the tenth Brinton Visitor was enthusiastically received by Friends.

Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP)

Clerk Shan Cretin, herself an AVP facilitator, asked Margaret Mossman to clerk the consideration of a minute involving PYM support of the Alternatives to Violence Project.

Central Coast Preparative Meeting, currently sponsoring an AVP program in the California Men's Colony, has forwarded a minute requesting that PYM take their program under its care. San Francisco Meeting has forwarded a minute encouraging PYM "to explore ways to encourage Quaker participation in the Alternatives to Violence Project." Trudy Freidel, Clerk of Peace and Social Order, introduced a proposed minute of support, to establish an AVP subcommittee under Peace and Social Order Committee.

During discussion, we acknowledged Friends' support for and involvement with other conflict resolution programs and heard the history of AVP work in our Quaker Community and in prisons that led to the seasoning of these concerns. It was noted that committees of PYM have the power to establish subcommittees without bringing the matter to plenary. Since "Correctional Facility" is a euphemism for a prison, truth requires us to call these institutions by their true name.

PYM 2002-5 We endorse efforts by Monthly Meetings and individual Friends to establish Alternatives to Violence Project Programs in prisons, school, and communities. We hold those who are led to do this work in our prayers and loving care. We ask Peace and Social Order Committee to implement this proposal in PYM and Monthly Meetings and to help direct a flow of energy to this effort.

Friends were also reminded that without real support from the Friends of Pacific Yearly Meeting, this minute is in vain. This is not a short-term commitment. Men and women in prison may be there for a very long time, and if we are truly faithful, we could also be there for life.

Naming Committee

Stratton Jaquette reported for Naming Committee. They recommend extending Marilee Eusebio's proposed term on Nominating Committee to 2004, and asking Kate Carpenter to continue serving through PYM 2003.

Nominating Committee

Keith Wedmore presented the revised nominations for the coming year (ATTACHMENT G). Minor corrections were made, and a few new nominations were presented for the first time.

PYM 2002-6 We approve nominations heard at earlier plenaries and will consider tomorrow names heard today for the first time.

Site for PYM 2003

Clerk Pat Smith reported for Site Committee. PYM 2003 can take place here at University of San Diego for a second year, August 4-9, 2003. The Committee anticipates achieving a pattern espoused for many years, of alternating between northern and southern California sites every two years.

Finance Committee -- Revised Budget

Clerk Steve Birdleough presented the revised budget proposed for 2003 (ATTACHMENT F), incorporating increases in budget items for the FWCC peace conference and other adjustments reflecting information brought to Finance Committee. The proposed assessment to monthly meetings will increase from \$28.00 per member last year to \$34.00. Our total budget is not dramatically changed from last year, rather this increase in assessment reflects the end of our years of deliberately spending down reserves.

PYM 2002-7 We approve the proposed budget for 2003 as presented.

Bob Barns of Grass Valley Monthly Meeting is recorded as standing aside from this unity, concerned that a general discussion of the proposed permanent site has not yet taken place in PYM.

Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund

Bob Runyan presented a proposed Peace Tax Fund Minute approved by Chico Meeting. He reminded Friends that we are paying for wars past and present when we pay income taxes. Currently, Friends may pay taxes, live below the taxable level, or resist taxes and suffer the consequences. The bill supported by this minute provides an alternative which would allow conscientious objectors to pay their full taxes into a fund that will not be used for military purposes. Friends were reminded that John Woolman was willing to go to bed hungry when the only food available was produced and prepared by slave labor, so faithfulness might also require us to live below the poverty level or be hounded by the IRS. It was recognized that this bill would not modify the federal budget, but it might cause taxpayers to think about how their tax money is spent.

PYM 2002-8 Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) expresses support for those conscientiously opposed to war taxes, in keeping with our Society's 350-year religious witness for peace. Our historical Peace Testimony is expressed in words of early Friends, that "We do utterly deny all outward wars and strife and fightings with outward weapons, for any end or under any pretense whatsoever."

We ask that our elected officials support and work for the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund (HR 1186), which would allow those conscientiously opposed to war to pay their taxes without violating conscience. We thank Rep. John Lewis for sponsoring this legislation and ask all U.S. Congressional Representatives to join in co-sponsoring the bill.

We ask our Clerk to send copies of this minute to our Congressional representatives, Monthly Meetings, and other Yearly Meetings in the United States. We urge members and attenders to consider their responses to war taxes and to work for passage of the Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Bill.

One Friend expressed disappointment that we had dropped the words "if so moved" from the end of this minute, citing the necessity for all of us to follow Divine guidance in choosing our own work.

Brian Vura-Weis, president of our PYM Holding Corporation, reported plans for a thorough seasoning and discussion of the question of a permanent site for PYM.

Minutes were read and approved, and we closed in worship.

Faithfully submitted,

Shan Cretin, Presiding Clerk

Jim Summers, Recording Clerk

7th Month 27, 2002

PLENARY VII

Meeting opened at 10:45 AM. Walt Kersey read from the epistle of the 2002 Britain Yearly Meeting and from the Children's epistle of the 2001 Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting.

American Friends Service Committee

Some PYM Friends have voiced concerns about policies and decisions of the national office of the American Friends Service Committee. Representatives from the AFSC national office and board attended to our PYM annual session this year and we have had several opportunities to meet with them and with staff from the regional offices during this week. Our Representatives to the AFSC Corporation attended these meetings, have heard the issues, and are well prepared to represent us at the corporation meeting in the Fall.

Many PYM Friends have been involved with our two Regional AFSC offices as staff, committee members and volunteers. These Friends urge us to continue to support AFSC's work, and particularly to support the work and the staff of the Pacific Mountain and Pacific Southwest Regions.

Friends are invited to speak with Pacific Yearly Meeting's AFSC representatives: Jean Lester, Carl Magruder, Margaret Mossman, Lanny Jay, and Walter Sullivan. Our representatives will keep us informed and may bring issues to us if the need arises.

Written Reports

We agreed to accept and attach to the minutes of this session written reports from all committees, subcommittees and representatives (ATTACHMENTS K, L).

United Nations Dues Project

Walter Sullivan presented a minute from Santa Cruz Monthly Meeting, College Park Quarterly Meeting and Pacific Yearly Meeting Peace and Social Order Committee proposing to collect contributions of \$3 per person from those who favor peaceful resolution of international conflicts. The money collected would be donated to the United Nations, a symbolic gesture. Friends expressed concern that this minute does not go far enough in addressing the US failure to ratify international treaties and efforts to promote peace and justice. Many Friends expressed the desire for a stronger, broader action that would address concerns about US foreign policy and its reliance on force and unilateralism. The minute and these broader concerns were referred to Peace and Social Order Committee.

Nominating Committee

Keith Wedmore reported one additional nomination: Leonard Joy, of Strawberry Creek Meeting, for Peace and Social Order Committee. This nomination will be acted on at Representative Committee next March.

PYM 2002 -9: We approve the additional nominations brought to us yesterday at Plenary VI. (ATTACH G)

Naming Committee

PYM 2002 - 10 We approve recommendations of the Naming Committee, that the following Friends serve on Nominating Committee: Kate Carpenter of Orange Grove Meeting, term ends 2003; Marilee Eusebio of Davis Meeting, and Keith Wedmore of San Francisco Meeting, terms end 2004; Roy Allen of Berkeley Meeting, Rebecca Tillberg of Santa Monica Meeting, and Ron Jones of Santa Barbara Meeting, terms end 2005; Keith Wedmore to clerk through PYM 2003.

Registrars

Joe Magruder reported on Yearly Meeting attendance. We accepted the report (ATTACHMENT H).

Statistical Clerk

Gary Wolff reported on the membership in the monthly meetings of PYM. Our membership has increased since last year with several meetings adding several members by conviction. We accepted the report (ATTACHMENT I).

Discipline Committee

Marie Schutz noted that some Yearly Meetings have made their Faith and Practice available on web sites, and PYM Discipline Committee is working to make our discipline available on the web site at www.quaker.org/pacific-ym/. We accepted their report.

Epistles

Aimee Sunshine-Hill read the epistle from Young Friends (ALL epistles as ATTACHMENT J); the preschool group jointly read their epistle; Lee Sisson read the lower elementary group's epistle; the upper elementary group jointly read their epistle; Alyn Euritt read the Junior Yearly Meeting epistle. Sarah Rose House read the Pacific Yearly Meeting epistle.

Arthur Carpenter, Orange Grove Meeting, presented the Young Friends nominating committee report (included in Nominating Committee report, ATTACHMENT G, along with Junior Yearly Meeting nominations).

Minutes were read and approved. The meeting closed with worship.

Faithfully submitted,

Shan Cretin, Presiding Clerk

Jan Tappan, Recording Clerk

Minutes

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