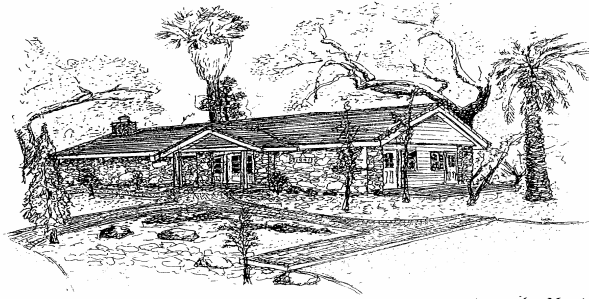


## Visalia Friends Meeting

17208 Ave 296  
Visalia, CA 93291

# Newsletter

June, 11



Visalia Friends Meetinghouse

### Simplicity

*Life is meant to be lived from a Center, a divine Center... a life of unhurried peace and power. It is simple. It is serene. It takes no time, but it occupies all our time.*

thomas r. kelly, *testament of devotion*, 1941

A life centered in God will be directed toward keeping communication with God open and unencumbered. Simplicity is best achieved through a right ordering of priorities, maintaining humility of spirit, avoiding self-indulgence, resisting the accumulation of unnecessary possessions, and avoiding over-busy lives.

Elise Boulding writes in *My Part in the Quaker Adventure*,

*“Simplicity, beauty, and happiness go together if they are a byproduct of a concern for something more important than ourselves.”*

#### Queries:

- Do I center my life in an awareness of God’s presence so that all things take their rightful place?
- Do I live simply, and promote the right sharing of the world’s bounty?
- Do I keep my life uncluttered with things and activities, avoiding commitments beyond my strength and light?
- How do I maintain simplicity, moderation, and honesty in my speech, my manner of living, and my daily work?
- Do I recognize when I have enough?

## Meeting for Business

**Present:** David & Klara East, David & Billie Chandler, Bob & Joy Marshall, Patti Howard, Mark Koenig, Trudy Wischermann, Joanne & David Dudley, Olga McCallister, John and Shirley Dackawich, David Roberts, Heather and Patti Howard, Greg Seastrom

### **Meeting began in silent worship**

#### **Mail & News:**

- Fresno Meeting will be sending newsletter via email, please contact them if you'd like to receive a copy.
- PYM registration now available on-line.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday meeting with Fresno in July has been cancelled. The next one will be held in October.

#### **Miscellaneous:**

State of the Meeting still has not been completed. David C. proposes that we work on this after business meeting today. David C. and the East family will be absent in July. Bob Marshall suggested we skip July's meeting. There was consensus on this item.

#### **M&O:**

1. M&O has not been able to meet. Discussion regarding insurance will continue to be a discussion item for M&O. They will continue their research insurance requirements. Ginger Curtis is still making updates on contact lists and setting up phone trees. We need to continue to monitor health concerns of members and attenders. Greg also discussed the AAA, What Happens Next? booklet regarding end of life issues available for us. Booklets are located in the library shelves.

**Retreat:** Klara is still looking for volunteers to help organize the retreat. Please contact her regarding your role at the retreat. Also, Mark K. spoke in regards to showing of films regarding the peak oil topic. **He suggested that the films "The End of Suburbia" and "Cuba's Solution" be shown at the Meeting House 7:00 pm July 16<sup>th</sup> and July 23. Unitarians and South Valley Peace Center are invited.**

**PYM Representation:** Bill Lovett will be representing the meeting for PYM. He will be sponsoring Erin Marshall who is clerking Junior Yearly Meeting.

**Meeting Survey:** Trudy W. gave the results to a recent survey for the Meetinghouse and grounds appreciation. She presented the findings and discussed implications. Bob Marshall shared that many groups that have used the Meeting House share their appreciation of its beautiful surroundings. Klara suggested that communication with the meeting and PFOS be increased. David C. shared a letter from PFOS to the meeting regarding their continued relationship with Quaker Oaks Farm. There was further discussion about potential future activities at Quaker Oaks Farm. There was a sense from the meeting that local influence be a priority for future use of QOF. **The meeting would like to write a letter in response to PFOS' request for input to be presented to both PFOS and PYM. Trudy W., Klara East, Mark Koenig and David Chandler will draft a letter to be reviewed by the meeting for presentation for next week. Input from Bill and Beth Lovett will be sought as well.**

### **Meeting ended in silence**

Respectfully submitted,  
David East  
Recording Clerk