

PACIFIC N.W. QUARTERLY MEETING SILENT RETREAT
1/20 – 1/22/2012
Camp Huston, Gold Bar, Washington

This retreat offers an opportunity to reach more profound depths in the Silence of Quaker worship. The weekend is not a retreat in the sense of turning away from life. It is a temporary intentional community where we seek communion with Spirit, the world around us, and each other. With the help of that communion, we may be led to new priorities and insight for our lives. We may reach a deeper connection with our authentic selves, our spiritual community, and with the Divine.

The weekend begins with a potluck supper Friday evening at 6:30. Visiting helps us unwind and begin to know each other. After supper, housekeeping details are arranged, questions are discussed, and our schedule completed and explained. Then we begin Meeting for Worship, and enter the living Silence that will last until the rise of Meeting on Sunday noon, no matter what the activity.

There are three parts to our worship. One is our scheduled times of community worship. The schedule will be posted in the dining room. It is meant as a suggested plan for corporate gathering, rather than a rigid structure. Secondly, we will worship as we prepare vegetarian meals, and eat together. Menus and recipes will be available. If you have specific food allergies or requirements, plan on bringing what you need to supplement the food provided. We encourage silent worship with your group before beginning meal preparation; and cleanup groups may want to close their work with worship together. The third part of worship is the unscheduled times. Unscheduled time can be used for worship while walking through the countryside, hiking to Wallace Falls, sitting, reading, contemplating, sleeping, creative pursuits, journaling, and/or praying. Visible use of listening devices disrupts the sense of common purpose that permeates the retreat; unless earphones are essential to your ability to read, we suggest you consider not using them in order to focus more fully within. On Sunday, we will break the Silence at the rise of the 11AM Meeting for Worship, have a brief Meeting for Business, and then have fellowship over lunch before we clean up and go our separate ways.

The retreat will be at Camp Huston, a tranquil forested setting, 1-1/2 hours by car east of Seattle, and about 45 miles west of Stevens Pass on US highway #2. We sleep in bunk beds (some double sized) in heated dorms with bathrooms and showers off each dormitory. The two dorm buildings have two dorms rooms and bathrooms each, and a common room with a wood stove, refrigerator and small microwave. We cook our meals, eat, and worship together in the dining hall, which is about 60 feet from the closest dorm building. The ground between the three buildings is flat, but there are no wheelchair paths. There are single steps up into the buildings.

There is sometimes snow in Gold Bar, and it is often muddy. Temperatures may range from below freezing at night, up to the 60's during the day. The buildings are right next to a river, with views of the Cascades. There are walks along the river, and a vigorous 4 mile hike up to Wallace Falls through the state park, as well as the grounds of Camp Huston to wander through. For the energetic, there is a basketball court!

Due to the natural inquisitive clamor of children, we ask that those young children unable to enjoy a silent retreat, not be subjected to it. However, young people willing to accept the discipline of silence are most welcome, and will add to our community. There

will be Friends who have volunteered as “active listeners” for those who need a listening ear. Their names will be posted; signup sheets for being an active listener will be at the retreat.

A registration form is attached and due by 1/9/ 2012. Bed space is limited, so early registration is encouraged!

The retreat starts at 6:30 PM Friday with a potluck supper, and ends on Sunday about 1:30PM. PLEASE BRING: 1) A Friday potluck dish. 2) Your own plate, bowl, mug and cloth napkin (we provide silverware.) 3) Bedding, pillow, earplugs, towel, & flashlight. Wear warm clothing, especially if you want to take the opportunity to worship in the outdoor shelter, and bring appropriate hiking gear if you plan to go up the four miles to the falls. Snow can be a possibility.

A sign up sheet will be in the dining hall for cooking and cleanup. Please sign up for one meal preparation or clean up. Final cleanup instructions will be given Sunday after lunch.

DIRECTIONS to Camp Huston, 14725 Ley Road, Gold Bar, WA 98251 (425) 793-0441. From Seattle: North I-5, East US-2 to Monroe. OR North I-5, take exit 171 (Lake City Way) to SR-522, to US-2, east to Monroe. From the North: South I-5, East US-2 to Monroe. Gold Bar is on US-2, 14 miles east of Monroe. From the East: West US-2 through Leavenworth and Stevens Pass. Gold Bar is about 45 miles west of the pass. At Gold Bar, turn left (or right if you are coming from the east) onto First Street, at the *Wallace Falls State Park* sign. After about 0.3 mile, turn right at the second 4-way stop sign, and follow signs to *Camp Huston* and *Wallace Falls State Park* for about 1.1 miles. After the entrance to Camp Huston, take the lower, or far right hand road of the three. Drive a few hundred yards to a cluster of brown buildings on the left, our bunkhouses & dining hall.

PNQM Silent Retreat Registration Form
1/20-1/22/2012

Please register by **1/9/2012** by emailing this form to lopezfriends@gmail.com and bringing payment to the retreat or by mailing the form and a check or money order payable to P.N.Q.M., to Judy Meyer, c/o Lopez Friends, PO Box 582, Lopez Island, WA 98261. Emailing the form is preferred. Bed space is limited, so early registration is encouraged!

Our retreat is enriched by each attender. Cost should not be a barrier to attendance, so Friends are expected to pay whatever they can afford in accordance with their own financial situation. No questions, no explanations. Just put your amount on the Retreat Fee line on this registration form. We need to average \$70/person to meet our expenses. Therefore, payments greater than \$70 by those who can afford it will be much appreciated, and will help others feel comfortable coming even if they can't pay the \$70 fee.

Food at the retreat is vegetarian; if you have specific food allergies or requirements, bring what you need to supplement the food provided.

NAME(S) _____ PHONE _____

MEETING _____ AGE (circle one) [18 or older] [under 18]

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

ARRIVAL TIME/DAY _____

INDICATE IF YOU NEED (not just desire!) a lower bunk or the name of the person with whom you will be sharing a double bunk.

RETREAT FEE _____

SCHOLARSHIP DONATION _____

TOTAL: _____

If you are moved to offer help in one of the following ways, please choose one:

- I will arrive early to help set up
- I will stay late after closing to help clean up

Notes:

Sometimes in the past, a known sex offender who actively attends a Meeting has taken part in the Retreat. If this person attends this year, he will be within view of a chaperone at all times. He will not attend if a minor has registered. Contact the registrar (lopezfriends@gmail.com) if you would like a copy of the detailed attendance policy. If you have further concerns, please contact Pablo Stanfield (pablo.paz@juno.com, 206-523-9428) or Sandy Harold (sharold@interisland.net, 360-378-8292), who will happily speak with you in confidence.

In conformity with PNQM policy at all retreats, a minor must be accompanied by a parent or by an adult sponsor carrying a medical release for that minor. Medical release forms can be obtained from the registrar (Judy Meyer, lopezfriends@gmail.com) and should be completed in duplicate.