

**Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting
Continuing Committee -- April 24, 2010
Lazy F Camp & Retreat Center
Minutes**

10-04-01 Opening: The Continuing Committee meeting began in worship at approximately 6:15 pm. In attendance were Alan Mountjoy-Venning (presiding PNQM Co-clerk), Don Goldstein (Recording Clerk and Listkeeper), Lorina Hall (Bellingham rep), Pablo Stanfield (M & O Co-clerk and acting University rep), Nancy Renk (acting Sandpoint rep), Clint Weimeister (Port Townsend rep), Margaret Coahran (Registrar and Site Liaison), Kathy Mallalieu (acting Olympia rep), Louis Webster (Treasurer and Eastside rep), Peg Bernstein (Salmon Bay rep), Sandy Harold (M & O Co-clerk), Sharon Moore (Agate Passage rep), Theo Mace (South Seattle rep), Warren Ostrom (incoming University rep), George Mancini (acting Pullman-Moscow rep), Susan Richardson (incoming Co-clerk), and visitor Margaret Sorrel (Whidbey Island).

10-04-02 Treasurer's Report: Louis reported that this year's Silent Retreat weekend was full and financially very successful, bringing in a surplus of about \$1200. Our reserves continue to be quite adequate, with about \$5000 currently in the bank. In answer to a question, Louis said that we continue to operate with no budget as such (although we do track and account for both income and expenses), and that the current system does not really permit tracking the value of in-kind donations. [A written Treasurer's report, prepared subsequent to this meeting and including preliminary results from the spring 2010 QM session, accompanies these minutes.]

10-04-03 Nominations: Alan reported that a nominee for Junior Friends Advisor, to succeed Deric Young, would be coming to us later from the Junior Friends, and could be approved at our summer meeting during Annual Session. Don, as Listkeeper, announced that he has performed this job now for 8 years and would like to retire not later than the summer of 2012 after, if possible, a year of overlap with his successor and gradual transfer of the files and various duties. It was suggested and agreed that the need for a new Listkeeper be announced both at Annual Session in Missoula this summer and at our Meeting for Business this September. Don proposed that he would review and update the Listkeeper job description in order to circulate it with the minutes from this QM session, and Friends agreed that this would be helpful.

10-04-04 Fall QM 2010 Planning Committee report: Nancy Renk had previously announced the theme, "Lightening Our Spirits: Finding Joy Through Effective Action, Courage, and Grace" and posted copies of the flyer, which will also be circulated along with these minutes and via the PNQM website. She raised the issue of Sandpoint's very limited ability to support the Children's Program with teacher recruitment for the two QM session following this fall, which led into a general discussion of this problem, which also affects a number of the other monthly meetings to some degree.

10-04-05 Children's Program Former Children's Program Coordinator Peg Bernstein explained her understanding of the teacher recruitment process. She reported that such recruitment had been a year-round activity for her and that her expectations for input from recent host meetings were also quite limited in many cases. She offered to work with current Children's Program Coordinator Adrienne Solenberger, both to increase her resources beyond those expected from recent host meetings and to help find an Assistant that would have wider contacts around the Quarter and thus be able to contribute to recruitment. The discussion made it clear that some of the problems this time were possibly related to Adrienne's preoccupation with other matters, and thus were hopefully not long-term or systemic. Friends agreed with Peg's suggestion that it was premature to change the recruitment system in a major way for now.

Friends acknowledged the high level of stress affecting Adrienne this weekend, since she has been co-teaching Central Friends in addition to coordinating the Children's Program and also managing her four

children as a single parent. **Friends approved payment** to Adrienne of an additional \$100 honorarium, both to recognize her above-and-beyond contribution and in lieu of the fee waiver which would have been given to someone else teaching in her place. We also acknowledged that both teaching and coordinating during the same session was not advisable (to prevent burnout, if nothing else), and that teacher recruitment was therefore a vital task calling for broad support.

A concern was raised regarding how a Friend who isn't personally solicited can volunteer to be a teacher in the Children's Program, and we recognized that better publicity could be helpful. It was suggested than an announcement concerning the need for teachers this fall be made during a meal on Sunday.

10-04-06 Schedule for upcoming hosts: The schedule of upcoming host meetings was reviewed, as follows (but subject to change, see below):

April 2011	University	September 2010	Sandpoint
April 2012	Olympia	September 2011	Tacoma
April 2013	Bellingham	September 2012	Salmon Bay & Pullman-Moscow
April 2014	Eastside	September 2013	Port Townsend
April 2015	University	September 2014	Sandpoint
April 2016	Olympia	September 2015	Tacoma
		September 2016	Salmon Bay & Pullman-Moscow

It was proposed that Agate Passage Friends Meeting be added to the rotation by asking them to assist Olympia Friends in planning and hosting the April 2012 QM session, and Sharon said she would present this request to her meeting. It was also suggested that South Seattle (now on its way to full monthly meeting status) be asked to assist University Friends in planning and hosting the April 2011 QM session, and that it consider its ability to take place as a fully independent monthly meeting by planning/hosting the QM session following University's subsequent turn, i.e., in September 2015. Theo will convey this suggestion to her meeting.

10-04-07 Ministry and Oversight: Co-clerk Sandy Harold reported that the M & O meeting earlier in the day had included an extensive discussion regarding our policy on attendance when there is conflict between Friends, including possible no-contact court orders. Further discernment is necessary and discussions continue.

10-04-08 Junior Friends In the absence of the Junior Friends Co-clerks and Advisors, mention was made briefly of a concern regarding some recent Junior Friends (now Young Adult Friends) hanging out and/or sleeping with the Junior Friends in the barn. It was suggested that such YAFs not be assigned as Friendly Adult Presences or Overnight Chaperones in the Junior Friends program, if at all possible, and that in order to implement such a policy it would be necessary for the registrar (and thus, the volunteer assigner) to have ages for adults as well as for children. Since adults are now asked to write in "Adult" or "A" rather than an age on the registration form, it seemed fairly straightforward just to ask for an age for all registrants, and so Friends agreed that the registration form will be changed (and actually simplified) in that respect.

10-04-09 Challenge Course frequency: Margaret reported that approximately 21 people registered for the Challenge Course this time, which was consistent with the estimate provided to Lazy F several weeks in advance. A suggestion that inclusion of the Challenge Course be changed from every spring to every other spring was deferred for discussion during our summer CC meeting in Missoula.

10-04-10 Naming organization seasoning: Don's proposal was read during the Meeting for Business, and also accompanies these minutes. Don reported his own clearness that "Regional Meeting" is a better option than "Half Yearly Meeting", which has an ambiguous meaning. Margaret Sorrel, reminding us of the widespread confusion caused by the current name similarity between North Pacific Yearly Meeting and Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting, proposed consideration of the name "Cascade Regional Meeting",

since we include as an organization Friends from both sides of the Cascade Mountains. She reminded us. The specifics of how to request seasoning of this concern by Friends around the Quarter remain to be determined.

10-04-11 Silent Retreat attendance policy report: Don reported that a new draft attendance policy statement has gone out to the other members of the ad hoc committee (Sandy Harold, Kathy Knowlton, and Judy Meyer) with a request that responses be received within two weeks so that, if there is unity, a final draft can be circulated to the entire Continuing Committee with the final version of these minutes, around May 17th. There are very few portions of the statement still needing work. [The document accompanies these minutes, but only as distributed to Continuing Committee members due to the sensitive nature of the proposal. The final policy statement, as it is approved by the Continuing Committee, will be made public.]

10-04-12 Closing: The meeting closed at approximately 7:50 pm, with a few minutes of open worship.

Don Goldstein, Recording Clerk

Alan Mountjoy-Venning, Presiding Co-clerk