

543 South Mountain Avenue

Ashland, Oregon 97520

(541) 482-0814

ashlandquakers@gmail.com

www.ashlandquakers.org

(Near Southern Oregon University)

1st HOUR: Discussions & Meetings

2nd HOUR: Worship

Meeting for Worship:

11 am Sundays

Childcare During Worship

First-Hour & Rise of Meeting:

6 May

9:30 am: Committee Meetings

10:30 am: Circle of Light

Rise of Meeting: F&H Committee

13 May

9:30 am: No First-Hour Activity

Rise of Meeting: M&C Committee

20 May

8:30-10:30 am: Business Meeting

27 May

9:30 am: Speaking Peace to Power. Led by Marybeth Webster (see page 3).

**HELP KATHRYN
CELEBRATE HER
NONADECENNIAL
(see page 3)**

SOUTH MOUNTAIN FRIENDS MEETING

THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Unprogrammed Worship in Ashland, Oregon

Fifth Month 2018

SOUTH MOUNTAIN FRIENDS' ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

1 – 4 pm Sunday 27 May 2018

**GRACIOUSLY HOSTED BY
Herb & Deborah Rothschild
in their garden
at 722 Hartley Road
Phoenix, OR 97535**

**A 20-minute drive from the
Meeting House. Please head over
at the rise of meeting.**

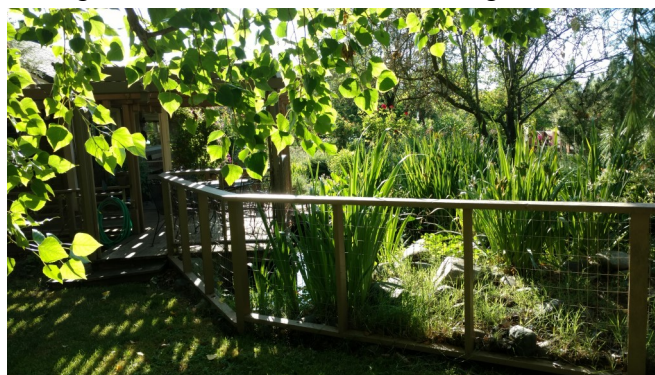
**This is NOT a potluck:
Just bring yourself
and, if you wish,
a significant other.**

A full luncheon will be provided

Questions? Herb: 541-531-2848

Hartley Road tees into Highway 99 closer to Talent than to Phoenix. There is a modest retail establishment called Barely Used Beds just on the Medford (north) side of the intersection.

Coming from Ashland, Hartley is the first road on the left past the last stop light in Talent (that intersection is called Suncrest on the I-5 side of the highway and Colver on the other side). Turn left onto Hartley and go 0.7 miles. We are on the right. The house is screened from



the road by plantings. The last homestead before ours is called the Smith Ranch; it has a large sign in its front yard. You know you have gone too far if you get to the end of Hartley.



The Fellowship of Reconciliation was initially conceived by two pacifists: An English Quaker and a German Lutheran. The annual Conference at Seabeck, WA, co-organized by the FOR of Oregon and of Washington, welcomes all who are drawn to study war no more.

Fellowship of Reconciliation's 60th Annual Regional Nonviolence Conference

June 30-July 3, 2018 ~ Seabeck, WA

Complicating Narratives



Taylor Amari Little

Taylor Amari Little (Tay) is a proud Black queer femme Muslim and practitioner of African Diasporic ancestral spiritual traditions. Known on social media as "Controversial Tay", the young TEDx Speaker founded Queer Ummah: A Visibility Project, an international website highlighting the narratives of LGBTQ+ Muslims. She is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Criminology at Eastern Michigan University, and is an organizer of Islamic Healing Space of A2 & Ypsi. With all of her marginalized identities, experiences and forms of existence, she courageously complicates dominant narratives every single day, and challenges people to do the same and create their own.

**Workshops~Music
Children and Teen programs**

www.forseabeck.org

#ComplicatingNarratives

#NWFOR2018

***Complicating Narratives** involves us looking at the systematic ways in which toxic narratives permeate our world, as well as the ways in which we all internalize these narratives, creating different realities depending on where our intersecting identities lie within systems of power and oppression. As the first FOR conference organized by youth of color, we are choosing to complicate the narrative of nonviolence by telling our stories.*



Women of Color Speak Out

Women of Color Speak Out is a collective of direct action activists that formed during ShellNo. Shifting the dominant environmental narrative in policy and science, we speak out on how systems of oppression have led to worldwide ecological disaster. We speak on how capitalism, colonialism, racism, the prison industrial complex and patriarchy have led into climate change.

EVENTS IN MAY 2018

Women's Friendly Gathering & Potluck Luncheon

1-3 pm Saturday 19 May

at Pam Johnson's home in South Talent: 490 Tulipan Way at H'way 99

Tiny little street at Tally Ho Restaurant. Please join in our informal tradition of caring women sharing life's joys and concerns and supporting each other. Vegetarian soup provided. ???'s Pam: 535-1940.

HONORING KATHRYN 4 pm Sunday 20 May in Williams

Kathryn Roether and her friends in Williams invite South Mountain Friends to join her in celebrating her 90th at 4 pm Sunday 20 May at the Williams Grange Hall. To help orchestrate the potluck dinner, please email Cheryl at cebruner@hotmail.com and let her know whether you will be bringing a salad, entrée, or vegetable.



ADULT EDUCATION:



Speaking Peace to Power: A Playful yet Informative Workshop

9:30 am Sunday 27 May

By understanding our own triggers and styles when we feel threatened, we can better "count to ten" and move to a constructive stance.

Together we will learn and practice how to communicate to make connection, not separation. Nothing but an open mind and heart is required.

Facilitated by psychologist Marybeth Webster who has provided "Despair and Empowerment" workshops around the country and abroad and peace-seeking workshops for teens, families, teens, and organizations.

Healing Through Music

3 pm Sunday 27 May at the SOU Music Recital Hall

Our Meeting Community is blessed by many talented musicians and composers. Four years ago, the opera my son, Ethan Gans-Morse, composed premiered in Portland. Ethan's wife and co-creator wrote the libretto. *The Canticle of the Black Madonna* tells the story of the spiritually healing of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder due to combat duty and environmental degradation. This is a one-time showing of the professional film created from the staged performance.

Although free, tickets are required and obtainable at www.CBMopera.com or by calling 541-778-1211.

--Bob Morse

Meeting For Worship For Business: 15 April 2018

Present: Bill Ashworth, Melody Ashworth, Ken Deveney, Anna Monders, Crystal Bosbach, Herb Rothschild, Bob Morse

Meeting opened with worship. Acting clerk Anna Monders read a quote from Rufus Jones.

Finance Committee: Melody Ashworth reported that the committee is developing a plan of support and oversight for the treasurer. They have done an informal audit, which found no significant errors. The Finance Committee is also reviewing its own processes. Off-budget expenditures will be reported in a separate section of the monthly treasurer's report. Our Friends' Fiduciary Fund balance will be reported at the end of the fiscal year, rather than the end of the calendar year as has been done in the past. The treasurers' reports will now be archived. Question: Should they be archived in the cloud or as hard copy? They are currently on a thumb drive which is kept in the treasurer's mail slot in the Meeting office. Discussion followed. Archiving Meeting business in the cloud would make it more convenient for those working from home to access these materials. Friends General Conference's hosting of our website has been farmed out to a private firm, and changes are happening, so archiving via the web page is currently up in the air. **The Finance Committee report was accepted.** Archiving business meeting minutes has suffered from confusion about who should file them and needs to be updated. We should consider archiving all Meeting materials in both hard copy and the cloud.

The budget process is moving forward. Some parts of the planning, such as our contribution to the warming shelter, are out of the control of Friends. The budget

will be presented in May.

Peace and Social Concerns: The committee has a minute from Eugene Meeting on North Korea; they are deciding whether to bring it to the Meeting. The sense of those present was that minutes of this nature, which do not call for actual actions by Friends, are not useful. The committee is starting to plan the Ashland Hiroshima Day memorial, for which we are the lead organization; Friends who wish to help should contact the committee.

Warming shelter: Bob Morse reported that the Ashland warming shelter for the homeless, which we help support, is open for 5 months each year: those 5 months just ended. There was more extensive training of volunteers this year. The shelter held as many as 55 guests at one time. The shelter provided food for dinner and breakfast; a doctor was present part of the time; a mental health worker recently made his presence known. The shelters thus became a location for multiple services for the homeless. The shelter closed 10 days early; the city is concerned that the city-owned building the shelter is using is not structurally sound. The fire marshal is requiring sprinkler systems in the shelters. A group is looking for a permanent home that is more appropriate. The insurance issue has been resolved: The insurance policy for our building is in our Meeting's name, and our insurance agent has assured us that we are covered for the acts of our shelter volunteers. Their own safety is not insured, and insurance may be difficult to get. The volunteers may be asked to sign waivers absolving the Meeting of responsibility for their safety while volunteering at the shelter.

Ministry and Counsel: Crystal Bosbach reported that Julia Linde, a past member now living in the Bay Area in California, has sent

thanks for the meeting's financial support. Melody Ashworth read a thank-you letter to the Meeting from Julia, with reminiscences of Julia's own attendance at Meeting and a report of her current status. Copies of the new *Faith & Practice* will be arriving within the next month; there will be a copy for each member. Households with two members are encouraged to pass one of their copies on to an attender. Extra copies have been ordered. The committee has gone over the child safety guidelines (please see page 5 for details). The new *Faith & Practice* will contain significantly revised Advices and Queries; we need a process for integrating these into the life of our Meeting. Until Friends have seen them, this cannot be easily planned. The inclusivity poster is up.

Treasurer: Herb Rothschild reported that the Meeting remains financially solvent. No significant actions have been taken in the last month. Expenses exceeded income, but on a monthly basis this is not a problem. The second half of the Yearly Meeting dues will be required in May. It is valuable for all members and attenders to contribute financially, to deepen our connection to the Meeting; the amount doesn't matter, but the responsibility does. Friends are encouraged to make these donations.

Reminders: the new Sierra-Cascade Yearly Meeting will have their annual session on 25 May; Friends from our Yearly Meeting are invited to attend. The Northwest Quaker Women's Theology Conference registration ends 1 May.

Meeting closed with worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Monders, Acting Clerk
Bill Ashworth, Recording Clerk

FCNL Priorities

At first hour on March 11, those who attended discerned our priorities for Friends Committee on National Legislation lobbying for the next two years. The following list has been sent to FCNL.

--Ken Deveney

- ♦ Promote peace building and diplomacy in place of armed interventions and military spending.
 - ♦ Promote an equitable criminal justice system that no longer depends upon or encourages institutional racism and mass incarceration.
 - ♦ Promote policies that respect the rights, safety, and dignity of all immigrants, refugees, migrants, and sexual minorities.
 - ♦ Advocate for sustainable solutions to climate disruption and ecosystem destruction.
 - ♦ Work to end gun violence.
 - ♦ Promote policies that reduce economic inequality and poverty, especially as regards racism and sexism; encourage fair compensation for workers and health care for all; work for access to family planning and education for all women worldwide.
 - ♦ Promote equitable access for all citizens to participation in the political process.
-

SMFM CHILD SAFETY GUIDELINES

"We cherish the children and youth in South Mountain Friends Meeting" is the opening line of our Meeting's Child Safety Guidelines. Nothing has changed. Ministry and Counsel, as part of a routine review of the guidelines, has made minor updates to phone numbers and committee names listed in the original. A couple of sentences were re-worded for clarification, but the intention has remained the same as it was when the guidelines were initially adopted by in 2012. The Child Safety Guidelines will be available for review in a file cabinet in the Meeting's office in a folder labeled "Child Safety Guidelines."

It will also be available online by going to our website at ashlandquakers.org and logging in as a member at the top of the page. You will be taken to quakercloud.org. There you must log in a second time (with the same password), which will take you to our SMFM active fgcquaker.org site. Here you will see our members Home page which has the information posted."

--Crystal Bosbach, Clerk, Ministry & Counsel

**"Those who go forth ministering to the wants
and necessities of their fellow beings
experience a rich return, their souls being as a
watered garden, and a spring that
faileth not..." --Lucretia Mott**

ADVICES & QUERIES ON EQUALITY

People everywhere are children of God and members of one family. We value the worth of each person. We cannot be easy in our own lives when others suffer indignity, injustice, or want. In the Spirit of Christ, we are ready to put ourselves at one another's side and share each other's burdens. As we are true to the Divine within ourselves, we respond to the Divine in others.

Do we speak to and answer "that of God" in everyone?

*In all our relations with others, are we sensitive to issues of equality, autonomy, and power?
How do we challenge destructive patterns in these relationships when they arise?*

How do we encourage ourselves and others to consider people as individuals, rather than as stereotypes?

*What are we doing about the injustices which are part of our social and economic life?
How do we help those who suffer from discrimination?*

*Do we avoid being drawn into violent reactions against those who are destructive of human dignity?
Do we reach out to the violated with courage and love?*

Do we search diligently for ways of assuring the right of every individual to be loved, cared for, and educated appropriately, to obtain useful employment, and to live in dignity?

NORTH PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING'S ANNUAL SESSION

**Wednesday thru Sunday 25-29 July 2018
at the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA**

UPROOTING RACISM

We come together for this year's Annual Session in a spirit of inclusion and celebration. With much racial justice work still to be done in our hearts, our Quaker community, our country, and the world, we will reach together for that higher place where, when we turn round right, we will truly stand by our brothers and sisters of any color, of any gender expression, and of any financial ability. In deepened connections to each other, we hope more often to find the holiness of wholeness.

To lead, educate, and encourage us in this journey toward racial equality and a more truly liberated society, we welcome Vanessa Julye as our Friend in Residence. Vanessa comes to us from Friends General Conference where she has a ministry on racism with special focus on greater inclusivity among the Quaker community, which is her spiritual home. Together with Donna McDaniel, a European American, Vanessa has co-authored the book, *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship*. Vanessa will be accompanied by Chuck Esser, a European American, who serves on the support committee for Vanessa's ministry and who also has done much work for racial justice. How can we as Quakers go further in standing with all people of color and in sharing the power that has been part of white privilege? Only with love, great humility, and openness to Spirit can we find our way to deepened brotherhood and sisterhood, both within the Society of Friends and in society at large.

Our method of financing Annual Session has changed. Abundant Financing is an opportunity for us to practice our faith. In these troubled times, our Yearly Meeting wants to reach out to and include all who wish to attend. In the past we have offered financial aid at the Monthly Meeting level for those who requested it. This cumbersome and awkward process often discouraged people wishing to attend. This year's registration form states the cost to be borne by NPYM for the attendance of one adult at AS. Each person attending must discern individually what they can afford to pay. We hope that those who have greater personal financial resources will pay even more than the cost of attendance in the form of a donation and that monthly meetings will likewise donate an amount at least comparable to that provided in the past for AS financial assistance. The registration form provides further details. With New England Yearly Meeting as our example, we look forward to seeing what a spirit of generosity and abundance can do.

As we approach meeting for worship with an attention to business, many of us are excited to see how Spirit moves among us. Indeed, this can be the heart of Annual Session. Music, small worship groups, varied interest groups, Quaker Fair, catching up with F(f)riends, and laughing at Community Night, these wonderful encounters call us into beloved community, ready to do our part in God's world. Come join us this year as we open to ever greater diversity as God's children.

Registration information can be found at www.npym.org

--Lucretia Humphrey, Presiding Clerk presiding_clerk@npym.org

SMFM CALENDAR

May 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|----|--|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 3:30-5:30 pm Free Writing Friends | 4 | 5 |
| 6 9:30 am Committee Meetings 10:30 am Circle of Light 12:30 pm F&H Committee | 7 | 8 7-9 pm Ashland Song Circle | 9 6:30 to 8:30 pm Quaker Light Group | 10 3:30-5:30 pm Free Writing Friends | 11 | 12 1-4 pm Laundry Love Henry's Laundromat |
| 13 9:30 am No First-Hour Activity 12:30 pm M&C Committee | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 3:30-5:30 pm Free Writing Friends | 18 | 19 1-3 pm Quaker Women Gathering & Potluck |
| 20 8:30-10:30 am Meeting for Business 4 pm Kathryn's BD Party in Williams | 21 SMFM Newsletter Deadline | 22 | 23 6:30 to 8:30 pm Quaker Light Group | 24 3:30-5:30 pm Free Writing Friends | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:30 am Adult Ed: Speaking Peace to Power. Led by Marybeth Webster 1-4 pm SMFM Annual Garden Party Luncheon at Herb & Deborah's 3 pm Canticle of the Black Madonna (see page 3) | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 3:30-5:30 pm Free Writing Friends | | |

Quaker Light Group

A **biweekly** gathering that invites everyone to attend any or all group sessions. The group explores Quaker spirituality as practiced by the early Friends and as described by Rex Ambler in his book, *Light to Live By*.

For further information, please contact Alex Reid, convener,
at 707-499-9146 or ralexandrareid@gmail.com

MEETING OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Clerk: Patricia Morrison 520-390-0674

Assistant Clerk: Anna Monders 488-5577

Corresponding Clerk: Adam Thompson 215-350-1780, assisted by Alex Reid, Pam Johnson, Sylvie Weaver, Mary Ellen Gordian

Recording Clerk: Bill Ashworth 778-9470

Treasurer: Herb Rothschild 531-2848

Newsletter Editor: Bob Morse 482-8449, assisted by Pam Johnson and Sylvie Weaver

Web Administrator: Scott Plummer 303-523-1811

Grants Pass Worship Group: Colombe Leinau (convener) 479-4409; **Liaison:** Melody Ashworth

NPYM Coordinating Committee Contact: Jean Semrau 488-6855, assisted by Sylvie Weaver

Children's Education & Spirituality: Ken Deveney (convener) 488-5506, Melody Ashworth, Cathy McDaniel

Warming Shelter Committee: Alex Reid (clerk), Liz Olson, Becky Hale, Bob Morse, Steve Wells

All area codes are 541 unless otherwise noted

Newsletter submissions are due to Bob Morse (morse@mind.net) Monday after Business M'ting

Finance Committee: Melody Ashworth (clerk), Adam Thompson, Treasurer *ex officio*

Joint Committee Representatives: Herb Rothschild, Steve Wells

Buildings & Grounds: Lanita Witt (clerk), Merlin McDaniel, Raymond Scully, Steve Wells, Glenn Allister

Nominating Committee: Adam Thompson (clerk)

Friendship & Hospitality Committee: Scott Plummer (clerk), Steve Radcliffe, Crystal Bosbach, Sylvie Weaver, Brent Howell

Peace & Social Concerns Committee: Herb Rothschild (clerk), Ken Deveney, Javan Reid, Liz Olson, Pam Allister

Library Elves: Anna Monders assisted by Steve Wells, Heather Starbird, and Bob Morse

Adult Education Committee: Gabrielle Leslie (clerk), Becky Hale, Colleen Graham

Outreach Committee: Ken Deveney (clerk), Steve Radcliffe

Ministry & Counsel Committee: Crystal Bosbach 930-4222 (clerk), Ken Deveney 488-5506, Melody Ashworth 324-9824, Rochelle Webster 201-8255, Brent Howell 841-8841, Assistant Clerk *ex officio*

South Mountain Friends Meeting

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Ashland, Oregon 97520