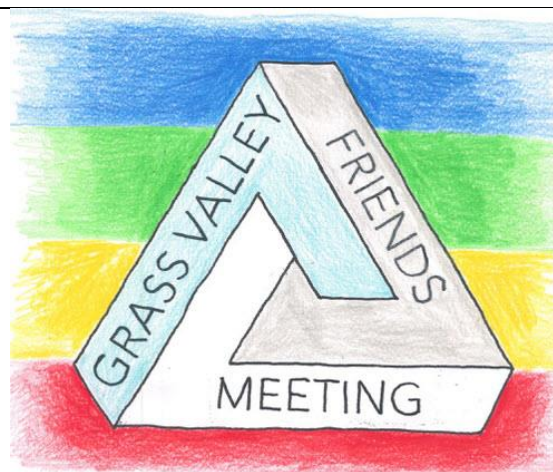




GRASS VALLEY
FRIENDS MEETING
*Of the Religious Society of Friends
College Park Quarterly Meeting,
Pacific Yearly Meeting*

13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA 95959 @
The Sierra Friends Center, off Jones Bar Road,
Nevada City, CA 95959
Phone: (530) 648-0190
www.gvfriends.org
Email: grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com

**First Days: 9:00am Singing at the Meeting House (zoom)
10:00 am Silent Meeting for Worship (zoom)**

Newsletter, Fifth Month, 2021

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MEETING CALENDAR

First Sunday

- Program to be announced

Second Sunday

- Silent Meeting for Worship, Potluck, Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business

Third Sunday

- As announced

Fourth Sunday

- Spiritual Life – To Be Announced

Fifth Sunday

- On Fifth Sundays we hold a Family Meeting for Worship. *Children and adults gather and spend 20 minutes in storytelling, 20 minutes in singing and 20 minutes in silent worship.*

- ✚ 1st First Day: Bible Story and Song
- ✚ 2nd First Day: A Story and a Craft or Activity
- ✚ 3rd First Day: A Story plus Time for Silent Worship
- ✚ 4th First Day: A Creative, Topical Curriculum
- ✚ 5th First Day: Family Worship (a story, singing and silent worship)
- ✚ **[Online Worship](#)**: every Wednesday evening, 7:00-7:30 pm

HAPPENING NOW

- Friday – Sunday, May 14-16, 2021, College Park Quarterly Meeting (via zoom). **Of Life and Breath and Love: Making the connection between care of the earth, peace, and justice** See page 6 for details.
- Sunday, May 23, 2021, Spiritual Life: Bible Study led by Dorothy Henderson (via zoom)

HAPPENING LATER

- June 20, 2021 2-5 pm PST - discussions about race in Friends Meetings in PYM
- June 27th - July 3rd, 2021 – Friends General Conference (See page 12 for details)
- July 23 to 28, 2021 - Pacific Yearly Meeting zoom Annual Session
- Memorial Service for Bob Barns – To be announced.

GLOSSARY- Abbreviations and terms used in the GVFM newsletter

M&O: Ministry and Oversight

PacYM: Pacific Yearly Meeting

PHP – Pendle Hill Pamphlet

FGC: Friends General Conference

QUNP: Quaker United Nations Project

FASE: Friends Association for Services to the Elderly

CPQM: College Park Quarterly Meeting

RSWR: Right Sharing of World Resources

Threshing Session: A meeting at a separate time that is specifically not for decision-making; normal practices of a Quaker meeting for business are relaxed so that Friends may speak more than once to an issue, may speak to a point just made, or may ask a question of a previous speaker.

MINUTES & RECORD: Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, May 9, 2021

We met virtually.

Present: Don McCormick (co-clerk), Anita McCormick (co-clerk), Amy Cooke (recording clerk), Chamba Cooke, Dorothy Henderson, Doug Hamm, Judy Hamilton, Reed Hamilton, Gordon Starr, Dianne Marshall

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

CLERK'S REMARKS

- The purpose of our meetings for business is to seek the Spirit's will for us as a community. We are here to worship and not to get through an agenda.
- If you want to suggest that we take some time for worship or take more time between speakers, please say, "Clerk, can we have some time for silence" or use the Time Out sign.
- Being a clerk is a role assigned to one or two people, but clerking is a bunch of behaviors that we all can engage in, and I hope we all will.
- We leave room for Spirit to come through, releasing our thoughts, judgements, opinions and becoming silent inside and out. We can hand our issues to Spirit/God/Jesus, and then settle into any sensations or messages coming through.

QUERY

- Why are you a Quaker?

Friends spoke out of worship. Remarks touched on the universal truths available through our practices, participating in a diverse community that intends good for the world, being inexplicably drawn to a faith with accountability, trust in finding truths among Friends, inclusivity, taking spiritual understanding out into the world, the aspiration to live into the testimonies, and seeing how our interrelationships can lead to peace.

LAST MONTH'S ACTION ITEMS

- **Proposed Minute:** Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves adding the roles of Website/Social Media Coordinator, the Email Coordinator, and the Zoom Coordinator as ex officio members to the Welcome Committee, effective with the 2021-22 slate.

- **Naming Committee for Nominating Committee:** Judy Hamilton, Dorothy Henderson, Amy Cooke, Mary Starr

Judy Hamilton brought forward the names for the Nominating Committee, to season until May.

- Doug Hamm: 2020-22 term
- Pat Phillips: 2020-22 term
- Karen Olson: 2021-23 term
- Sharon Davisson: 2021-23 term

- **Nominating Slate 2021-22**

- **State of the Meeting report**

- **Logo:** The logo will be further developed and brought back to meeting

COMMITTEE REPORTS (see reports appended, committee clerk is noted in bold)

SPIRIT & WITNESS: Gordon Starr, **Judy Hamilton**, Gordon Bishop, Don McCormick, Anita McCormick, Amy Cooke, Dorothy Henderson

Judy Hamilton gave the report, attached. It was noted that the Waking Up to Race group was going to offer a program for 3rd Sunday in May. They are delaying this until June due to the scheduling conflict with College Park Quarterly Meeting (CPQM).

MINUTE 2021.05.01: Grass Valley Friends Meeting accepts the State of the Meeting report, attached.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Doug Hamm, Patricia Phillips, Karen Olson

It was acknowledged that the Representative restructuring has not yet been approved, so is not reflected in the current slate.

MINUTE 2021.05.02: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves adding the roles of Website/Social Media Coordinator, the Email Coordinator, and the Zoom Coordinator as ex officio members to the Welcome Committee, effective with the 2021-22 slate.

MINUTE 2021.05.03: Grass Valley Friends Meeting accepts the nominating slate, with the additions from the previous Minute 2021.05.02, as attached.

Amy Cooke's name was brought forward for seasoning as a member of Spirit & Witness for 2021-22.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: **Dorothy Henderson**, Gordon Bishop, Karen Olson, Judy Hamilton, Doug Hamm, Don McCormick

Dorothy Henderson gave the report, attached. She noted that Lily came back to the Children's Program today. Celebration was expressed, and it emphasizes how important it is to keep the Children's Program going.

STEWARDSHIP: Mary Starr, Gordon Starr, Reed Hamilton, Pat Phillips, Doug Hamm, Fosten Wilson (Treasurer, Ex-officio), Dianne Marshall (Librarian), Hailey Wilson

Gordon Starr gave the report, attached.

MINUTE 2021.05.04: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves a one-time donation to CHIRP, the 501(c)3 that holds funds for the Nisenan, of \$100.

There was a question regarding the renovations to the meetinghouse that would affect the library space.

We discussed the need for a survey recommended by the Stewardship Committee. This survey would be sent out to the Meeting as a whole regarding the location of our meeting, and if we stay at Sierra Friends Center, what renovations we would like to have considered. Time is of the essence.

We also need to consider hybrid options for including the technology that will enable us to meet both in person and virtually. It was noted that we need to develop our own infrastructure in a way that enables us to be portable in case we do decide to move at a future date. We need to look at the well-being of the Grass Valley Friends Meeting. How do we maintain the vitality of our meeting? Can the Sierra Friends Center stand on its own? Will they guarantee that we will have this every Sunday? It was noted that the Children's Program can take place in the classroom in the office building.

It was noted that there is really no time at the present to deliberate about a move. At this time, can we commit to Sierra Friends Center for the foreseeable future? We can continue to discern if a future move would be taken under consideration. At this time, we use our space approximately 16 hours per month.

If we commit to portable structures, we may not need a survey to request input from the Meeting on the renovations.

- What does SFC need to know from us and by when?
- The internet service is a consideration. Are there plans to improve it?
- Is Sierra Friends Center considering audio/visual equipment for hybrid meetings?
- Sierra Friends Center may also determine that our presence is too much of an incursion on their ability to rent the meetinghouse and classroom to groups that provide them with needed income. Can they commit to us for a year?
- Can Children's Program meet every week in the classroom?

The Stewardship Committee will continue to reflect on these issues and notify the Meeting of any issues that would need full Meeting input.

We need to develop an ad hoc committee to work on our transition to a possible hybrid meeting. It was suggested that Stewardship and Spirit & Witness could work together on this. The Clerk's Meeting will be a great time to discuss these issues.

A message was given about sinking down into the truths of our meetinghouse, of being at Sierra Friends Center, of our move 16 years ago from our old meetinghouse, of the beauty and the complications and the sorrows of our history. We are making decisions in a strange time - post-pandemic and post-wildfires. We held this message in worship.

WELCOME: Amy Cooke, Don McCormick, Kathy McCreery

Amy Cooke gave the report, attached.

MINUTE 2021.05.05: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the use of the new logo developed by Hailey Wilson as presented and seasoned.

NAMING COMMITTEE: Judy Hamilton, Dorothy Henderson, Amy Cooke, Mary Starr
Judy Hamilton brought forward the names for the Nominating Committee, which have seasoned.

Doug Hamm: 2020-22 term

Pat Phillips: 2020-22 term

Karen Olson: 2021-23 term

Sharon Davisson: 2021-23 term

MINUTE 2021.05.06: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the Nominating Committee slate as presented.

REPRESENTATIVE and OFFICER REPORTS

- **Interfaith Nevada County:** Interfaith Nevada County is focusing on the issues that congregations have experienced during the pandemic. In June the group will meet with Paul Cummings, Office of Emergency Services, so that congregations can discern ways to respond in the event of a catastrophic fire.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Friends General Conference 2021 Gathering will be held virtually, from June 27 – July 3, 2021. Registration is open on a pay-as-you-are-led basis.
 - If you use Facebook, follow the Grass Valley Friends Meeting page, or join the Facebook Grass Valley Friends Meeting group. If you share a post from the page, your friends will see it! It helps our visibility. Follow this [link](#).
 - It's easy to give to Grass Valley Friends Meeting! Go to gvfriends.org and click on the Give button. This takes you to a secure site for donations. Please consider making your contribution monthly. Your contribution covers our Pacific Yearly Meeting dues and ensures that our activities as a Meeting are sustained. Thank you.
- The dates for **Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Session 2021** have been set: **July 23-28, 2021**. See the Clerk's Call to Annual Session 2021 and the AS 2021 Information Page for more information.
- **Online Worship:** every Wednesday evening, 7:00-7:30 pm sponsored by PYM Eldering subcommittee of the Ministry Committee. Consider also the many other opportunities for online Quaker worship listed at westernfriend.org.
- **College Park Quarterly Meeting (CPQM):** The next quarterly meeting will take place on the weekend of May 14-16 via Zoom. The theme for this quarterly meeting is **Of Life and Breath and Love: Making the connection between care of the earth, peace, and justice**. As we begin to emerge from pandemic isolation, how is Spirit calling us and our Meetings into the work of transforming systems of violence, racism, and exploitation of people and planet. **Registration is now open. Click [here](#) to register for spring quarterly meeting.**

FEEDBACK

- It can help if the clerks support each other if one wants to speak outside of the clerk's role. They can "pass the baton."
- Greeters and closers need to make sure that they are clear about when they are performing their roles.
- It was suggested that "healing" be added to the list for the last 10 minutes of worship.
- We ask for gentleness when we reflect on our failings. We are all human.

- It would help to clarify during reports what the Meeting's role is, and if those gathered can act on behalf of the Meeting.
- On Zoom it is easier to have one person speak at a time, and that can be helpful for the clerks.
- If you wish to speak and you have not been recognized, please move your hand toward the camera.
- The committees could make a better demarcation between reporting and gathering feedback. It would be helpful if the clerks of the committees notify the clerks if their reports have issues that they recognize will need more time.
- The queries are valuable, and a quick check-in could be valuable to bring everyone present. Maybe alternate these?
- A suggestion was made to bring clerking to Spirit & Witness for support.

ACTION ITEMS & ITEMS SEASONING

- Amy Cooke's name was brought forward for seasoning as a member of Spirit and Witness for 2021-22.

READING OF THE RECORD AND MINUTES

Note: The record and the minutes were read, corrected and approved.

If you are giving a report to GVFM, please send the actual report to the recording clerk at grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com THE FRIDAY BEFORE MEETING FOR BUSINESS.

GVFM Newsletter Reminder: Please have items into Dianne Marshall by Tuesday at 10 am.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully recorded by Amy Cooke, recording clerk.

To read full reports given to Business Meeting, click [APPENDICES:](#)

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Nominating Committee | 4. Spirit and Witness committee |
| 2. Children's Program | 5. Welcome Committee |
| 3. Stewardship Report | 6. State of the Meeting Draft Report |

QUERIES and ADVICES: Fifth Month ~ Harmony with Creation

It would go a long way to caution and direct people in their use of the world, that they were better studied and knowing in the Creation of it. For how could [they] find the confidence to abuse it, while they should see the Great Creator stare them in the face, in all and every part thereof? William Penn, some fruits of solitude, 1693

God is revealed in all Creation. We humans belong to the whole interdependent community of life on earth. Rejoice in the beauty, complexity, and mystery of creation, with gratitude to be part of its unfolding. Take time to learn how this community of life is organized and how it interacts. Live according to principles of right relationship and right action within this larger whole.

Be aware of the influence humans have on the health and viability of life on earth. Call attention to what fosters or harms earth's exquisite beauty, balances and interdependencies. Guided by Spirit, work to translate this understanding into ways of living that reflect our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations.

In what ways do I express gratitude for the wondrous expressions of life on Earth?

- Do I consider the damage I might do to the Earth's vulnerable systems in choices I make of what I do, what I buy, and how I spend my time?
- *In our witness for the global environment, are we careful to consider justice and the well-being of the world's poorest people?*
- *Does our way of life threaten the viability of life on Earth?*

"The produce of the earth is a gift from our gracious creator to the inhabitants, and to impoverish the earth now to support outward greatness appears to be an injury to the succeeding age." John Woolman

GVFM PROPOSED SLATE COMMITTEES, REPS, OFFICERS 2021-2022

COMMITTEES: (convener or clerk in bold)

Stewardship: Mary Starr, Gordon Starr, Reed Hamilton, Pat Phillips, Doug Hamm, Fosten Wilson (Treasurer, Ex-officio) Dianne Marshall (ex officio as Librarian and Newsletter Editor), Hailey Wilson

Spirit/Witness: Gordon Starr, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Bishop, Dorothy Henderson, Anita and Don McCormick (ex-officio Co Clerks), **Judy Hamilton**

Welcome: Karen Olson, **Kathy McCreery**, ex officio Website/Facebook Coordinator (Amy Cooke), ex officio Zoom coordinator (Hailey Wilson and Stuart Smith), ex officio Email Coordinator (Judy Hamilton)

Children's Program: Karen Olson, Judy Hamilton, **Dorothy Henderson**, Gordon Bishop, Anita McCormick, Doug Hamm, Don McCormick

OFFICERS:

- Co-Clerks: Don and Anita McCormick
- Communication/Email Coordinator: Judy Hamilton
- Directory Coordinator: Nancy Anderson
- Librarian: Dianne Marshall
- Mail Clerk: Dean Olson
- Newsletter Editor: Dianne Marshall
- Newsletter Distribution: Pat Phillips
- Newsletter Reader: Karen Olson
- Placer County Worship Group: Stuart Smith
- Recorder: Nancy Anderson
- Recording Clerk: Amy Cooke
- Treasurer: Fosten Wilson
- Website/Facebook Coordinator: Amy Cooke
- Zoom Coordinators: Hailey Wilson, Stuart Smith

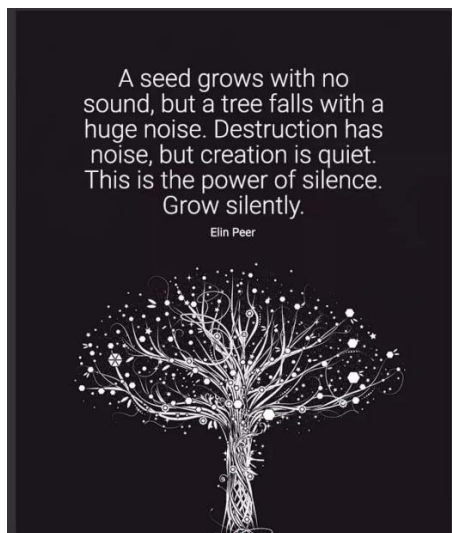
REPRESENTATIVES:

- AFSC:
- College Park Quarterly:
- FASE:
- FCNL:
- FCLCA:
- FGC Liaison:
- PYM: Don McCormick
- Quaker Center:
- QUNO:
- Right Sharing of World Resources: Judy Hamilton
- Sierra Friends Center: Pat Phillips
- Interfaith Nevada County: Dianne Marshall

Please consider supporting Grass Valley Friends Meeting! Click on the Give button below.



Note: This button will take you to a secure site.



Be sure to send all requests for the email tree and meeting reports to grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com.

Messages sent to Amy Cooke will no longer be distributed by the GVFM email tree.

Submitted by Shera Banbury



QUNO hosted the roundtable, *The Time is Now: Developing & Implementing Multidimensional Crisis Measures for Peace* at the annual Stockholm International Peace Research Institute ([SIPRI](#)) Stockholm [Forum](#) on Peace and Development, which seeks to promote opportunities for cross-cutting dialogue and learning between humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors internationally.

Megan Schmidt, QUNO's UN Representative for the Peacebuilding Program, facilitated the roundtable. The conversation began with reflections from our discussants, Julius Jackson, who leads the Conflict and Peace Unit at FAO; Maya Assaf, Director of the Peacebuilding and Conflict Sensitivity Team at World Vision; and Takwa

Zebulon, who is the Peace and Development Advisor in the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Zimbabwe. The discussion provided a space for dialogue on how policy translates into practice and what opportunities need to be seized and challenges overcome to make crisis response more people-centered, sustainable and transformative. Panelists and participants also reflected on preparing for future multidimensional crises.

QUNO's new program priority area, *Peace & Crisis* grew out of the recognition of the increasingly complex nature of crisis, the growth in humanitarian aid and the need to further articulate the peace impacts of short-term response in order to link this to longer-term efforts to foster peace, justice and inclusion.

On the local level, Shera Banbury gave a half hour Zoom presentation about QUNO to the Sacramento Friends Social Justice Committee on April 26th. It was well-received, and news to many. Recipients voiced their desire to have a newsletter and article like GVFM's.

The "International Standards on Conscientious Objection to Military Service" was revised in 2021. Standards were strengthened to limit suffering, improve lives, and challenge root causes of injustice. QUNO, War Resisters International, and international Fellowship of Reconciliation have developed a webinar series.

QUNO engaged in the launch of the UN Community Engagement Guidelines (UNCEG) system-wide tool to strengthen partnerships between the UN and civil society for peace building and sustaining peace.

Woolman at Sierra Friends
Center invites you to

COMMUNITY YOGA

A nourishing space to
reconnect with your
inner rhythms and
Mother Nature

With Abby Cerino, Every
Thursday, 5pm-6pm and
Saturday, 8am-9am,
starting April 22nd, 2021

\$15 per person cash or
check (made out to
Woolman)
Bring your own mat!

More info at
www.woolman.org



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FREED Seeking Volunteer Visitors and Callers

As COVID restrictions begin to ease, FREED is opening up our Friendly Visitor program once again, matching volunteers with older adults and people with disabilities seeking more social interaction. Spend time connecting with your neighbors and supporting a healthier, happier, more connected community. Time commitment is one hour per week, mileage reimbursement available.

Prefer to stay more socially distant but still want to help? We are always accepting new callers for Phone Reassurance. Spend about two hours each week calling people experiencing social isolation. You call from the comfort of home, helping connect participants with the community and services they might need.

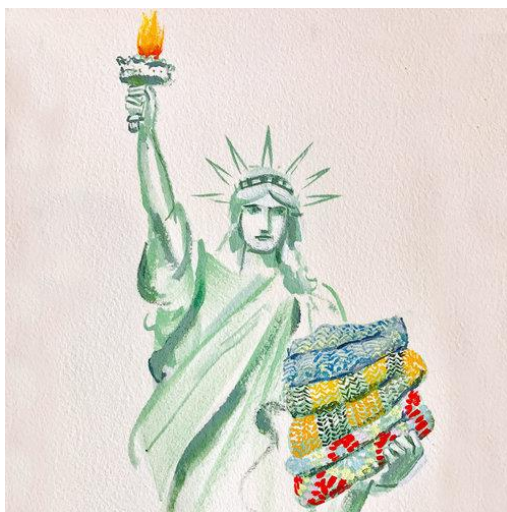
All volunteers are required to pass a criminal background check. If you'd like to help, please contact Courtney Williams, Volunteer Coordinator: courtney@freed.org or 530-477-3333 ex 225.

Woolman Farm Volunteer Opportunities

Come revamp Woolman Farm after the Jones Fire! Help us start to bring this beautiful little farm back into production. Socially distanced work party! For questions contact Malaika Bishop malaikab@woolman.org or call 530.205-0903

Special Message from Dr. Arik--thanks for a great interfaith march! Upcoming events & projects!

Thank you for joining us at the [2021 Virtual Interfaith March LA](#) on April 11th.
View media [here](#), including the [Full Video](#).



Grass Valley Friends Meeting (GVFM) Contact Information (10-12-20):

Office Holders:

- **Clerk of the Meeting:** Don McCormick (310-597-9469 donmccormick2@gmail.com) and Anita McCormick (310-993-6821, anita@webstop.com)
- **Directory Clerk:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
- **Communications Coordinator:** Amy Cook (interim) amylisette@gmail.com
- **Librarian:** Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net, 530-274-1922
- **Mail Clerk:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
- **Newsletter Distribution:** Pat Phillips 530-913-1338 pephillips1949@gmail.com
- **Newsletter Editor:** Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net (530) 274-1922
- **Placer County Worship Group:** Stuart Smith sewsmitharts@yahoo.com 916-663-3539
- **Recorder:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
- **Recording Clerk:** Amy Cooke, amylisette@gmail.com
- **Sierra Friends Center:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
- **Treasurer:** Fosten Wilson, (530) 265-6533, fostenw@yahoo.com
- **Website Maintenance/Zoom :** Amy Cooke, amylisette@gmail.com

REPRESENTATIVES

- | | |
|--|--|
| • AFSC: Dean Olson | • PYM Observer: <i>Vacant</i> |
| • College Park Quarterly: Gordon Starr | • RSWR: Judy Hamilton |
| | • PYM: Don McCormick |
| • FASE: Anita McCormick | • Quaker Center: Hilary Ellis-Lavigne |
| • FCL-CA: Amanda Wilcox | • QUNO: Shera Banbury |
| • FCNL: <i>Vacant</i> | • Sierra Friends Center: Dean Olson |
| • FGC Liaison: <i>Vacant</i> | • Inter-Faith Nevada County: Dianne Marshall |

Committees:

STEWARDSHIP: Mary Starr, Gordon Starr, Reed Hamilton, Pat Phillips, Doug Hamm, Fosten Wilson (Treasurer, Ex-officio), Dianne Marshall (Librarian), Shera Banbury, Hailey Wilson

SPIRIT/WITNESS: Gordon Starr, **Judy Hamilton**, Gordon Bishop, Don McCormick, Anita McCormick, Amy Cooke, Dorothy Henderson

WELCOME: Hilary Ellis-Lavigne, Karen Olson, Kathy McCreary, **Amy Cooke**.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: **Karen Olson**, Judy Hamilton, Dorothy Henderson, Gordon Bishop, Don McCormick, Anita McCormick, Doug Hamm

NOMINATING: Pat Phillips, Doug Hamm, Karen Olson

Reminder:

This information is updated as of 10/12/2020.

Grass Valley Friends Meeting



13075 Woolman Lane,
Nevada City, CA 95959
Return Address Requested