Redwood Forest Friends Meeting Newsletter  
February 2022  
Address: P.O. Box 1831, Santa Rosa, CA 95402  
(707) 578-3327  
www.redwoodforestquakers.org  

Resident Friends: Ben Hofvendahl bhofvendahl@gmail.com  
Thistle West thistleawest@gmail.com  

Interim Clerk  Treasurer  Newsletter Editor  
Barbara Babin  Paul Robbins  Ruth Witchey  
160 Shortt Rd  8108 Bodega Ave  684 Benicia Dr Apt 36  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405  Sebastopol, CA 95472  Santa Rosa, CA 95409  

Redwood Forest Friends Meeting invites you:  

10 am  Meeting for Worship on First First Days  
in person and on Zoom—see schedule next page  

February Worship  
Zoom link is always:  
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84554998509?pwd=aVNtaWVmdENsNUlRd3hvNkk1K3o5UT09  

Friends House Worship Group  
Friends House Worship Group is able to meet in person, with one group inside in the Library and one outside on the patio behind the Lobby. Vaccinated and masked non-residents are welcome to join. They will be screened by staff at the front door. Worship is 10 to 11 with brief introductions, last thought, and announcement afterwards. For more information, call 707-576-6673.  

Lake County Worship Group  
Meets weekly on Tuesday evenings via Zoom. 7:10pm Singing; 7:30pm Worship; 8pm Socializing  
Zoom link is always:  
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85240624938?pwd=UDRUT1dWSUZyeVo0czQxVkJvcStFZz09  

NEWS from QUAKER CENTER  
WEDNESDAY MORNING WORSHIP SHARING  
10 A.M. (PT) WEEKLY  
Find the Zoom link on our website: www.QuakerCenter.org  
Password: Quaker
Redwood Forest Friends Meeting
February 2022 Calendar Items

Sunday, Feb 6
10am  Meeting for Worship, both in-person and on Zoom
Noon  Committee Meetings

Sunday, Feb 13
10am  Meeting for Worship on Zoom
Noon  Meeting for Worship for Business

Sunday, Feb 20
10am  Meeting for Worship, both in-person and on Zoom
12:15  Quaker Working Group on Racism, on Zoom

Sunday, Feb 27
10am  Meeting for Worship on Zoom
noon  Second Hour on Zoom, topic to be announced

Drop-In Bible Study Series on Zoom

Welcoming the Stranger
Come as You Are Bible Study Series
Friday Mornings, February 2- April 29, 2022
9:00-10am, on Zoom

Redwood Forest Friends Meeting will offer weekly Bible Study on the theme of Welcoming the Stranger, in the "Come as You Are" format which Friend Stephen Matchett used at Yearly and Quarterly Meetings. A fuller description of this format will be sent to the RFFM email list.

In our hour-long sessions, we will meet on Zoom to worship, read the Bible (posting the selected verses into the chat), and to reflect on the passages in both large and small groups. There will be many opportunities to learn from one another and from the Spirit that animates the texts.

Please join us, whatever your experience with the Bible. This is a drop-in series, please attend when you can.

We will include time for written or artistic reflection as a regular part of the process, so please have some writing and/or drawing materials with you, in whatever way works for you.

Your team,
Barbara Babin, David Hoffman, and Judd Hu, with input from Brian Lloyd

Zoom Link (same for all sessions):
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83314892026?pwd=ay8xajd3Tm1BSnlpMGhPVkNoTndKQT09

Meeting ID: 833 1489 2026
Passcode: Bible
Dialing in by phone: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
RFFM MINUTES OF MEETING FOR BUSINESS 1/9/22

The meeting opened with Worship at 12 noon with Barbara Babin, Clerk, presiding.

Members read Advice and Queries on Peace and shared reflections:

- Rather than respond with a sense of shame to one member’s “not doing enough,” she realizes that peace-building is life-long work.
- Amidst a sense of isolation from people of color, one member has made a practice of holding in the Light other whites who are not friends of POC.
- George Fox also meant living in the spiritual place that takes away the occasion of war.
- In a tendency to be conflict-avoidant, one member sees the need to broaden her perspective so as not to judge as “not peaceful” others’ legitimate forceful “fight” for justice.

The clerk reviewed the agenda and asked if members approved last month’s minutes.

MINUTE 2022-1-1 Meeting approved the Minutes of the December 12, 2021, meeting as written.

Finance Committee

Barbara Babin reported on behalf of Mary Miche. She asked if meeting was ready to approve Paul Robbins’ suggestion that RFFM suspend its donation to FASE (Friends Association of Services for the Elderly) since FASE no longer oversees Friends House. Discussion ensued and included ideas about supporting a resident-managed fund at FH and supporting Friends in retirement after a life of work dedicated to Quaker principles. The clerk indicated she would ask Finance Committee to have a threshing session on future use of funds. She also asked members to contact her or the Care and Spiritual Growth Committee with ideas about how RFFM can be more present to the Friends House community.

MINUTE 2022-1-2 Meeting approved the suspension of the RFFM donation to FASE.

Care and Spiritual Growth Committee

Molly Bishop reported:

- The committee would like to bring forth the names of Marcia Andersen and Barbara Moulton to serve on the Nominating Committee. This will be seasoned for a month.
- Due to some gaps in the schedule for Risers and Greeters following the re-introduction of in-person meetings in addition to Zoom meetings, Ann Boone will be working on the schedule.
• The committee supports Jim Avera’s proposal for an alternate email system and asked him to present it to Meeting for Business for consideration.

Clerk clarified that Nominating Committee has been revived and currently has three members: Paul Robbins, Ann Boone, and David Hoffman.

MINUTE 2022-1-3 Meeting approved Paul Robbins as Clerk of Nominating Committee.

(Note from Clerk: This was not mentioned in the Meeting for Business, but Nominating Committee Terms run from time of approval until October 31, 2022.)

Announcement about Alternate Email System

Jim Avera presented an idea approved by Care and Spiritual Growth Committee to have an email list separate from the rffm-announce list that is used for “official” RFFM committee and clerks’ communication. It would:

• Be known as the North Bay Quaker list
• Be for personal communication and community building
• Be open for posting by anyone on the email list
• Focus on topics and events related to our personal lives in the context of Quakerism
• Follow guidelines developed with input from list subscribers
• Be open to Quakers and like-minded people in the North SF Bay Area
• Be operated by RFFM attender, Jim Avera, who will set up policies with input from the list subscribers. Future operators could be from other meetings.
• Not be controlled by RFFM but would use an unused list-serve account donated by RFFM
• Include options for receiving each email message or a daily digest and for “muting” a specific conversation (following an original subject line)

After discussion, clarifications, and requests for certain monthly meetings to be included, RFFM supported Jim’s proposal. Members will receive an email with instructions on how to opt-in to this alternate email list. (To subscribe to the NBQL list, send an email to nbql+subscribe@groups.io.)

Correspondence

Clerk announced that Lanny Jay’s transfer of membership was approved by Apple Seed Meeting and that Santa Cruz Meeting will bring the transfer of Mary Rankin to their meeting today. The Care and Spiritual Growth Committee will form a visiting committee to meet with Paul Harris about his request to transfer to Chico meeting.

Joys and Concerns
Clerk requested conciseness in expression and explained she will refer concerns to the appropriate committee or another follow-up group.

A member expressed concern about a fellow member’s need for financial help and inability to respond to the Finance Committee’s request for donation for the meeting. Clerk will follow up with Finance Committee and the Care and Spiritual Growth Committee.

A member wondered if the Care Committee is still active. Informally, care of others has been going on, and Care Committee is planning to meet.

Clerk announced Rise of Meeting at 1:23 p.m. after closing worship with 16 members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Callahan, Recording Clerk

---

**The Meeting Community**

Meetings for Worship and Business are the center of our spiritual community. There, as we come to know each other in the Spirit, we build the "beloved community."

Mutual respect and care in the Meeting form the foundation from which we can test, support, and exercise leadings of the Spirit. At its best, the Meeting community provides a framework for us to learn and practice mutual care, which strengthens us as we act in the world.

All members of the Meeting community should share in the care of one another. While respecting privacy, we must be aware of and sensitive to each other's needs. We must also be willing to ask for assistance when we are in need.

Do I strive to be inclusive in my relationships within the Meeting?

Do I care for the reputation of others, refraining from gossip or disparaging remarks?

Am I committed to the difficult work of forgiveness, and affirming God's love for the whole community?

*How are love and unity maintained among us?*

*Do we practice the art of listening, even beyond words?*

*How have we been sensitive to the personal needs and difficulties of members and attenders, young and old?*

*Do we visit one another in our homes and keep in touch with distant members?*