

BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER invites you to



**Renewing our Meetings to
Welcome New Quakers**

*with Hilary Burgin
and Henri Ducharme*

May 10 - 12 , 2019

In the liberal unprogrammed branch of Quakerism, it seldom occurs to us to link membership with transformation. And yet, in the early years of the Quaker movement, spiritual transformation was the sine qua non of membership. ... One became a Quaker not by meeting with a clearness committee, but by being convinced of the Truth through an experience of the transforming Power of God.

~ Tom Gates

This retreat is intended for those who want to make our monthly meetings more welcoming to new and young people. Although there will be some number of tips and tricks and many success stories shared, we believe there is deeper work for Friends to do within our meetings.

The work of making our meetings more welcoming and engaging (for all people!) is rooted in the spiritual depth and renewal at our meetings, as well as adopting practices that are more accessible to newcomers. The most direct path to becoming more welcoming is being *thoughtful* about current practices and culture. We believe that there are cultural changes needed in order to renew our meetings. The program will focus on this deeper change as it relates to new and young people. For a preview, go to quakernewrenew.wordpress.com

ABOUT THE PROGRAM FACILITATORS:

Henri's research into how things are with new and young people at our meetings is unique and inspired his work with two committees at Strawberry Creek Meeting concerned with new and young people. It also inspired an invitation to present a session at the 2017 Quaker Centering Consultation.



Hilary comes to this work with an excitement for living an integrated and outward-facing spiritual life. She is the Executive Director for Quaker Voluntary Service, a faith-based service year program for young adults interested in the intersection of Quaker faith and social justice.

Henri Ducharme and Hilary Burgin met several years ago at the Let's Go retreat that Hilary co-facilitated at Quaker Center, and every few months since then, they've set aside time to discuss issues of meeting renewal. Facilitating this retreat together is an outgrowth of that collaboration. Hilary and Henri have a conviction that the "issue" of new and young people at our meetings can only rest on a foundation of renewal of our meetings.

Registration for: Renewing our Meetings to Welcome New Quakers Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

I/we plan to pay \$ _____/person on the \$160 - \$240/person sliding scale. (More below)

Medical or ethical dietary restrictions: _____

Accommodation or mobility concerns: _____

----- Detach Here and Return -----

Check-in is from 3 PM to 6 PM. Dinner is served at 6 PM and the first program session will begin at 7:30pm. You can expect to be depart by 12:30 PM on Sunday after closing worship. We no longer require a deposit with your registration. We trust that you will "let your yay be yay" and that you'll participate in this program if you register. If you absolutely must cancel, please do so at least two days in advance. Otherwise we request \$55 for the food the cook has already purchased for you.

✓ **A NOTE ABOUT OUR SLIDING SCALE:**

- Comprehensive rate:** The top of our scale covers all our costs. **(\$240/person).**
- Standard rate:** We hope most people will pay at least this amount. **(\$200/person)**
- Special reduced rate:** The bottom to our scale **(\$160/person).**

No one will be refused from our programs due to lack of funds. Please call or email us for financial aid.

- ✓ **CHILDCARE:** Quaker Center will offer at no charge *if the Directors receive at least two weeks advance notice.* Without advance notice, you may be able to bring your child if the program leader(s) approve their attendance during program sessions. We request \$50 per child to cover the cost of meals.
- ✓ **ACCOMMODATIONS, THINGS TO BRING, AND FOOD:** Sleeping accommodations will be in the Orchard Lodge in semi-private rooms. **Bring a sleeping bag or sheets, pillowcase, towel, and toiletries.** Please do not wear or bring strongly scented toiletries. All meals at Quaker Center are vegetarian. We ask all participants to take turns working together on meal prep, dish crew, and cleaning at the end of the program. **Please tell us if you must leave early** so that we can make sure you get signed up for a final clean up task that can be done early.
- ✓ **PLEASE DO NOT BRING PETS.** Only service dogs trained to perform a specific task to palliate the disability of the dog's handler may accompany guests. **Please call Quaker Center in advance if you need to bring your service dog.**
- ✓ **TRANSPORTATION:** For directions, please see our website, www.quakercenter.org/directions/. If you are arriving by bus, let us know at least a day in advance if you need a shuttle and we will pick you up from the Main Street stop in Ben Lomond. **If you need to change your pick-up time., call the Quaker Center cell phone: 831-212-2631**

DRIVING DISTANCES FROM:

- Los Angeles: 365 miles, 6.5 hours
- Sacramento: 150 miles, 2 hours, 45 minutes
- San Francisco: 90 miles, 2 hrs and 15 minutes
- San Jose Intl Airport: 35 miles, 50 minutes
- Santa Cruz, 12 miles, 25 minutes

PUBLIC TRANSIT:

- **Amtrak:** Take the train to the San Jose Diridon Station
- **From the San Jose Diridon Station:** Take the 17 Express bus to the Cavallaro Transit Station in Scotts Valley.
- **From the Scotts Valley or Santa Cruz:** Take the 35 or 35A bus to Ben Lomond.
- **In Ben Lomond:** Get off at Highway 9 and Main Street and walk or call for a ride.

QUAKER CENTER

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