**Arrangements Committee Clerk's Report to Representatives Committee, February 2018**

Intermountain Yearly Meeting's Arrangements Committee met January 12 and 13 at the Boulder Friends Meetinghouse.

## As with 2016, our Annual Gathering attendance in 2017 shrank noticeably in comparison to the previous year with 265 attendees, a decrease of 35 from 2016, and a decrease of 55 from 2015. Again, two-thirds came during Early Days. Only 6 did not stay for the entire week. Rumors of a large number of people coming only for Early Days are greatly exaggerated. We were able to house all who had mobility challenges on the lower level. As in 2016, ~45% chose the option to pay complete cost.

The theme for this year's annual gathering is *Faith Into Practice: Living a Full Quaker Life*. This theme will broaden from previous years’ explorations of leadings to recognize that Friends live their faith in all the ways they are in the world, and that we can strive to walk with the Spirit in our everyday roles and actions.

The Keynote will be given by Eileen Flanagan, a Philadelphia Friend who has written about tools and challenges to know and follow the Spirit. Three IMYM Friends who live full Quaker lives reflecting faith into practice in very different outward ways, will respond to the Keynote, reflecting on what Eileen has presented and how it applies to their own lives, followed by a conversation among Eileen and the panelists. These Friends, who represent three different generations, will be Anastacia Ebi (30’s), Gretchen Reinhart (50’s) and Leslie Stephens (70’s).

Seminars and Interest Groups this year will be focused on how our faith grounds our practice and faith-based service of our Meetings and individuals. Eileen Flanagan will offer a workshop on *Implicit Bias*, in the context of making Quaker Meetings more welcoming, on Tuesday evening. To provide an alternative to the evening programs, there will be one Interest Group offered each evening. Parallel to the evening Sing and Campfire, there will be an Intergenerational Game Night for adults and youth in the Cantina. Polly Washburn, our new web site clerk, will have an open house at the Ghost Ranch office lounge during the Dance so that people can familiarize themselves with the use of the new web site and offer suggestions about what they want to see there.

The Arrangements Committee reaffirmed that there will be no programming and no childcare on Early Days afternoons to allow for family free time.

Arrangements Committee recognizes that the position of Volunteer Coordinator is demanding, and asks Nominating Committee to provide for an overlap year for outgoing and incoming persons in the position. Last year we unexpectedly had no experienced volunteers in the registration process for Golf Cart Coordinator, producers of the Daily Bulletin, and someone to run the sound system at the Lower Pavilion. We scrambled to fill these positions, with varying results. It would be excellent if Daily Bulletin volunteers could serve for two years, to train those who follow them, and to have written instructions and templates for producing the Daily Bulletin.

Upon inquiry, Ghost Ranch has said that their current policy for age of golf cart drivers is at least 18 with valid driver’s license and no upper limit. Regular golf cart runs to and from the Campground were requested. Ghost Ranch has said that their vans cannot used (their liability policy will not cover it) to transport people to and from the Mesa and the Arts Building for Interest Groups and Seminars. Therefore we are seeking vans and vehicles among IMYM attenders with multiple passenger capability for this.

The FGC Bookstore no longer has a physical presence. It is a virtual presence run by volunteers, so we will see how that affects our IMYM Bookstore.

We discussed how Pay-As-Led could appear in on-line registration and did not find unity about what to present. One option is to give only the rate IMYM pays per person per day to Ghost Ranch as a "complete cost" number, a "125% of complete cost" number, and an "average paid by recipients of financial aid in the past" number, with NO breakdown by housing type. Another option is to give a "complete cost" number, a "125% of complete cost" number, and an "average paid by recipients of financial aid in the past" number for each housing type. We look to Representatives Committee for guidance about this.

Although IMYM minuted last summer that Boulder and Ft. Collins Meetings would staff the Childrens Yearly Meeting program, no one from those meetings has come forward. It seems that people from those meetings who have worked with children in the past are now doing other things for IMYM, and others feel like they don't know what to do. Eric Swanson, one of the Youth Working Group Co-Clerks, stepped up and made many phone calls. The result is that he and Emily Box will be lead CYM coordinators next summer, with hopefully some folks from those meetings stepping up to learn and be mentored.

Arrangements Committee minuted a request for additional funds for paying for Infant Care for children under age 3 or in diapers. There will be child care for children age 3 and up if out-of-diapers by Ghost Ranch College Staff during Early Days. Infant Care will start Thursday morning.

Junior Young Friends will run the Cantina for snacks Wednesday through Saturday from 6:30 to 9:30, to raise funds for scholarships to Mountain Friends Camp.

Senior Young Friends affirmed that the Listening Session is vital and important to them as a community. Because SYFs have been having a hard time finding enough leaders for Intergenerational Worship Sharing, this year adults will be assigned to groups on a first registered, first served basis. This year there will be both morning and afternoon worship sharing groups for adults. Adults will be able to choose morning or afternoon or both worship sharing times. Senior Young Friends will make a monumental effort this year to attend the Intergenerational Meeting for Worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Pelican Lee

Arrangements Committee Clerk