

BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER invites you to:

Eldering, Mentoring and Exempleship
How Quakers teach each other to be Friends
with Eric Sableman and Diane Pasta
August 31 - Sept 1, 2013



"Many Friends today are crying out for spiritual mentors, for ministers and elders who are lovingly steeped in our tradition. Some Friends hunger for a deeper relationship with God, for a connection with a divine power that heals and empowers. We long for wise and loving role models and examples."

*~from Tall Poppies: Supporting Gifts of Ministry and Eldering in the Monthly Meeting,
Martha Paxson Grundy, Pendle Hill Pamphlet #347*

Quakers today seem generally anxious about the whole idea of eldering. Not knowing what eldering is and how to do it – by teaching, by example, not by insisting on “right behavior” – we miss opportunities to strengthen individual and community confidence that Quakers really are who we say we are.

Pacific Yearly Meeting’s *Faith and Practice* defines the verb **elder** as “to support and encourage *Faith and Practice* goes on to say that eldering can include “honest feedback, prayer, and helping with spiritual discernment.” We will try to do all three during this weekend.

Our exploration of eldering will include the ideal - advice given with humility, out of a loving relationship with the individual, where mutual respect and dignity are already established – and the not-so-ideal.

“Exempleship” is meant to denote unintentional teaching. To be exemplary is to show our vulnerability, our humility, and our humanness by owning our mistakes. At our best, we can be examples of compassionate love, willing to be fundamentally transformed by that love. So who is the example to whom?

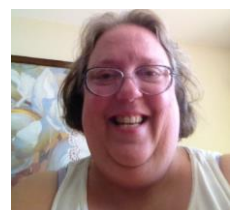
The session on mentoring will explore variations on the student/teacher relationship – including practices like spiritual direction and apprenticeship.

Some sessions will include scripted role-playing. Most sessions will include a period of worship-sharing on queries relevant to the session topic. Readings will be provided in advance; there will be time to read and reflect on these and other resources during the weekend.

About the program leaders:



Eric E. Sabelman, Ph.D., is a biomedical engineer on the neurosurgery staff of Kaiser Hospital in Redwood City, Ca. He began attending Orange Grove Meeting in Pasadena in 1969. About 20 years later, he became a member of Palo Alto Friends Meeting. He has been clerk of the PYM Unity with Nature Committee, clerk of CPQM Ministry and Oversight Committee and Quaker representative to Stanford Associated Ministries. He is currently co-clerk of Palo Alto Friends Meeting, CPQM archivist and president of the EarthLight Board of Directors.



Diane Pasta's 15 minutes of fame were when an article she wrote for Friends Journal about a homeless person was reprinted in Utne Reader. She moved from Seattle to California in 2005 to care for family members, retiring from teaching math at the Middle School level. She is a member of Palo Alto Friends Meeting.

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

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

Medical or ethical dietary restrictions: _____

Accommodation or mobility concerns: _____

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

TO REGISTER, fill out the form above and send it to the address below.

Check-in is from 4 PM to 6 PM. Dinner is served at 6 PM and you can expect to be depart by 1:30 PM on Sunday after final cleanup and the closing session from 12-1:30 PM. We no longer require a deposit with your registration. We trust that you will "let your yay be yay" and join us for this program if you register. If you absolutely must cancel, please do so in ample time to save Quaker Center any loss for food costs or having to turn away another participant.

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 is ever refused access to our programs because of lack of funds. Please ask, if you are in need.

- ✓ **Accommodations, things to bring, and food:** Sleeping accommodations will be in the Orchard and Redwood Lodges (semi-private rooms). **Bring a sleeping bag or sheets and blankets, pillowcase, towel, and toiletries** including shower soap. Please do not wear or bring strongly scented toiletries. **Guests may not bring pets.** Animals trained to serve the disabled are allowed ONLY with prior permission from the Directors. All meals at Quaker Center are vegetarian. Participants take turns working together on meal prep, dish crew, and cleaning at the end of the program. **Please tell us in advance if you must leave early** so that we can sign you up for a final clean up task that can be done before you go.
- ✓ **Transportation:** See our website, <http://www.quakercenter.org/directions/> for directions. If you are arriving on the bus let us know and we will provide a shuttle from Ben Lomond or Scotts Valley. **Quaker Center will provide shuttles from Ben Lomond transit stops.** Call 831-332-4398 24 hours in advance if you need a shuttle.

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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