

North Pacific Yearly Meeting has grown by a net increase of 2 worshipping communities since this time in 2003. There are three new worship groups in Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting: Grays Harbor, Tonasket, and Methow Valley. Astoria Worship Group, in Willamette Quarterly Meeting, has been laid down. Bridge City Preparative Meeting has become Bridge City Friends Meeting upon recognition as a monthly meeting this spring.

Growth of NPYM in terms of households has occurred at a faster pace in the last year than it did in the previous year. The following table summarizes the directory database as of July in 2002, 2003, and now:

Year	Households In Idaho	Households in Montana	Households in Oregon	Households in Washington	Households Elsewhere	Total Households	Members
2002	54	164	597	765	114	1694	858
2003	63	129	623	783	110	1708	866
2004	70	126	649	822	120	1787	886

The continuing decline in Montana is mostly attributable, in my opinion, to the use of stricter standards to determine which attenders qualify for inclusion in the directory. This particularly affected Missoula Meeting's listings for this year, but was partially offset by modest growth in Heartland Monthly Meeting and one or two of the worship groups.

Due to a new format being used in the Families and Individuals section of the directory this year, the 2004 printed directory is 30 pages shorter than was the 2003 directory, despite an increase in the number of listings.

One policy question has arisen recently that I would like the Steering Committee to address, and that is whether some sort of approval process is needed before I provide a list of our meetings and worship groups, including contact information, to another Friends organization such as FCNL or Friends General Conference. Since beginning this job in 1991, I have always considered that sort of information to be public and have provided it freely in response to any reasonable request from a Friends organization or from a group within NPYM. I would like the Steering Committee to formally ratify this position, but with the understanding that if a similar request comes from a non-Friends organization, they will be referred to the Steering Committee Clerk. It would then be up to the Clerk's discernment, in each case, as to whether the request could be approved by the Executive Committee (the SC Clerk, Associate SC Clerk, and Presiding Clerk) or would need to await review and action by the full Steering Committee at its next meeting.

The 2004 NPYM Directory is being published and distributed on CD as well as in printed form, thanks largely to assistance from Sue Ellen White in working out the procedures, and from Dave Fabik in setting up the final format and making duplicate CDs from the master copy. Because of some last-minute problems in my own schedule, Dave Fabik also took care of arranging for print duplication this year, and partly because of that the cost of print duplication turned out to be less than expected based on last year's experience. As a result, a decision was made to create more printed copies (75) than had been expected (about 30), and therefore the total savings from publication on CD will not be as great as anticipated. However, total duplication costs this year will likely total about \$800, as compared with over \$1500 last year.

There are some differences between the printed and CD versions of the directory, and among these is the fact that page numbering differs between the two versions. Should this turn out to be a problem, it will be possible to rectify it starting next year by arranging for the print version page numbering to mirror that of the CD version, in which it is important that each page's explicit number be the same as its positional number within the Adobe Acrobat file.

One by-product of this year's new format in the Families and Individual section is that translation from database to directory format no longer requires specially-written software and command files. This, in turn, will make it much easier to turn my job over to a successor when the time comes, as it likely will within the next few years.

I look forward to continuing work with the committee appointed in May to consider additional changes in the directory content or format that could make the directory less expensive to create and/or reproduce in future years.

--Don Goldstein
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