

LIBRARY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT, June 2017

I. Introduction

The library continues to face challenges in 2017. Some of the shelves will be removed during the construction, and we will need to move some books into other parts to the building.

The internet has not always been working, and the library is often in use by a renter. We have set up a temporary new system for checkout, using a sign out notebook.

II. Finding Books in the Collection and Checking Them Out

First, find the library website, by going to the Quick Links at

<http://quakersdc.org/>

Or by going directly to <http://quakersdc.org/Library>

The books in the Library have been cataloged on <http://www.LibraryThing.com>. The FMW Library catalog is viewable at <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/FMWLibrary> or on mobile devices at <http://www.librarything.com/m/> by entering the collection name FMWLibrary. The Library Committee has also printed out lists of the books in the collection with call numbers arranged alphabetically by author and by title and made these available in the Library. The books also have tags, which work like subject entries. You can click on “tags,” right under “your books,” to see all of them. The card catalog, now out of date, is no longer in the library.

Library Thing is a wonderful application through which people can find other libraries with similar books, read reviews of books and can even review them themselves.

Information on checking out and returning books is posted in the library and will be on the library website. Try to return books within three weeks so that others may use them too. We hope

III. Size, Growth, and Scope of the Collection

In May 2017, the Library held 2,183 books in the collection, about 30 more than last year at this time. Additions to the collection came partly from donations this year. We will continue to seek suggestions from the community and look for new titles relating to Quakerism to add to the collection.

Before donating books, please talk to committee members. The Library’s scope for collecting includes Quaker history and biography, spirituality, LGBTQ spirituality, mysticism, social justice, and non-violence. We do hold occasional book sales, and would like permission to sell duplicate or inappropriate books.

IV. Kindles and E-Books

The library owns 5 Kindle paperwhites which are available to be used by reading groups in the meeting and have already been. Ask the librarians about this if you are interested.

The Library has also added more links to electronic versions of classic Quaker titles to the Library's homepage, including John Woolman's *Journal*, Robert Barclay's *Apology*, and *Journal of the Life and Religious Labours of Elias Hicks*. We have included a basic introduction to Quakerism website, and a link to another Quaker library which has even more material. If people need assistance downloading these to their own Kindles or other e-book readers, please contact Library Committee members

V. Membership

We could always use assistance and actively welcome new members. If you have an interest, please approach one of the committee members.

Members of the Library Committee:

Faith Williams (Clerk), faithmw@gmail.com

Michael North (Meeting Librarian) belgrade18@yahoo.com

Judy Hubbard hubbard.judy@gmail.com

Frank Weiss frankgreyhound@hotmail.com

Abby Thomsen (emeritus)

Patrick Lynam (emeritus)

Gene Throwe (ex officio) gthrowe@gmail.com

or feel free to send an e-mail to the clerk via the Library's homepage on the FMW website: <http://www.quakersdc.org/library> or faithmw@gmail.com