**Library Committee Report 2014**

 I. Introduction

            The FMW Library Committee has continued to grow and take care of the collection.  We continue to add books to the library, catalog the collection, clear the cabinets and the shelves of duplicates and old supplies, and have begun examining the shelves to identify out of scope materials.

 II. Finding Books in the Collection and Checking Them Out

   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.  A subject list is being created. These are more reliable than the card catalog, now out of date and no longer in the library.

In order to help people with questions or to find books, FMW Library Committee Members hope to be friendly library presences in the Library after 10:30 meeting ends on First Day. Please come by and visit. Volunteers to help would be welcome.

Information on checking out and returning books is posted in the library.Try to return books within three weeks so that others may use them too  We are working on a better way of keeping track of checked out books.

III.  Size, Growth and Scope of the Collection

          As of the end of April, 2014, the Library held 2091 books in the collection, about 41 more than last year at this time.  Additions to the collection came from donations and purchases

The Library still has many of the books in the collection that are older and possibly out of date, not reflecting the current interests of the meeting membership.  We will continue to seek suggestions from the community and look for new titles relating to Quakerism to add to the collection.

IV. Membership

The Library Committee was happy to add Faith Williams as a co-clerk: she has worked for many years as a librarian. We could always use assistance and actively welcome new members. If you have an interest, please approach one of the committee members.

V. Kindles and E-Books

         As we mentioned in the last report the library owns 5 Kindle paperwhites which are available to be used by reading groups in the meeting. It is possible to buy one book and put it on all 5, as the Buddha’s Brain reading group is planning to. 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*.  If people need assistance downloading these to their own Kindles or other e-book readers, please contact Library Committee members.

VI. Donations

             The Library’s scope for collecting includes Quaker history and biography, spirituality, mysticism, social justice, and non-violence.

 The Library has received many generous book donations over the past year.  It isbest to contact someone on the Committee first before bringing books in.If the donation is a duplicate or a book which doesn’t fit in our collection, we reserve the right to find another home for it. This past year, most donations were well within scope, but in previous years people have donated books that were far out of scope, sometimes anonymously

**Members of the Library Committee:**

Thomas Goodhue

Patrick Lynam (emeritus)

Patrick Marchman

Greg Robb gregory.robb@gmail.com

Michael North (Clerk), belgrade18@yahoo.com

Faith Williams (Co-clerk) faithmw@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>. ]