

## Quaker Earthcare Witness Report 2017

The last face-to-face meeting was in Pendle Hill in Oct. There have been several conference call meetings since.

Publications, of which I am co-clerk with Judy Lumb, now has a downloadable set of files for the earthcare curricula from *Earthcare for Children*. It is easily located on the Quaker Earthcare Witness website. The *Earthcare for Friends* curriculum book is under current revision and will also become digitally available.

There are several new trifolds on population and some revised ones. The adoption trifold is newly revised. The Quaker Earthcare Witness general trifold about the organization is revised.

The decision to make these digital not only saves paper but also allows interested people to download and print out only those lessons they want. There are some still usable first editions of *Earthcare for Friends* available for an as led donation to cover costs of shipping.

*BeFriending Creation* has been changed to a quarterly publication instead of five times a year. Quaker Earthcare Witness believes that this will allow for more deepening of the four.

There is a call for articles for *BeFriending Creation*. Please send any you may want to have considered to Hayley Hathaway. [hayley@quakerearthcare.org](mailto:hayley@quakerearthcare.org) Please sign up for an e-version of *BeFriending Creation* or make an as led donation for a hard copy to be mailed to you.

Hayley Hathaway doesn't have quite a year as the new director in the Quaker Earthcare Witness office and she has had a very positive impact on the productivity of the organization. She is young, bilingual, a Friend, and very committed.

Rising Clerk is Maryjo Klingel. Please hold her in the Light.

Mini-grants committee, of which I am co-clerk with Maia Wolf, continues to be active. It has provided support to an inner city eco-justice project, a film of a reforestation project in Uganda, and two grants went to Monteverde Friends for the school and the Meeting for restoration of their sewage system after the hurricane and for a water collection system.

Mini-grants is encouraging Meetings and worship groups and other Friends organizations to reach out and request a Mini-grant. It is very simple now with downloadable, fillable, application form and clear easy steps. If you need any help, reach out to the clerks of Mini-grants and we will help you with ideas and

with the application if you need it. We encourage you to consider working with others in the community for a joint project.

We are working on a packaged presentation, a power point, about Minigrants that should be available this year.

Quaker Earthcare Witness broke even on the budget with some last minute significant donations. Quaker Earthcare Witness now has the ability to accept stocks as donations and several Friends have donated in that manner. There is one case where a Friend was divesting fossil fuel stocks and donated some of them to Quaker Earthcare Witness which immediately sold them. Think about it. Please ask your Meetings and worship groups to consider donations for the work Quaker Earthcare Witness does.

Quaker Earthcare Witness is currently in discernment about vision for the future direction of the organization. If you have any comments or suggestions, please forward them to Jack Bradin and Brad Stocker who are on the ad hoc vision committee.

Quaker Earthcare Witness needs to become if not a household name at least a Meeting one. Quaker Earthcare Witness is not yet near the recognition level nor operational size of FCNL or AFSC for example. Surely, the cause of Earthcare is significant enough to warrant more attention and support than it currently has. Please, help raise Quaker Earthcare Witness awareness in your respective spheres.

Quaker Earthcare Witness asks that each group in our yearly meeting have a contact person for Earthcare and that the contact information is shared with the Quaker Earthcare Witness office. We here add to that suggestion that the same person be the contact for the Field Secretary for Earthcare and for the SEYM Earthcare Committee.

There is a "speakers" bureau. Someone from Quaker Earthcare Witness will come to your meeting for workshops, presentation, and in our case we have a dual role person in our Field Secretary for Earthcare. Please ask for her to come to your Meeting or group.

Our next Quaker Earthcare Witness meeting is in April in Chicago.

Please check out the Quaker Earthcare Witness display table. Those items marked as display only usually can be made available on request. Some books can go home with someone at the end of the end of the gathering.

submitted by Brad Stocker  
SEYM and MFM representative to Quaker Earthcare Witness