

From the (Guest) Editor –

Perhaps, some might wonder why I am writing the editor's introduction to this issue. The following *tale* will explain all.

Picture this, Steve Paterwic, all settled down in his cozy home within the shadow of the former Enfield, Connecticut, Shaker community. Preoccupied, as he always is, by Shaker research and writing, he does not, at first, sense that something is missing or amiss. Attentive to the various vibes of the Shaker world for fifty-five years, however, he comes to the realization that the last *ACSQ* issue was dated July, and here we are fast approaching the year 2023. What could have happened? Was this valuable journal following “the way of all flesh” that has claimed other Shaker newspapers, magazines, newsletters, etc.? How could this be true?

A flash of inspiration revealed that Christian and Randy are holed, or more properly held, up in the vaults, wherever they may be, of Hamilton College's special collections, giving their all (as usual) to the completion of the monumental and much anticipated Comprehensive Bibliography of Shaker Literature. Never one to shy away from offering his much-needed Shaker insights, Steve digs into his stack of completed Shaker projects and offers a couple for publication. Thus, the day is saved and two foundational works are sent out into the world of communal studies. Christian and Randy are relieved and are free to polish up the bibliography to the high level of thoroughness that it deserves. Everyone is happy and strains of Shaker songs and the blessings of the Shaker saints add to the mirth as all continue their all-important journey into the Christlife.

Shaker Confrater,

– Stephen J. Paterwic