



FOLTC

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

Winter 2022

FOLTC Officers:

President: Mary Welken

Vice President: [vacant]

Recording Secretary:

Kathy Day

Corresponding Secretary:

Judith Lee

Treasurer: Jim Reynolds

**Friends of the Libraries of
Towns County**

P.O. Box 159

Young Harris, GA 30582

Website: www.foltc.com

Email: foltc22@yahoo.com

**Facebook.com/FriendsOfThe
LibrariesOfTownsCounty**

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PRESIDENT WELKEN’S MESSAGE

It is both a pleasure and privilege to continue to serve as President of the Friends and work with this amazing group of dedicated Friends of TCPL. The funds that the Friends raise through book sales continue to provide for library materials and educational outreach programs that enrich the lives and minds of so many in our communities. Thank you for your continued support of our two bookstores, for your donations, and for your membership.

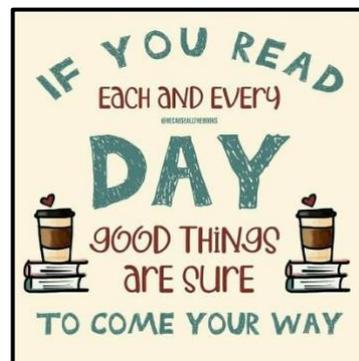
Members are a huge reason the Friends of the Libraries can make such an impact on our communities. Friends provide volunteer hours, financial support, and innovative ideas that the two Towns County Public Libraries need to engage, educate, entertain, and empower. Please continue to renew your membership and to encourage others to join. Please send an email to foltc22@yahoo.com if you’d like to become involved in a more active capacity.

NEW BOARD MEMBER AND RETIRED BOARD MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming **Rose Carter** as a Friend and as our newest FOLTC board member! Rose graciously agreed to replace

Tammy Wells as Chair of the Membership Committee and was elected to the position at the December 2021 annual meeting and election of officers. Rose was born and raised in Forsyth, Georgia, graduated from UGA, and lived most of her adult life in Macon (with brief stays in Alabama, Virginia, and Florida). As a consequence of the pandemic, she decided she wanted to be closer to her family so moved to Young Harris in August 2021. She enjoys reading, gardening, and walking/hiking (perfect activities when one lives in the Enchanted Valley!).

Rose’s career in computer programming makes her a perfect choice for Membership Chair whose duties include maintaining the membership list as a spreadsheet and sending appropriate emails and newsletters to our members. She volunteered with the Friends of the Library in Macon after she retired from Navicent Health in 2018 and has also helped many friends and neighbors with their computers, TVs, and smartphones. During her first week on the job as Membership Chair, she created a new email address for FOLTC and is streamlining other duties to be more efficient for the Friends. Her skills will definitely be put to good use with FOLTC!



It is with deep regret that the resignations of **Doris Tilly** and **Tammy Wells** were accepted by the Board. Doris Tilly is a founding member of FOLTC and served as the first president. If you'd like to read more about her and her efforts to create FOLTC, see the Summer 2021 newsletter on the FOLTC website (www.foltc.com). Tammy served as Membership Chair since joining the Friends in 2013. Her knowledge of the organization and each and every member was insurmountable. Thankfully she plans to remain involved with FOLTC. Thank you, Doris and Tammy, for your generosity and willingness to serve as board members for many years.

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Mountain Regional Library-Young Harris and Towns County Library-Hiawassee will be offering several programs over the next few months.

S.T.E.A.M.ulation Lab, a program providing science, technology, engineering, art, and/or mathematics events will be taking place monthly (once at each branch.) This program is directed toward school age children and younger though adults are welcome to participate! The February event will take place on the 8th at TCPL and the 9th at MRL and will focus on learning about birds and making a pinecone bird feeder.

A series of naturalist programs is also being started this month with the first event planned for Feb. 16th, 2 pm at TCPL, in support of the Great Backyard Bird Count.

Family Bake Off kits are available at both branches while supplies last. The contest runs for the entire month of February and a kit is not required to participate.

A new book club, Page Turners Book Club, is beginning this month as well on Feb. 16th, 1:30, at MRL & Feb. 17th, 4:30, at TCPL.

Last but not least, the libraries are running a raffle this month for a prize containing MRLS gear (keychain, tote bag, etc.) and prizes from local businesses!

We would also like to announce that **Mountain Regional Library System is partnering with Book Bound Bookstore in Blairsville**. Owner Sharon Davis is an enthusiastic supporter of the library as well as a book lover, and MRLS believes in supporting local businesses to help better serve our community. We are doing **One Book One Community** with Donna Everhart's *The Saint of Swallow Hill*. Sharon is bringing Donna Everhart to her store on March 3rd. Please join us there for this great event. We look forward to growing and developing this partnership so we can promote early literacy and a love of reading throughout the counties we serve. For more information and further details, please visit us at either branch, call us, follow us on Facebook or Instagram, or visit our website at mountainlibrary.com. Thank you for all the support making these things possible! Please let us know if you need anything!

BOARD MEMBER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

The Library Book by Susan Orlean

It is about the 1986 Los Angeles Public Library fire - and yet much more than that, crammed with information about libraries and their history, the dedication and passion of librarians, architecture, city laws and rules, homeless people, petty crime, on and on. Susan Orlean is so good that you feel like you're sitting at her kitchen table having a cup of coffee with her while she tells her stories. This is a book which leaves the reader recognizing how very, very little one knows.

The Inextinguishable Symphony by Martin Goldsmith

This is a true story of the author's parents, of music and love in Nazi Germany. Martin Goldsmith was host of NPR's "Performance Today" from 1989 - 1999.

The Wish by Nicholas Sparks

The novel follows Maggie Dawes throughout 2013, the last year of her life. She is a famous photographer diagnosed with terminal cancer, and when a young man named Mark comes to her gallery in search of a job, Maggie finds a confidante in him. She begins to reflect upon and tell her story before it's too late.

Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult

Set in the early months of the coronavirus pandemic, the book is about an ambitious young woman, Diana, who gets stranded on Isabela Island in the Galapagos Island by herself when the island goes on lockdown. Her boyfriend, Finn, who was supposed to be there with her, is busy tending to COVID patients at New York-Presbyterian Hospital. What was originally supposed to be a two-week vacation becomes something quite different, and Diana ends up with time to get to know the island, the locals, and to reflect upon her own life.

NEW BOOKMARKS

Check out the new "Friends Picks" bookmarks in the bookstores inside Mountain Regional Library and Towns County Public Library. Each bookmark lists a wonderful reading recommendation by a FOLTC member, along with the title, author, and personal comments about that specific book. Books endorsed by others can open a new genre or author for us all. You will find blank bookmarks near the red money box in both bookstores, and we encourage you to make your own recommendations. Maybe you'll find your favorite new book!

BOOK BUNCH 'N LUNCH

Everyone is invited to attend FOLTC's Book Bunch 'N Lunch that meets monthly at 11:30 am on the 3rd Wednesday each month at Daniel's Steakhouse in Hiawassee. A "Dutch Treat" lunch is optional. Social distancing is observed.

- **February 16** – Humor - **Dad is Fat** by Jim Gaffigan; Discussion Leader – Tammy Wells
- **March 16** - Open - **Return from Siberia** by John Shallman; Discussion leader – Delores Staton
- **April 20** – Regional Author - **The Year the Lights Came On** by Terry Kay; Discussion leader – Barbara Hale
- **May 18** – A Mystery - **The Husband's Secret** by Liane Moriarty; Discussion Leader – Linda Robinson



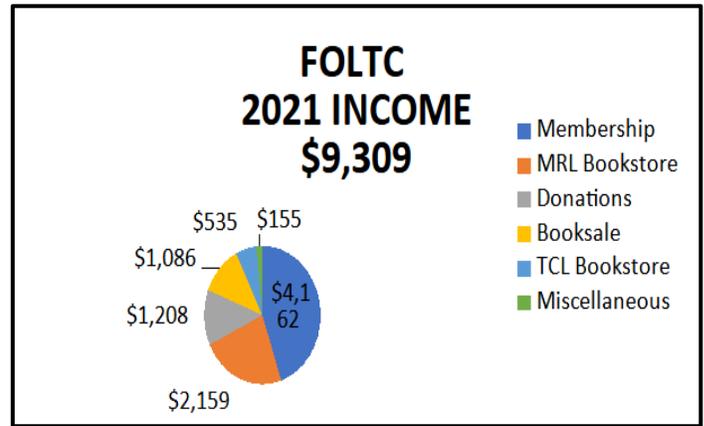
TITLE

AUTHOR

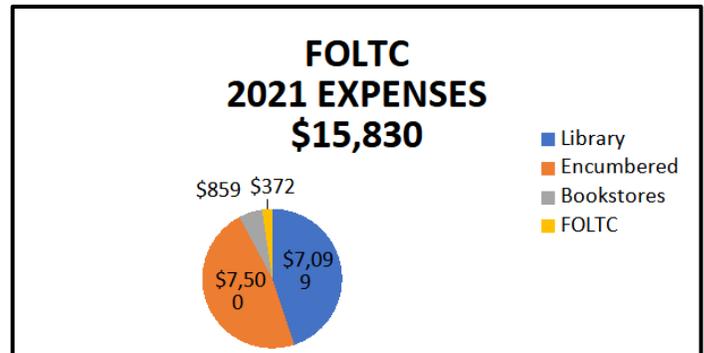
COMMENTS

RECOMMENDED
BY

Thanks to the generous support of all the Friends of the Libraries of Towns County members and the local communities, we were able to meet all the requests of our two libraries. Income for the year totaled \$9,309. As can be seen in the chart at the right, the majority of that money came from membership dues and book sales at both libraries. Towns County Library sales were low due to the fact we only started selling books there mid-year.



The 2021 Expenses were \$15,830 dollars. As can be seen in the chart at the right, the majority of those expenses were in direct support of the libraries. The \$7,133 allocation to the libraries were for books and various programs put on by them throughout the year. The Encumbered funds are to cover 2022 expenses for the same items in 2021. From our reserve funds of previous years, those encumbered funds are covered.



FOLTC

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Branch Manager
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FOLTC MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Friends of the Libraries of Towns County is to provide financial support for Mountain Regional Library and Towns County Public Library and to advocate for public libraries. FOLTC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

FOLTC MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

Date_____

Name_____

Street_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone #_____

Email_____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE New Member_____ Renewal_____ Gift/Other _____

Individual \$12_____ Family \$24_____ Sponsor \$30_____ Donor \$50_____ Patron \$100_____

Gift \$_____

Business Member \$35_____ Business Donor \$50_____ Business Patron \$100_____

PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP DUES is for one year of membership; renewal is the anniversary of your joining date. Membership dues and gifts are tax deductible as FOLTC is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. **Business Members** will receive a thank you letter. **Business Donors** will receive a letter and a framed certificate of appreciation. **Business Patrons** will receive a letter, a certificate, and a copy of their business card included for one year in the FOLTC newsletter which is published quarterly and distributed by email or mail to all members. **Make checks payable to FOLTC.** Membership forms and payments may be placed in the red money boxes in the Friends bookstores in Towns County Public Library in Hiawassee or Mountain Regional Library in Young Harris, or mailed to FOLTC, P O Box 159, Young Harris GA 30582.

