



FOLTC

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

Summer 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**

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Email: foltc22@yahoo.com

**Facebook.com/FriendsOfThe
LibrariesOfTownsCounty**

“Like Us” on Facebook

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

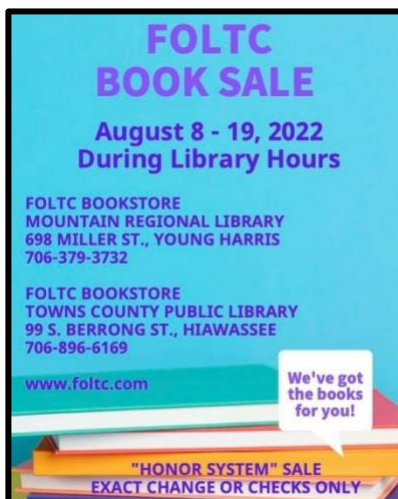
These warm days of summer are perfect for reading books from TCPL, MRL, or the two FOLTC Bookstores located within the libraries. At both bookstore locations during library hours from August 8 to August 19, FOLTC will be holding our major **BOOK SALE** for 2022. Thank you for your generous book donations so we could have this sale.

Typically Friends of the Library groups have one main function: raising money for the library. So besides our bookstore sales, our other way to raise money is to encourage individuals to sign up to be a Friend of the Library which involves an annual membership fee.

The money collected from membership goes toward the operation of the group and, more significantly, the libraries. Those funds might be used to help support library programs like supplying materials or paying speakers' fees, to provide refreshments at programs, or, in some cases, to boost the spending budget for books, DVDs, and other library materials.

Please consider joining FOLTC to help support our local libraries. Thank you to those who continue to renew membership and to those who shop in our two FOLTC bookstores.

“HONOR SYSTEM” BOOK SALE AUGUST 8TH – 19TH AT BOTH LIBRARIES!



Shop early for best selections.

Shop often to have plenty to read or give to friends.

Save because we have great prices!

Bring your friends so they can shop while supporting the Towns County Libraries.

Bring exact amount or pay by check by placing money in the red money boxes at each library. Change cannot be provided.

Sale during normal library hours:

Mountain Regional Library, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays
9:00 – 5:00

Towns County Public Library, Tuesdays through Fridays,
10:00 – 6:00

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Your libraries stay busy creating fun events plus keeping their buildings ready for everyone's use.

In June, they had 9 programs with over 718 attendees. Summer Reading allowed them to work with the community and local businesses. They had two educational programs from Smithgall Woods, located in Helen, GA. The petting zoo event was always a big hit! Our libraries are fortunate to have Wildlife Wonders located in Cleveland, GA with which to work.

Chill & Fill, located in Blairsville, was a part of two events and everyone loved the free snow cones. Touch a Truck event is something they hope to celebrate annually. Thanks to the help of Tyler Keyes, there was a fire truck, ambulance, police cars, and more available for kids to see and experience. This was a wonderful opportunity for children to see who the helpers in their community are without being in a moment of crisis.



Our STEAM-ulation Lab events continued to delight kids! In May there was a mythical creature hunt at both libraries. It was a variation of their Leprechaun Hunt in March. These small activities get kids in the libraries, walking around, and finding new spaces and hopefully new books. May was also the Fantasy Golf Course build. Kids took home kits to make a golf hole, and we assembled all of them to create a golf course! All the entries were very creative, and the attendance was great. One of the SRP events was a whole science day- everyone had a blast with Mentos and Diet Coke!

All the library staff's programs and events are greatly helped by community support. Whole families attended our summer programs this year. It was exciting and reaffirming to see more people attending events and coming into the libraries.

Mountain Regional Library-Young Harris and Towns County Library-Hiawassee will be offering several programs over the next few months. August is a planning month for the libraries as they wind down from the Summer Reading Program. One focus for fall will be monthly cultural celebrations with food and crafts! September will be an Asian Mid-Autumn festival, and in October we'll celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. When dates and activities are finalized, the details will be posted on our Facebook page and website. Stay tuned and get ready for your children to have more library fun! www.mountainlibrary.com.

Pictured below: Attendees enjoying a free shaved ice provided by Chill & Fill.



FOLTC BOARD MEMBER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

We Are Inevitable by Gayle Forman

So far, the inevitable hasn't worked out so well for Aaron Stein. While his friends have gone to college and moved on with their lives, Aaron's been left behind in the Cascade Mountains of Washington State, running a failing bookshop with his dad, Ira. What he needs is a lucky break, the good kind of inevitable. And then he meets Hannah. Incredible Hannah – magical, musical, brave and clever. Could she be the answer?

The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles

In June, 1954, eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the work farm where he has just served a year for involuntary manslaughter. His mother long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank, Emmett's intention is to pick up his eight-year-old brother and head west where they can start their lives anew. But when the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two friends from the work farm have hidden themselves in the trunk of the warden's car. Together, they have hatched an altogether different plan for Emmett's future.

The Last Thing He Told Me by Laura Dave

In this novel, Hannah Michaels finds out that her husband Owen is being investigated for a crime and has now gone missing. She's left alone with her 16-year-old stepdaughter, Bailey, who dislikes her. Together the two must work together to figure out the truth behind Owen's disappearance. This will lead them down a path that reveals old family secrets and tests Hannah and Bailey's relationship.

The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah

This novel is a survival story about resilience, family, courage, and the American Dream during the Great Depression. The central character, Elsa Wolcott, is a woman trying to raise two children on a farm in the Great Plains during the Dust Bowl following the Great Depression. She watches as the lands around her crack in their parched state and the hopelessness that threatens to break the spirit of those around her. As the situation worsens, Elsa is forced to make a decision to stay and fight or leave for the uncertain and unfamiliar lands in the West.

FRIENDS PICK BOOKMARKS

FOLTC members encourage you to recommend the book you read and liked. Use “Friends Picks” bookmarks in the bookstores, inside both Towns County libraries, to list your recommendation with the title, author, and personal comments about that book. Books endorsed by others might open a new genre or author for others.

You will find blank bookmarks near the red money box in both bookstores. Maybe you’ll find your favorite new book after reading another’s recommendation!

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.

- **August 17th – Open**
A Plot: A Novel by Jean Hanff Korelitz
Discussion Leader – Jo Hubbard
- **September 21st – Open**
The Four Winds: A Novel by Kristin Hannah
Discussion Leader – Lorene Avery
- **October 19th – Non-Fiction**
The Feather Thief: Beauty, Obsession, and the Natural History Heist of the Century by Kirk Wallace Johnson
Discussion Leader – Tammy Wells
- **November 16th – Biography / Memoir**
And the Answer Is ...: Reflections on My Life by Alex Trebek
Discussion Leader – Barbara Hale
- **December—No meeting this month.**



TITLE

AUTHOR

COMMENTS

RECOMMENDED
BY

FOLTC 2021 YEAR END TREASURER’S REPORT

Your generous support by the Friends of the Libraries of Towns County members and the local community’s support made it possible for FOLTC to meet all the requests from our two libraries. We continually strive to work toward meeting future requests from our libraries so that children and adults can enjoy all they have to offer. Thank you for becoming a member and supporting our book sales/bookstores. We encourage you to ask neighbors and friends to become members. Every dollar has a huge impact on our communities. The membership form is on the last page of this newsletter.



FOLTC recently donated \$5,000 to be shared between the two Towns County libraries for books and supplies. This is to help offset any FY2023 budget shortfalls. This money is in addition to the yearly \$5,000 Matching Grant by the Towns County Commissioner. FOLTC has met the \$5,000 grant challenge for years.

FOLTC was able to contribute this funding because of your supporting our two bookstores, your memberships, book donations for sales, and your other cash donations.

[Pictured left to right are: Marlene Cannon, Branch Manager; Mary Welken, President of FOLTC; Jim Reynolds, Treasurer of FOLTC; and Heath Lee, MRLS Library Director.]

SPECIAL FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY (4/30/2022)

PATRONS (Donated \$100+)

Grace A. Andrews
 Marilyn K. Brown
 Betty & Clay Dotson
 Barbara Hale
 Bruce & Elaine Roberts
 Doris Tilly

Barbara & Bob Bone
Coca Cola Foundation
 Gary & Linda Dye
H&H Tradesmen
 Jim & Trish Reynolds
 Mary & David Welken

Dancu Foundation
 Bill & Kathy Day
 Mary & James Edwards
Peach State FCU
 ED & DR Staton

DONORS (Donated \$50+)

Suzanne Adelmann
 Suzanne Carter
 Susan Maguire
 Deborah Reynolds
 John & Jill Seymour
 Mary Miller

Sandra & Robert Alden
 Diana Gutenstein
 Darlene & Herb Pilcher
 Richard & Elizabeth Reynolds
 Elaine & Gene Vickers

Dick & Marcia Aunspaugh
 Pam & Carol Higginbotham
 M.O. & F.M. Proctor
 Bruce & Elaine Roberts
 James & Linda Worl

SPONSOR (\$30+) AND BUSINESS SPONSORS (\$35+)

Jane Farrell
Julia Giller

Alvin & Sybil Fickle
Lance & Virginia Jobson

Gretchen Howell
David & LaJean Turner

PATRON LEVEL BUSINESS DONOR (\$100+ level):



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.

When you invite your friends to become a Friend of the Libraries of Towns County, our children are the big winners.

Let’s work together and increase our membership in 2022 & 2023.