



FOLTC

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

FALL 2023

FOLTC Officers:

President: Mary Welken

Vice President: Rose Mary Crook

Recording Secretary:

Kathy Day

Corresponding Secretary

Judith Lee

Treasurer: Jim Reynolds

**Friends of the Libraries of
Towns County**

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**Facebook.com/FriendsOfThe
LibrariesOfTownsCounty**

“Like Us” on Facebook

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

What a gorgeous Fall! I absolutely love the vivid colors, the crisp mountain air, and reading a book purchased at the FOLTC bookstore.

This past month FOLTC had an amazing bake sale. Thanks to all of you who baked, volunteered, and bought baked goodies. Your efforts are heartily appreciated!

October 15-21 was National Friends of Libraries Week. Phil Morehart, in his article on www.ilovelibraries.org, stated, “Since the beginning of the American library movement, Friends groups have been formed by citizens using their collective powers to do everything from running a book sale to ensuring that our American library legacy remains viable. By contributing as a member of a Friends group, you can make a lasting difference for your library and community.”

Thank you for your continued support of the Towns County libraries through your FOLTC membership. Please encourage others to join as the money raised through membership dues are used to buy additional books and fund programs that are not a part of the libraries’ budget.

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The annual meeting and election of officers will be held on Tuesday, December 12th, 1:00 pm, at Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris. Each active member of FOLTC is entitled to one vote; family memberships shall have no more than two votes. It would be great if all members would attend and participate in this important election/meeting. Refreshments will be served! Please join us.

RECOMMENDED READING

Fourth Wing by Rebecca Yarros

This novel is a fantasy-romance that takes place in the mystical world of Navarre with a backdrop of Basgiath War College, a school that trains dragon riders, fighters, healers, and scribes.

The Dearly Beloved by Cara Wall

This debut novel is a beautifully told story about four very different characters whose lives become intertwined. Each of the four navigates difficult questions of friendships and relationships as they grow older.

Run, Rose, Run by Dolly Parton and James Patterson

In this collaborative novel, an aspiring country singer named Annie Lee moves to Nashville, trying to shake a dark past and make it big in the music industry.

Seven Sisters by Lucinda Riley (series of 8 books)

This series of books weaves together elements of mystery, romance, and historical fiction. Each book follows the life of one of seven adopted sisters, each named after a star in the Pleiades constellation.

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Towns County libraries had a busy fall season! You may have seen us out in the community at several back-to-school events and at Porchfest in Young Harris. Weekly programming included Storytime with Meredith, Kids Club at Young Harris, and Baby/Toddler Programs at both branches. We also hosted 4 well-attended evening



adult programs: Ghost Towns, Mary Shelley, Stranger Things Trivia, and Breaking Form, a writing workshop, plus very successful blood drives at both branches. We have had several events including: Boo Bash and Trick or Treat at both branches, Mid-Autumn Festival and the Salsa Exchange in Hiawassee, and the Helping the Birds project which began recently at Young Harris.



Mark your calendars for these fun upcoming events:

Bingo at Towns County
The Grinch Visits Young Harris
Cookies with the Grinch
Santa Visits Young Harris
Elves Workshop at Young Harris
Young Adult New Year's Crafts at Young Harris

November 29th, 2:00
December 12th, 3:30
December 19th, 11:00 – 2:00
December 20th, 11:00 -1 :00
December 21st, 1:00 – 3:00
December 28th, 1:00 -3:00

BAKE SALE RETURNS AFTER 4 YEARS!

After four long years, the Friends decided to host a one-day bake sale at Mountain Regional Library on October 19th. It turned out to be a very successful endeavor, with a total of close to \$1,200 raised. These funds will be divided between Mountain Regional Library and Towns County Public Library. Library managers Ann Lewis (MRL) and Kevin Kirby (TCPL) will be able to request these funds from FOLTC to be used for such things as books and other library materials and adult and children's programming. The mission of FOLTC is to support our libraries, and this is one of the ways FOLTC raises funds to accomplish this mission.



The bake sale would not have been possible without the efforts of FOLTC board members, members of the Friends, and others who volunteered to bake goodies and help with the sale. There was a total of 29 people who spent hours baking goodies such as cookies, scones, cakes, pies, brownies, cobblers, muffins, breads, and other

delicious items. Thirteen people helped with setting up the sale and pricing the multitude of items, accepting payment, restocking the tables, and cleaning up after the sale. They all deserve many thanks for their tremendous efforts on behalf of our two libraries. Of course, thanks go to the many people who attended and purchased all of this delicious food. Shoppers were essential to this endeavor!



Many local businesses and city governments were instrumental in providing publicity for the event. Thanks go to the Towns County Herald; Robert Harford, FOLTC webmaster; Towns and Union Chambers of Commerce; United Community Bank (Hiawassee); WJUL/WJRB radio stations; cities of Young Harris and Hiawassee; Mountain Graphics; Friends of Union County Library; Peach State Federal Credit Union; North Georgia News; and Clay County Progress. If any other participating businesses were not listed, please forgive the oversight. Publicity is essential to a successful event!

The Friends look forward to seeing you, our members, at our next fundraising event!

VFW MAKES DONATION

Every dollar donated helps the libraries of Towns County. John Whalen, from local VFW #7808, surprised FOLTC's Suzanne Carter with a generous donation during our Bake Sale.



SPECIAL FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY (10/25/2023)

PATRONS (Donated \$100+)

**Associated Fire Wholesale,
LLC**

Marilyn K. Brown
Mary & James Edwards

H&H Tradesmen

Deborah Reynolds
Doris Tilly

Barbara & Bob Bone

Coca Cola Foundation

Gary & Linda Dye
Leon & Judith Lee
Jim & Trish Reynolds
Mary & Dave Welken

John Bowen

Bill & Kathy Day
David & Joyce Geiger
Peach State FCU
Sven's Counseling

DONORS (Donated \$50+)

Dorothy Beck
Diane Lesko
Martha Rollinson

Maureen & Ted Gustafson
Herb & Darlene Pilcher
Lajeane & Noel Turner

Elaine & Bruce Roberts

SPONSORS (Donated \$30+)

John Carawan
Roberta Rankin

Jane Farrell

Julia Giller

BUSINESS PATRONS (\$100+)



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, area children are the big winners!

Let's work together and increase our membership in 2024!