



FOLTC

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

FALL 2024

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**

P.O. Box 159

Young Harris, GA 30582

Website: www.foltc.com

Email: foltc22@yahoo.com

**Facebook.com/FriendsOfThe
LibrariesOfTownsCounty**

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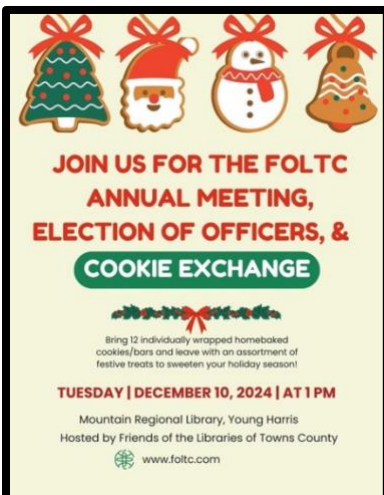
PRESIDENT WELKEN’S MESSAGE

What wonderful Fall weather we are having! I find this is the best time of the year to sit on the porch reading and enjoying all the gorgeous colors. There are fantastic books available at our public libraries and in the two FOLTC bookstores.

Hopefully you have been able to check out the FOLTC bookstores after our sale in August as the shelves have been restocked with new books, puzzles, and audiobooks. Through your purchases and membership, FOLTC continues to be able to support programming at both of the libraries.

Please plan to attend the next Board meeting on December 10th at 1:00 at Mountain Regional Library in Young Harris for our annual meeting where officers will be elected. A cookie/bar exchange is being planned, along with treats. More information will be emailed out and posters for this meeting will be in each bookstore. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact foltc22@yahoo.com. Thank you again for your continued support of our libraries through your membership and bookstore purchases.

ANNUAL MEETING, COOKIE EXCHANGE, and ELECTION OF OFFICERS



Every December the Friends have an annual meeting of ALL members and an election of officers. We would love for you to join us on Tuesday, December 10th, 1:00, at Mountain Regional Library for this gathering. This year we are having a cookie/bar exchange to sweeten the deal! Please bring a dozen individually wrapped cookies or bars for the exchange. You will be able to choose 12 cookies/bars to take home with you. Also please bring some extra cookies to be enjoyed with the group during the meeting. FOLTC will provide hot apple cider and bottled water. We hope to see you on December 10th at 1:00! All FOLTC members are eligible to vote in the election of officers.

FOLTC DONATES BOOKS AFTER HURRICANE HELENE

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, Young Harris College organizations partnered with Coalition for Kids and Appalachian Association for Children's Early Development to provide books and toys for children in western NC and eastern TN who were affected by the hurricane. Friends of the Libraries of Towns County donated books for this worthwhile drive to help our young neighbors during this devastating time in their lives. Thanks, Dick and Marcia Aunspaugh, for providing FOLTC the opportunity to participate in this book and toy drive for the young people affected by Hurricane Helene!

HAPPENINGS AT YOUR LIBRARY

This fall has been a busy couple of months for us here at TCPL. We have brought back Bingo on Friday at 2:00 pm once a month with prizes coming from the FOLTC bookstore! Please check with our staff for complete details. We also started a new children's program, Crafternoon, where kids can come in and make a craft every Wednesday at 3:30! So far it has developed into a rather consistent group, and we continue to see new faces as well!

As many of you know already, we had planned to have a large Fall Festival on the square in September, but due to unprecedented weather conditions we elected to cancel the event. We did, however, take many of the things we had planned and rolled them into our Halloween Carnival at the library! The carnival was a wonderful success with nearly a tripling of attendance from last year's event! We gave away over 40 books which were purchased using FOLTC funding to the children! Also in October we staffed a booth at the Fairground's trick or treat event. Along with library staff and a few FOLTC volunteers, we gave out coupons for free books to the first 200 children to trick or treat with us and candy and popcorn to 4,000 trick or treaters and their families.



With October coming to a close and the holiday season looming, we have begun to look toward Thanksgiving and Christmas. We have launched a Baking Competition Take and Make for November with funding provided by FOLTC. During this program, patrons will be able to stop by the library and get a baking kit while supplies last. Patrons can bake whatever they would like (with or without a kit) as long as it is Thanksgiving themed. Pictures of the completed baked goods are due by Nov. 27th, and we will post them as a Facebook vote. Later this season, FOLTC is going to be integral in supporting our Cookies with the Grinch event in December where we hope to get books in the hands of children in time for the holiday break.

Be sure to come by and see us this fall and as always, keep reading!

PEACH STATE FCU AWARDS \$1,500 GRANT TO TOWNS COUNTY LIBRARIES

Friends of the Libraries of Towns County (FOLTC) is the proud recipient of a \$1,500 grant from Peach State Federal Credit Union to be issued over a three-year period. It will be shared equally between Mountain Regional Library and Towns County Public Library. The previous grant (\$500 per year from 2019-2023) was used to provide supplemental funding for the annual children's summer reading programs and for other programs offered to children and adults in Towns County. This current grant will be used for similar activities for our communities.

Peach State FCU cares about the people in their communities and contributes funds in support of education and other opportunities that promote learning. FOLTC is fortunate to benefit from PSFCU's foundation, which in turn allows the Friends to provide support for our libraries and the children and adults in our communities.



Mountain Regional Library, Young Harris, and Towns County Public Library, Hiawassee, are branches of the Mountain Regional Library System, which maintains and operates four public libraries in Fannin, Towns, and Union counties.

(L-R): Rose Carter, FOLTC Board; Suzanne Carter, FOLTC Board; Scott Roland, PSFCU Reg. Business Executive; Kathy Day, FOLTC Board; Nicole Bradshaw, PSFCU Branch Manager; Ann Lewis, MRL Branch Manager

BOARD'S BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Across the Winding River by Aimie K. Runyan

In this historically accurate family drama, a woman unlocks the mystery of her father's wartime past in a moving novel about secrets, sacrifice, and the power of love.

The Waiting by Michael Connelly

LAPD Detective Renée Ballard tracks a terrifying serial rapist whose trail has gone cold, with the help of the newest volunteer to the Open-Unsolved Unit: Patrol Officer Maddie Bosch, Harry's daughter.

We Solve Murders by Richard Osman

A private security officer and the famous novelist in her charge are pursued around the world by a killer in the first book in Osman's new series.

Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books by Kirsten Miller

Kirsten Miller, author of *The Change*, writes a wildly entertaining satire about a small Southern town, a pitched battle over banned books, and a little lending library that changes everything.

Paris Novel by Ruth Reichl

Food writer Ruth Reichl's new book is a coming-of-age story full of the author's favorite things: Art, fashion, literature, and 1980's Paris.

NOVEMBER BOOK BUNCH TITLE

FOLTC's Book Bunch meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 11:30 at Towns County Public Library in Hiawassee. Feel free to bring your own snacks or lunch to enjoy during the discussion. There will be no meeting in December. The 2025 list of titles will soon be available on FOLTC's website at www.foltc.com.

November 20th's title is When Time Stopped: A Memoir of My Father's War and What Remains by Ariana Neumann. The discussion will be led by Kim Brown.

Now is the perfect time to renew your membership or to become a member of FOLTC.

SPECIAL FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY (2024)

PATRONS (Donated \$100+)

Grace Andrews
Marilyn K. Brown
Bill & Kathy Day
Mary & James Edwards
Leon & Judith Lee
Jim & Trish Reynolds
Doris Tilly

Barbara & Bob Bone
Coca Cola Foundation
Betty Dodson
David & Joyce Geiger
Peach State FCU
Jo & Walton Sineath
Mary & Dave Welkin

John Bowen
Anna Dancu
Gary & Linda Dye
H&H Tradesmen
Deborah Reynolds
EE & DBR Staton

DONORS (Donated \$50+)

Alvin & Sybil Fickle

Herb & Darlene Pilcher

Bruce & Elaine Roberts

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

Jane Farrell

James & Sandra Hazen

Charles & Megan Hume

Theodore & Maureen Gustafson

BUSINESS PATRONS (\$100)



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THOUGHTS ON FOLTC MEMBERSHIP

Whether you are renewing your membership or joining for the first time, we encourage you to ask your friends and neighbors to join with you. For less than a Starbucks coffee, sandwich, or soft drink a month, you could support the area kids through support of the local libraries. The library staff work diligently to promote reading, make the libraries inviting, and create interesting and educational programs for all. Joining is easy. All dues go to our libraries. The library staff continues to work toward expanding all they do for our area children and adults who use the libraries. Please consider joining FOLTC and join the literacy promotion at our libraries. A membership form is included on the last page of this newsletter. We thank you in advance.

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 corporation.

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,
the area children are the big winners!*

Let's work together and increase our membership in 2025.