



# Friends of Union County Library (FOUCL)

## Friends Communicator

### Officers

President:  
Jackie Volk  
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Vice President:

Past President:  
Judy Baldwin

Secretary:  
Nancy Bryant

Treasurer:  
Sally Woodworth

Newsletter Editor:  
Connie Rosenberry  
granberry2@hotmail.com

Webmaster:  
Robert Harford



Friends Of Union County  
Library (FOUCL)  
P.O. Box 1546  
Blairsville, GA 30514  
foucl.org

## From the President

Greetings Fellow FOUCL Members,

In July, I was hopeful we were past the worst of the pandemic, but by September Union County was once again seeing increased numbers of cases and all of us were asked to help prevent the spread. I solicited opinions from the leadership of FOUCL about how to proceed. Reluctantly, the majority felt it was safest to cancel the Everything Christmas Sale and the Christmas Luncheon. At our October meeting, it was decided to make the change to a November Bakeless Bake Sale. It is disappointing to have to cancel our best fundraisers, again, but this was the right decision for now.

Although FOUCL cannot forgo fundraisers forever, nor do we want to, be proud that FOUCL has been able to continue giving regular donations to Union County Public Library and to FerstReaders in 2020 and 2021. Your membership dues and generous donations (including quarterly contributions from AmazonSmile member purchases) have kept us on track and out of the red.

During our October meeting, a slate of officers for 2022 was presented and will be voted on at our November 17 meeting. Nominations will be accepted at that time for any others wishing to run for any of these offices. The current slate is: Jackie Volk, President; Nancy Bryant, Recording Secretary; Sally Woodworth, Treasurer. The office of Vice President remains open. This is a crucial position to fill for the future of our organization. A VP in 2022 would be able to confidently step in as President in 2023. Are you the one we're looking for?

At our November meeting, we will also brainstorm ideas about what FOUCL wants to accomplish in 2022 and how to reach those goals. Please share your ideas with us by attending that meeting or by emailing them to us at [friendsofthelibrary@windstream.net](mailto:friendsofthelibrary@windstream.net).

Thank you for all you do to help us support Union County Public Library.

Jackie Volk



Jackie Volk, President

## Calendar



November  
Quarterly newsletter  
Emailed to members

November 1-30  
Bakeless Bake Sale

November 17  
FOUCL membership meeting  
Election of Officers and Planning  
2022  
*Community Room*

Jan 19, 2022 2:00pm  
Quarterly membership meeting  
*Community Room*

February 2022  
1st Quarterly newsletter Emailed  
to members

All meetings open to members.

All programs open to the public.



Nov. 24-26  
Library closed for  
Thanksgiving

Dec. 22-25  
Library closed for Christmas

Dec. 31-Jan. 1  
Library closed for New  
Year's

## What's Happening!

### Thanksgiving Bakeless Bake Sale November 1-30



Members are asked to join FOUCI President Jackie Volk by putting away your baking utensils and turning off your ovens. We will have another November Bakeless Bake Sale. No fuss, no bother. Just donate money. Funds raised from this sale will go towards the purchase of children's books for the library.

Please contribute generously, using what you might have spent on ingredients or purchases as your guide. Checks can be made out to FOUCI with Bakeless Bake Sale on the "For" line or giving cash is fine. Drop your donations off at the Union County Public Library circulation desk or mail to: FOUCI; PO Box 1546; Blairsville, GA 30514. It is also possible to donate through the link to PayPal on our website at FOUCI.org. And thanks, once again, for seeing us through this uniquely difficult time. We hope to have a real bake sale again in May of 2022!



## CANCELLED

**Everything Christmas Sale November 5 and 6**

Please continue to save items for donation in 2022. This sale will return when it is safe to do so.

## Librarian's Spotlight!

I hope everyone is having a happy fall. We are truly thankful for FOUCL's continued support during these uncertain times. We are also thankful that the library is slowly moving toward "normal." Each week brings new changes and lessening restrictions. We hope everyone will remain safe and healthy during the holidays and restrictions can remain low.



*Susie Brendle, Librarian*

Even when in-person programs were limited, we have continued to plan programs for our youth and adults. One such program was our Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Several juveniles, teens and adults participated. Library patrons voted during the week of October 25<sup>th</sup>. Their participation was tremendous. The winner in each category received a 1<sup>st</sup> place ribbon and a Walmart gift card.

We recently purchased 33 adult books using funds donated by FOUCL in August. Most of these books were wish list requests or replacement books in areas of need. We are working on another order for our youth collection in areas where we are missing books in certain series. FOUCL's November donation to the library will be instrumental in purchasing them.

Please let us know if you have any questions about programs, purchasing, or any other area of library procedures. Have a happy Thanksgiving!



Adult Pumpkin Contest  
Winner—Wendy



Juvenile Pumpkin  
Contest Winner—Lilah



Teen Pumpkin Contest  
Winner—Allison



### Union County Public Library Hours:

9:00 to 5:00 Mon, Wed, Fri

9:00 to 6:00 Tues, Thurs

10:00 to 2:00 Sat

Closed Sunday

UCPL Telephone: 706-745-7491

# Friends In Action

## FOUCL Members Turn Plans into Action at a Membership Meeting



L. to R.: Katherine Lavery, Lee Cromwell listen as Librarian Susie Brindle makes her report.



Treasurer Sally Woodworth discusses a budget item.



New member, Lee Cromwell, has fresh ideas to offer.



L to R; Members Katherine Lavery, Lee Cromwell, Judy Baldwin, Roslyn Wise, Newsletter Editor-Connie Rosenberry, Webmaster-Robert Harford, Treasurer-Sally Woodworth, Secretary-Nancy Bryant



President Jackie Volk covers the agenda as Secretary Nancy Bryant takes notes.



Adult Contest Entries

### Teen Contest Entries



Pumpkin Contest entries and a Jack-o'-lantern scarecrow bring Fall into the library.



Juvenile Contest Entries



# Owliver's Friends



## What We Do

Through your membership and donations, FOUCL's activities support your local library by providing materials and activities not otherwise available through local funding.

## National Friends of Libraries Week

Board members keep things running smoothly, but it is the ones who show up to help during an event that keep things running! That's you!

FOUCL recognized our members' efforts during National Friends of Libraries Week, October 17-23, with an article in the *North Georgia News*. This is the 16<sup>th</sup> year that United for Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, has spearheaded this time of special recognition. Thank you for being good Friends to our great library.

Every great library needs good friends 

## Who's Owliver?

Owliver is the Friends of Union County Library Mascot. He was named by Friends members many years ago through a naming contest.

This Wise Old Owl knows ...

Books are where you can find anything.

Books provide entertainment.

Books have the answers to questions.

Books take you places you may never have a chance to visit.

Books open your imagination.

Books make children lifelong learners.

Books challenge us to be better people, develop compassion, and open our minds.



## Robert Harford: Webmaster

When Robert Harford joined FOUCL he offered to bring us into the digital age by creating a FOUCL webpage. Robert monitors it and keeps it up-to-date and keeps us informed on its usage. At our recent membership meeting he presented graphs showing the usage our webpage receives. Of



particular interest was the statistic that showed viewers are spending more time perusing specific pages when logged on. This shows that viewers are less likely to visit the website out of curiosity, but come with the intention of finding specific information.

In gratitude for all of the time Robert has spent managing the site, FOUCL President Jackie Volk presented Webmaster Robert Harford with a hat embroidered with the FOUCL emblem.



Friends of Union County Library gratefully acknowledges a gift given to us in memory of James Steven Howell, who died May 27, 2021. Steven was the husband of past Mountain Regional Library System Director Donna Howell.

# More About...

## FOUCL Celebrates it's 25th Anniversary



Founded in 1996, the Friends of Union County Library (FOUCL) is celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> year. Below is our history.

All events took place during our inaugural year, 1996:

- April 23 - Pattie Hamilton and Judith Vaughn met with Teresa Haymore, Director of Mountain Regional Libraries, to gather information about forming a friend of the library group.
- April 27 - Application was made for membership in Friends of Libraries USA
- April 29 - Pattie and Judy met with Wilma Ash, librarian of Union County Public Library, to discuss formation of the Friends group. Pattie and Judy began work on Articles of Incorporation and an application for 501(c)(3) nonprofit status with the IRS.
- May 21- Eight members of the community met to begin organizing Friends. The WHO, WHAT, and HOW of the organization were discussed.
- June 4 - The second organizational meeting was held. Drafting by-laws and a membership application were set as immediate goals. "Friends of Union County Library" was selected as a group name.
- June 18 - The third organizational meeting was held. A set of by-laws drafted by Judy wss presented.
- July 2 - The fourth organizational meeting was held. The by-laws were approved. A draft of a membership application was reviewed and revised.
- July 16 - The fifth and final organizational meeting was held. The membership application was approved. Pattie Hamilton agreed to serve as president, Florence Blumberg as vice president, and Judy Vaughn as treasurer and acting secretary. The third Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. was set as the monthly meeting day and time.
- July 19 - A checking account was opened at Union County Bank. The initial membership number was five: Florence and Peter Blumberg, Cathy Fiser, Pattie Hamilton, Virginia Jordan, and Judith Vaughn.

FOUCL has continued as a strong advocate for Union County Public Library just as these founding members envisioned it. Today we are thankful for the foresight, vision, and work in creating FOUCL. Much has changed over the past 25 years, but our commitment to Union County Public Library remains strong.

The Friends Communicator is published 4 times a year, following the Quarterly Membership Meetings.  
The publication dates are February, May, August and November.