



### **FOUCL Celebrates 25 Years**

In 2021, the Friends of Union County Library (FOUCL) are celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> year. Below is a brief history highlighting our founding members and detailing the process that created our organization.

All events took place during the founding year of 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. Refreshments were provided.

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 were 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 is thankful for these founding members and their work in creating FOUCL. Much has changed over the past 25 years, but our commitment to Union County Public Library remains strong.

We are currently in the planning stages for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Everything Christmas Sale to be held on Friday, November 4, and Saturday, November 5, in the Community Room at Union County Public Library. We will begin accepting donations of gently used Christmas-related items beginning in October. FOUCL members will be ready to assist you on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 AM until Noon or items can be dropped in the special Everything Christmas box located outside the Friends Room to your left as you enter the library.