

Friends of Union County Library Quarterly Donation



UCPL Branch Librarian Susie Brendle and FOUCL President Jackie Volk

Friends of Union County Library (FOUCL) were pleased to recently present Union County Public Library (UCPL) with our 2023 first quarter contribution of \$1,200. This money will be used to offset Summer Reading Program (SRP) supply and entertainer expenses. The summer is a busy time for our library with record numbers of participants registered in the SRP last year and a hope for even more this year.

In FOUCL's August 2022 newsletter, Susie Brendle had this to say about 2022's SRP: "Our hugely successful Summer Reading Program has come to an end. We had 237 juveniles, teens, and adults register for the Summer Reading Program and 31 of them read over 100 books qualifying to be named "Super Readers". At each SRP event, FOUCL volunteers helped with sign in and documenting attendance for our prize drawings at the finale. This summer's registration was greater than registration over the last 20 years."

In February, and sometimes even earlier, the library staff begin their SRP plans. This summer's theme is All Together Now. Expect, once again, great entertainers and special events for children and young adults. In addition, there will be more programs geared toward adults. Look for lots more information as we get closer to summer and plan to spend some time at the library during the summer months!

The photo here includes FOUCL's mascot – Owl-iver. He has a special place on the wall (in a tree) in the children and young adult section of our library, and he is an important part of FOUCL's identity. He was named by Friends' members many years ago through a naming contest. It is said that 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.

Just like this year's SRP theme - All Together Now - we know that together FOUCL members make a big difference and Owl-iver has a long tradition of reminding everyone by saying, "Give a Hoot – Join Us!"



**Advocating for Libraries,
Literacy, and Lifelong Learning**