



FOLTC

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

FALL 2022

FOLTC Officers:

President: Mary Welken

Vice President: [vacant]

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**

“Like Us” on Facebook

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

What a gorgeous fall we are having in the North Georgia Mountains! I love sitting out on my porch and reading the books I purchased at our recent FOLTC book sale. Thank you to all who helped with the setting up of the sale and to those who donated such wonderful books so our Friends group can continue to support both of our libraries in Towns County.

Recently I read an article from the American Library Association which explained how libraries benefit from Friends groups. It stated that Friends extend a library's capacity through dollar gifts, volunteer program support, continued membership, and through advocacy. As a member of FOLTC, you are making a difference for our libraries. Thank you for your continued support and membership. Please encourage others to join.

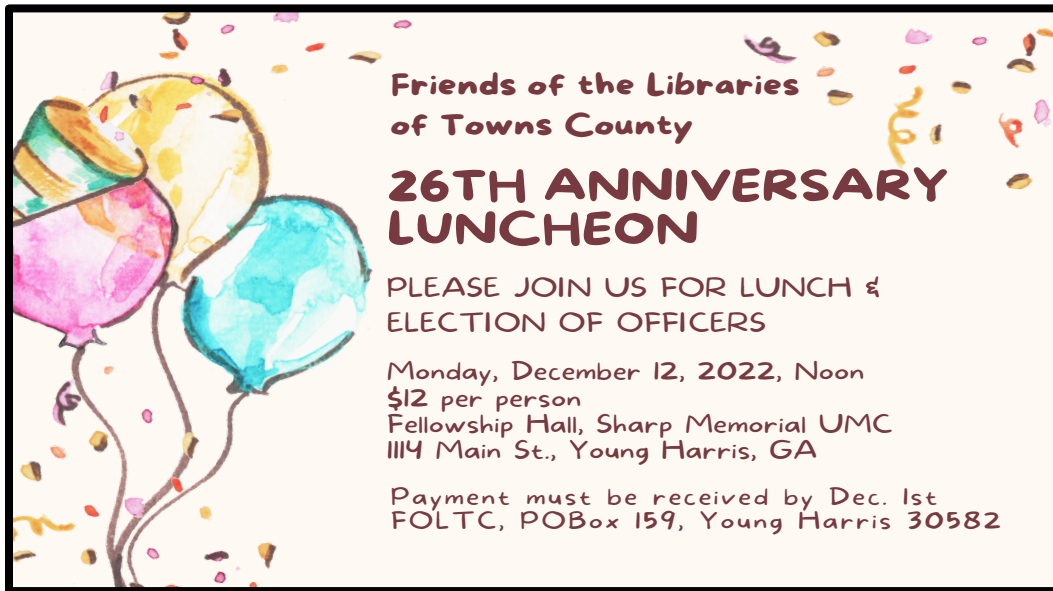
For the coming year, 2023, we are looking to fill the Vice-President's board position. If you are interested in finding out more about this position, please let me know by emailing me at foltc22@yahoo.com. I would love to visit with you about this.

We hope to see many of you at our annual meeting on December 12th as we celebrate the 26th year of FOLTC with a short program and lunch and election of officers for 2023.

26TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

In February 1996 43 local people founded Friends of the Libraries of Towns County with the purpose of raising funds to purchase library materials, support library programs, and advocate for all public libraries. Within a short time FOLTC was established as a non-profit organization (501C3). The majority of funds raised comes from book sales, bake sales (pre-pandemic), and membership dues. It is hoped to resume bake sales in the near future as they are very popular and are great fundraisers.

The board of directors decided to celebrate the 26th anniversary with a catered luncheon which will take place on Monday, December 12th, at noon at the Fellowship Hall in Sharp Memorial UMC. The annual meeting and election of officers will take place following the luncheon. A short musical program will be provided by Sharp Tones, one of the church's musical groups. There is a \$12 per person charge for the lunch, and payment must be received by December 1st. Please see the invitation and the registration form below. It is hoped that many Friends will join in this celebration!



**Friends of the Libraries
of Towns County**

**26TH ANNIVERSARY
LUNCHEON**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR LUNCH &
ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Monday, December 12, 2022, Noon
\$12 per person
Fellowship Hall, Sharp Memorial UMC
1114 Main St., Young Harris, GA

Payment must be received by Dec. 1st
FOLTC, POBox 159, Young Harris 30582

RESERVATION FOR FOLTC'S ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

Name(s): _____

Number attending: _____

X \$12 each

Total = \$ _____

We must receive this form and your payment by 12/01/2022.

CHRISTMAS AT FOLTC BOOKSTORES!

The holidays have arrived at both bookstores--Mountain Regional Library and Towns County Public Library. You will find designated bookshelves with wonderful Christmas treasures! Cookbooks, craft books, hardback and paperback fiction, DVDs, and children's books. New recipes to try, different items to create, and a selection of possibilities for Christmas gifts.

We continue to use the honor system (red money boxes) for payment in both stores. Christmas books are \$2.00 for hardbacks and 50 cents for paperbacks, children's books, and DVDs. Shop early for the best selection and enjoy!



Pictured: Some Christmas items in our FOLTC Book Store.

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

In late July we received a grant to become a part of the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Garden Trail. With this money and a lot of help from our wonderful Master Gardeners, we were able to beautify the outdoor space at Towns County Public Library. We also participated in the Back to School Bash as part of the Family Connections, which allowed us to connect with families and give them information on how the library can help serve the community.



In September we launched the PLAY Card. This is a connection between the Georgia Public Library Service and the Towns County School System. Every student registered as a Towns County student is automatically enrolled in the program which gives them a personalized number that allows them to check out materials from the library. They can check out up to five items at a time, with no late fees or fines. This program provides library access for children in the community.

The library participated in the Appalachian Trail day this year, spending the day with other businesses in the community and talking to tourists. Staff also completed a huge project at the Mountain Regional Branch: tagging every single one of our items! This project is ongoing but will ultimately allow us to check books in and out much faster. We could not have completed this project without our volunteers.



In October we kicked off Storytime at Towns County. This was something our community needed, and we look forward to seeing it grow. October 10th was our Staff Development Day. Staff from all MRLS branch libraries were able to gather together at the Union County Chamber for a day of learning and fellowship. A big thank you to our Friends for their donation, which gave us a budget to make

this day special for employees. We participated in the City of Hiawassee's Halloween at the Fairgrounds. Pictured above is Marlene Cannon ready for trick or treaters.

We are continuing our monthly cultural celebrations. On November 16th from 3:30 – 4:30, we will be having a Native American cultural celebration with books and food. Storytime at Towns County Library will continue every Tuesday at 10:30.



Pictured: Punch a Bunch game at the Family Connections' "Back to School" event.

BOARD MEMBER BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Black Cake by Charmaine Wilkerson

This debut novel is an extraordinary journey through the life of a family changed forever by the choices of its matriarch.

Body & Soul by Frank Conroy

A wonderful story for musicians! Coming of age, a child prodigy whose talent pulls him out of a life of squalor into one of the rich and famous; loneliness, obsession, and ambition. A book I simply couldn't put down!

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus

Garmus' novel is set in America in the 1960s and follows the life of a single mother, Elizabeth Zott, a brilliant chemist in a man's world. Elizabeth becomes an unlikely cooking-show host and the role model her daughter deserves.

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

The book tells the story of the University of Washington's eight rowing crew and their epic quest for gold at the 1936 Olympics.

BETA DELTA CHAPTER OF ALPHA DELTA KAPPA MAKES DONATION



On September 12th at the Beta Delta Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa monthly meeting, FOLTC President Mary Welken was asked to share about FOLTC. The presentation included information about the history of FOLTC, membership, bookstores/donations/book sales, and what FOLTC has funded for our libraries specifically in the past couple of years. In addition, the overall goals of FOLTC and ways we volunteer were shared.

In the picture is Hilary Tallent, President of the Beta Delta Chapter, giving Mary Welken a generous donation to FOLTC.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Before 2023 begins, we encourage you and your friends to join FOLTC as a way to support your Towns County Libraries. Enrollment form is the last page of this newsletter. Memberships begin at only \$1 per month and go as high as you'd like to contribute. Every dollar goes to your libraries in Towns County. Together, we can make 2023 the best membership year ever!

SPECIAL FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY (10/31/2022)

PATRONS (Donated \$100+)

Suzanne Adelmann
Dancu Foundation
Bill & Kathy Day
Mary & James Edwards
Marie Miller
ED & DR Staton

Grace A. Andrews
Marilyn K. Brown
Betty & Clay Dotson
Joyce Frick
Peach State FCU
Doris Tilly

Barbara & Bob Bone
Coca Cola Foundation
Gary & Linda Dye
H&H Tradesmen
Jim & Trish Reynolds

DONORS (Donated \$50+)

Suzanne Adelmann
John Bowen
Leon & Judith Lee
M.O. & F.M. Proctor
John & Jill Seymour

Sandra & Robert Alden
Alvin & Sybil Fickle

Deborah Reynolds
James & Linda Worl

Dick & Marcia Aunspaugh
Diana Gutenstein

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

Jane Farrell
Julia Giller

Alvin & Sybil Fickle
James & Georgia Moultrie

SPECIAL FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

PATRON LEVEL BUSINESS DONOR (\$100+ level):



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 2022/2023!