



FOLTC

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY

SPRING 2025

FOLTC Officers:

President: Rose Mary Crook

Vice: Mary Welken

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/FriendsOf
The
LibrariesOfTownsCounty**

"Like Us" on Facebook

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Welcome to Spring at the Towns County Libraries!

We are just coming off a very successful sale at both libraries. Thanks to all who helped Marcia and her sidekick Dick keep the shelves stocked. Almost every time I was there people were coming in and asking questions about our books and what they could find.

We celebrated National Library Week April 6-12th and National Library Works Day on the 8th. I understand some of our members brought treats to the staff as a Thank You!

FOLTC continues to support Ferst Readers program. Ferst Readers' mission is "strengthening communities by providing quality books and literacy resources for children and their families to use at home during the earliest stages of development." Ferst Readers wants every child to have the best start in life - and nothing helps a baby's brain develop more than exposure to rich language and loving interactions. The key is having books in the home and being read to from birth.

Thank you for continuing to support the Towns County Libraries through your membership. Please encourage others to join and support our libraries' functions.

SUCCESSFUL BOOK SALE!

Bravo to each who supported our April Book Sale. The numbers are in: The amount raised at MRL was \$686.44 and at TCL \$453.40, for a total of \$1,139.84. All the proceeds from the sale will be used by our two libraries to purchase books and to provide more activities and other events for their patrons. Thank you for your continued support!

NATIONAL LIBRARY WORKERS DAY

Our library workers are highly valued and are considered essential to the functioning of our wonderful libraries. Every year on National Library Workers Day in April, FOLTC presents a gift card to all Towns County library employees and MRLS employees. It's just our small way of saying thanks!

FOLTC President Rose Mary Crook (right) presents gift cards to Michele Boman (middle), MRL Service Associate, and to Robin Pita (left), MRL Acting Branch Manager.



FIBER ARTS SOCIAL GROUP



The FOLTC Fiber Arts Social Group meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 10:30 at Mountain Regional Library. Everyone is welcome to attend with any craft project they'd like to work on. Please join us for fun and friendship!

Pictured: Rose Carter, Donna Howell, Kathy Day, Suzanne Carter, Sharyn Seiler



Pictured: Delores Staton, Colleen Conrad, Kathy Day, Bena Ball

BOOK BUNCH MONTHLY BOOK CLUB

When you are next in the library, pick up information about the monthly book club. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to invite others. There is a bookmark available that shows the books that will be read each month.

FOLTC SUPPORTS FERST READERS IN TOWNS COUNTY

Ferst Readers of Towns County is a local organization whose goal is to provide free high quality and age and developmentally appropriate books to all children in the county who are under the age of five and are registered with Ferst Readers. Their vision is “create better learners, brighter futures, and stronger communities by giving every child under five access to quality books in their homes.” Ferst Readers is available in more than 100 counties and communities in ten states, including Georgia and Towns County.

Children can be registered at the Towns County Library, Mountain Regional Library, Towns County Health Department, County Elementary School, online at www.ferstreaders.org, or by phone at 888-565-0177. Books are mailed monthly to each registered child. Please consider registering your children who are under the age of five so they can begin to grow their home library and become successful readers.

FOLTC is a proud sponsor of Ferst Readers with a yearly donation to help purchase books and promote literacy for young children in our communities. FOLTC members realize that children who have books in their homes and are read to at home are more successful in school.



FOLTC President Rose Mary Crook (left) presents a check to Janice Cochran (right), Chair of Ferst Readers of Towns County.

HAPPENINGS AT TOWNS COUNTY LIBRARY

Towns County Library has had a wonderful start to our year! As always, FOLTC has been a wonderful help to us in achieving our goals for the community. At the forefront of those efforts, we have been able to give out books as “prizes” for attending our events this year. We were able to give new books to every child who attended our “Christmas with the Grinch” programming as well as our Valentines Party and Easter Egg hunt! All total, we have been able to give over 100 books to children of all ages entirely from the funds donated to us by FOLTC.

In March we had the honor of former Governor Nathan Deal coming to the library to tell stories and read his book *The Governor's Cat*. Several children and adults as well came to be a part of the event and to speak with the former governor of Georgia.

Our Staff Day, which happened Friday, May 2nd, was another event FOLTC helped fund. Staff Day is one day a year where staff from all three counties making up Mountain Regional Library Systems and Headquarters get together to discuss upcoming events, challenges, expectations, experiences, and training. It is a wonderful opportunity for them to learn from one another and prepare for the upcoming year, especially for the Summer Reading Program.

Regarding the Summer Reading Program, all events and performances for this fun summer of reading and learning are officially booked! As in 2024, FOLTC will generously fund a portion of the events. They also will be providing popsicles during our outdoor events! The children loved that aspect of our events so much last year that we knew we had to make it happen again this summer!

Please be on the lookout – on our website www.mountainlibrary.com - for the summer reading schedule to appear under the 'Events Calendar' and on our Facebook page! We can't wait to see everyone this summer and are really looking forward to a great "Color Your World" summer reading program.

MOUNTAIN REGIONAL LIBRARY NEWS



The Mountain Regional Library children's collection recently grew by 35 books thanks to a generous gift from FOLTC. Our younger patrons have been very excited each week to see what new books have arrived and check them out. Some of the new books ordered are from the series Spy School by Stuart Gibbs. This series was chosen as the 2025 favorite of our younger patrons during our first annual "March Reading Madness." Kid's Club compiled a bracket of 16 children's books to battle against each other. This activity worked in a similar way as the collegiate basketball tournament happening simultaneously. The first "March Reading Madness" was a blast! Thank you FOLTC for the new books.



RECOMMENDED BOOKS

House in the Cerulean Sea by TJ Klune

Linus Baker leads a quiet, solitary life. At forty, he lives in a tiny house with a devious cat and his old records. As a Case Worker at the Department in



Charge of Magical Youth, he spends his days overseeing the well-being of children in government-sanctioned orphanages.

***Secret War of Julia Childs* by Diana R. Chambers**

Single, 6 foot 2, and thirty years old, Julia McWilliams took a job working for America's first espionage agency, years before cooking or Paris entered the picture. *The Secret War of Julia Child* traces Julia's transformation from ambitious Pasadena blue blood to Washington, DC file clerk, to head of General "Wild Bill" Donovan's secret File Registry as part of the Office of Strategic Services.

SPECIAL FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF TOWNS COUNTY (1/31/2025)

PATRONS (Donated \$100+)

Grace Andrews
Marilyn K. Brown
Bill & Kathy Day
Mary & James Edwards
Jim & Trish Reynolds
Jo & Walton Sineath

Ronald & Tammy Bates
Barbara Casson
Betty Dodson
David & Joyce Geiger
Svens Counseling Services
EE & DR Staton

Barbara & Bob Bone
Coca Cola Foundation
Gary & Linda Dye
Peach State FCU
John & Jean Seymour
Doris Tilly

Mary & Dave Welkin

DONORS (Donated \$50+)

Marcia & Dick Aunspaugh
Noel & LaJean Turner

Joyce Frick

Bruce & Elaine Roberts



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.

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.

***When you invite your friends to become a FOLTC member,
our children are the big winners.***