



Friends of Union County Library (FOUCL)

Friends Communicator

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Friends Of Union County
Library (FOUCL)
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From the President

Fellow Friends of Union County Library (FOUCL),

As your President for a fourth year, I look forward to continuing FOUCL's work with Secretary Nancy Bryant and Treasurer Sally Woodworth and with Connie Rosenberry, who stays on as our Newsletter Editor. In addition, our webmaster, Robert Harford, manages our website (foucl.org) to keep all our members and perspective new members up to date. FOUCL is also fortunate to have the active participation and guidance of several past presidents, who often contribute time and talent behind the scenes. Together with you, those mentioned here create a strong team advocating for libraries, literacy, and lifelong learning.



Jackie Volk, President

Your generosity and continued memberships have been especially appreciated during these months when we have not held traditional fundraisers. Thank you so much for providing support for Union County Public Library (UCPL) and the staff who work there, as well as for Ferst Readers. In 2021, we continued to operate using memberships fees and donations from our two bakeless bake sales. These allowed us to meet our monetary pledges to the library. In 2022, we plan to return to traditional bake sales in May and November and we are planning to bring back the Everything Christmas Sale.

Thanks to Judy Baldwin, Connie Rosenberry, and Sally Woodworth, who spearheaded this effort, FOUCL has a newly edited brochure being handed out to new library card recipients at UCPL. We also hope to make these brochures available at the Union County/Blairsville Chamber of Commerce Welcome Center in the near future.

We are always looking for new members; but, of course, you are greatly valued as a returning member. If you haven't yet sent in or dropped off your renewal for FOUCL membership, please do so today. Together good friends make great libraries!

Sincerely,
Jackie Volk



Calendar



February
Quarterly newsletter
emailed to members

February 28 11:00 am
Children's storytime honoring
Dr. Seuss birthday

March 2
Dr. Seuss birthday

April 12
National Library Workers Day

April 20 2:00pm
Quarterly membership meeting
Community Room

May 6
Mother's Day Bake Sale

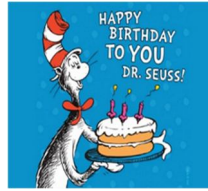
May
Quarterly newsletter emailed to
members

All meetings open to members.

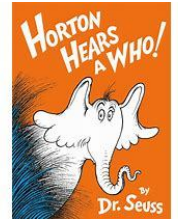
All programs open to the public.

What's Happening!

Dr. Seuss's Birthday Celebration Feb. 28



Dr. Seuss's birthday is celebrated on March 2, but Union County Public Library will be holding a birthday party storytime in his honor on February 28. For several years now, FOUCL has been purchasing Dr. Seuss picture books to hand out to UCPL families around the time of his birthday. This year we purchased 25 copies of the Seuss classic "Horton Hears a Who."



April 12, 2022



The American Library Association (ALA) has declared Tuesday, April 12, 2022, National Library Workers Day, (NLWD). Library workers serve as a community resource and this is a day designated for library users, administrators, staff, supporters, communities, and Friends of the Library to recognize the valuable contributions made by all of those who work in libraries.

You are invited to add your personal note of thanks to the UCPL staff by filling out a Post-It provided on the bookcase outside the Friends Room and adding it to FOUCL's door poster during the whole month of April!

The Return of the Mother's Day Bake Sale!



FOUCL will be holding a bake sale the Friday before Mother's Day. Please plan to bake and buy. Our last in-person bake sale was in November of 2019. Thanks to Roslyn Wise and Sally Woodworth who are co-chairs for what we think will be a better than ever sequel.

Some of our best sellers in the past have been pies, small cakes or cupcakes, cookies, brownies, and breads; but we will accept whatever you enjoy making. Your baked goods can be delivered the afternoon before our sale, Thursday, May 5, from 2 PM to 4 PM. The sale will be on Friday, May 6, from 10 AM until 2 PM.



**A gift to FOUCL
Meet Owl-iver Jr.**

Librarian's Spotlight!

I am glad to be able to say we are up and running full speed, after the past couple of years. I'd like to share a few things that are going on.

We have started working on Summer Reading Program events and activities for the summer. Each year FOUCL donates \$1000 toward our Summer Reading Program. The theme this year will be "An Ocean of Possibilities".

We will be doing a special Dr. Seuss birthday celebration on February 28, 2022 at 11:00 AM for our youngest patrons. We are so grateful to FOUCL for providing a Dr. Seuss book to each family that attends the program.

For our elementary age children, Lego Club started back up last November 16th and will be meeting the 3rd Tuesday of each month during the school year. Our first Junior Book Club was January 27th and will be the 4th Thursday of each month. The kids at the first book club discussed Cam Jansen books by David A. Adler. Mrs. Ann also had some great games and activities planned. Each month there will be a different author or book series, so make sure you watch for information about it.

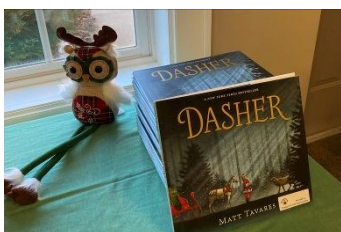
In other news, we have installed new shelving in the Young Adult section of the library to accommodate a growing collection. County maintenance is in process of mounting the wood end panels on the new metal shelving.

I'm very excited to announce the library has started purchasing microfilm of local newspapers from UGA and we just received the cabinet where they will be housed. We are now waiting to purchase a microfilm reader. The reader and microfilm will be located in the Heritage Room. Our library gets a lot of requests for historical or genealogic information, and this will be a big help.

Thank you to FOUCL as they continue to find ways to support the library. The children had fun at the Christmas storytime making ornaments and they were happy to get the Christmas books from FOUCL. Thank you for your continued support.



Susie Brendle, Librarian



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

Christmas Fun: Jackie Volk, Katherine Lavery, and Connie Rosenberry were there to present Christmas books to the children attending the December reindeer-themed storytime.



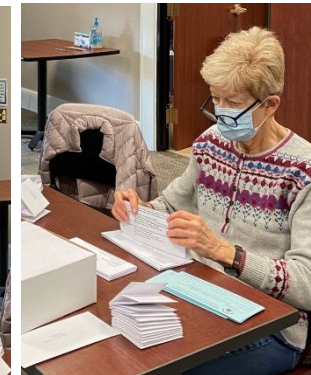
Harvey showed off the finished ornament he made.



Tom Volk, Robert Harford, and Katherine Lavery were on hand to present Christmas gifts to the staff.



It takes a team to prepare the Membership Renewal Mailing. Pictured here: (L to R) Tom Volk, Nancy Bryant, Sally Woodworth, and Barbara Rivera. Also part of the team were Katherine Lavery and Jackie Volk.



FRIENDly Faces

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.

Who's Owl-iver?

Owl-iver 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.

Getting to know your library workers...



You have probably seen this friendly face already, but do you know who she is?

Mrs. Ann is our new Youth Services Specialist.

You may run into her putting books away, or pushing a cart full of odds and ends that children will turn into cute ornaments, or pictures. Mrs. Ann started working at Union County Public Library last fall and is a welcome addition to the staff.

She and her husband, Dan, have two children who are both in college; one is local, attending Young Harris College.

Ann has always had a love of literacy and reading. One of her many favorite authors is Kaye Gibbons, but a book she recently finished reading and highly recommends is *The Saints of Swallow Hill* by Donna Everhart.

Although she recently moved here from Florida, she is not new to Blairsville. She and her husband have had a home here for 12 years and vacationed here frequently. Blairsville is a natural fit for her as she loves doing anything outdoors. She also enjoys doing mixed media art projects and quilting.

Mrs. Ann grew up in Indiana and graduated from Ball State University. She worked as a teacher and curriculum specialist for 15 years, before getting her graduate degree from University of South Florida in Media. She spent the next 15 years working as a Media Specialist in Pinellas County.

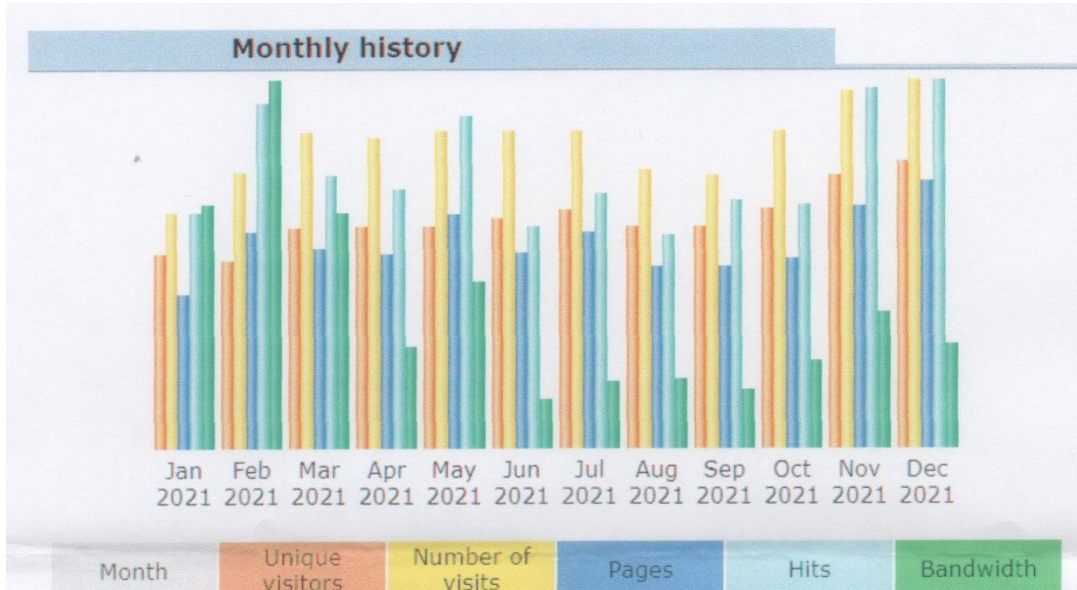
Although she started out as a teacher, she was destined to become a librarian. As a child, she made library cards for all of the books in the house and would beg anyone to come check one out! Moving here and finding the Youth Services position open provided her and us the right fit at the right time.

The next time you see this FRIENDly Face, stop and introduce yourself.



More About...

FOUCL's Website Foucl.org



At each quarterly meeting, Robert Harford gives an update on the usage of our website. The graph presents a lot of pretty colored lines. As we try to decode the meaning of each column, we have identified some very good trends.

- ◆ Unique Visitors. The orange bar represents how many people are using our website.
- ◆ Visits: The yellow bar tells us how many times people log on to the website.
- ◆ Pages: The dark blue bar shows how many different pages the visitor is looking at.
- ◆ Hits: The light blue bar indicates how many different things visitors are exploring.

From this graph we know the website is being used more every day, and people are finding things that interest them on it. We see growth in every area,

From January to December, the number of people logging on to check information has increased a lot (orange and yellow bars) and our visitors are looking at more things (dark blue and light blue bars).

If you have any comments or suggestions about information you would like to see, or something you have difficulty locating on our website, email the webmaster at: rwh30512@gmail.com.

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