

FOUCL President Jackie Volk and UCPL Branch Librarian Susie Brendle

As pictured here, Friends of Union County Library (FOUCL) recently presented a check to Union County Public Library (UCPL). This donation is one of several FOUCL makes each year to augment the library's budget.

There is sometimes confusion about who the Friends are and what we do. Like most Friends of Libraries groups nationwide, FOUCL is a non-profit, charitable group formed primarily to support and advocate for the library in our community. In addition, FOUCL members advocate for literacy and lifelong learning. Ways we have done this in the past include purchasing picture books several times a year to be given to library families, providing prizes for children's reading challenges, and contributing yearly to Ferst Readers.

Our fundraisers have been limited since March of 2020, but we have continued to support our library and our hardworking library staff with money raised through donations and membership fees. Now we ask for your help in replenishing our funds. During the month of May, we are soliciting funds for a Bakeless Bake Sale. No baking, no shopping, no fuss. Simply give us some dough!

Funds raised from this year's sale are designated for future children's programs. We are hoping and planning for a "real" bake sale and the return of our Everything Christmas Sale in November. Until then, please consider giving what you might have spent on baking for or shopping at our annual May Bake Sale. Drop your check or cash off at the library or mail to FOUCL; PO Box 1546; Blairsville, GA 30514. Let us know that you intend these donations for the BBS (Bakeless Bake Sale). Checks made out to FOUCL. We are collecting through the month of May.

Of course, we are always looking for new members. If you would like to join us, pick up a membership form at the library from our bookcase to the left as you enter, or go to our website (foucl.org) and download a form. Memberships are a bargain at just \$10 per year for an individual and \$15 for a family.

As our wise mascot, Owliver, always says, "Give a Hoot – Join Us!"

