



## ***2020 FONCPL Annual Report***

COVID-19. That one word pretty much sums up the challenge facing all Friends of the Library groups in the state, including the Friends of the North Carolina Public Libraries. In spite of the challenges, good things did happen in 2020. In this report we will highlight them.

In the beginning of 2020, the FONCPL Board made its usual plans for spring workshops around the state. We were only able to hold one workshop in the Southeast Area in Carolina Shores and then COVID-19 hit and we cancelled the remaining four workshops. We did consider trying again in the fall, but the predictions for the virus were still looking bad. We finally threw in the towel and acknowledged that it was not going to be feasible to hold any more in-person workshops in 2020.

The virus also affected our plans for the 2020 Annual meeting normally held in September. In 2020 the Board had made the decision to hold a Board retreat in place of the Annual meeting. Those plans also did not come to fruition. The Board has been meeting via conference calls and Zoom.

The Board membership has evolved over the year. Several Board members resigned—all for different reasons. That included Sue Tuman (newly elected Vice-President), Jack James (long-time Secretary), Director Varnell Kinnin, Director Robin Crawford, Director Suzie Manning and Director Regina Dozier. Bob Schreiner asked to be relieved of his webmaster duties. Barbara Roberts relinquished her Workshop Coordinator position. We thank these

individuals for their selfless service to FONCPL and which thank them all the best.

A major accomplishment for 2020 was the restatement of the FONCPL Bylaws. The Bylaws were first adopted in 1980 and last revised in 2010. A lot had changed in that time and they were overdue for revision. One of the key changes was that the Directors are no longer associated with a specific area of the state. This allows more flexibility in using the individual's talents.

In 2020 the Board established a committee to review the FONCPL Awards. The committee grappled with honoring the past while moving us into the future. The committee has not yet finished their work, but we do plan to have both an award and a grant program for members. Our annual budget will determine the funds available each year for these programs. We hope to make an announcement in early 2021.

The Board wrestled with the issue of providing educational and networking opportunities for our members. In late 2020, all indications are that in 2021 our state and our communities will still be impacted by COVID-19. Given the predictions, the Board has determined that we will hold our first ever virtual workshop on April 10, 2021. A big benefit is that we will be making a video recording of the sessions and posting them on our web-

site. We hope you will participate. Details will be forthcoming.

In 2020 we began to update our website. Treasurer Mark West stepped up and started making adjustments. Our website now is content rich. Our resource page is packed with ideas and links that will help your Friends of the Library group to be successful if you will take the time to study them. In early 2021 we hope to move the website to a new platform and improve its functionality.

By now you should have received a renewal notice. Dues have been the same amount for a long period of time and we have no plans to increase them. We encourage you to be both individual as well as group members. FONCPL is one of only 24 state Friends organizations.

In addition to our website, newsletter, and workshops, your FONCPL membership includes supporting library advocacy at state and federal levels through our contribution to the NC Public Library Directors' Association. FONCPL pays for membership in the NC Center for Nonprofits and for membership in the United for Libraries. We share the information we receive from those groups with our members.

In closing, the FONCPL Board is grateful that we were able to accomplish what we did in 2020 and we are looking forward to the challenges of 2021. Do join us in the quest to be the best!

*Judy Hills*  
*President*

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Below is the FONCPL tagline for 2021. We hope your Friends will also use it as a focus.



**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**  
**QUEST TO BE THE BEST**

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## 2020 Spring Workshops Plans Derailed

### FRIENDS



KEEP CALM  
and  
KICK IT UP A  
NOTCH

Graphic for 2020 Workshops

The FONCPL Board and Workshop Coordinator Barbara Roberts worked very hard to develop solid agendas and to establish dates and locations for the annual Spring Workshops which were historically spread over the five areas in the state. It was determined that workshops would be held at the S. Brunswick Branch Library in Carolina Shores (SE Area), Chapel Hill Library (Central Area), Tarboro Public Library (NE Area), Gaston Co. Library (W. Central Area) and the Transylvania Co. Public Library in Brevard (Mountain Area).

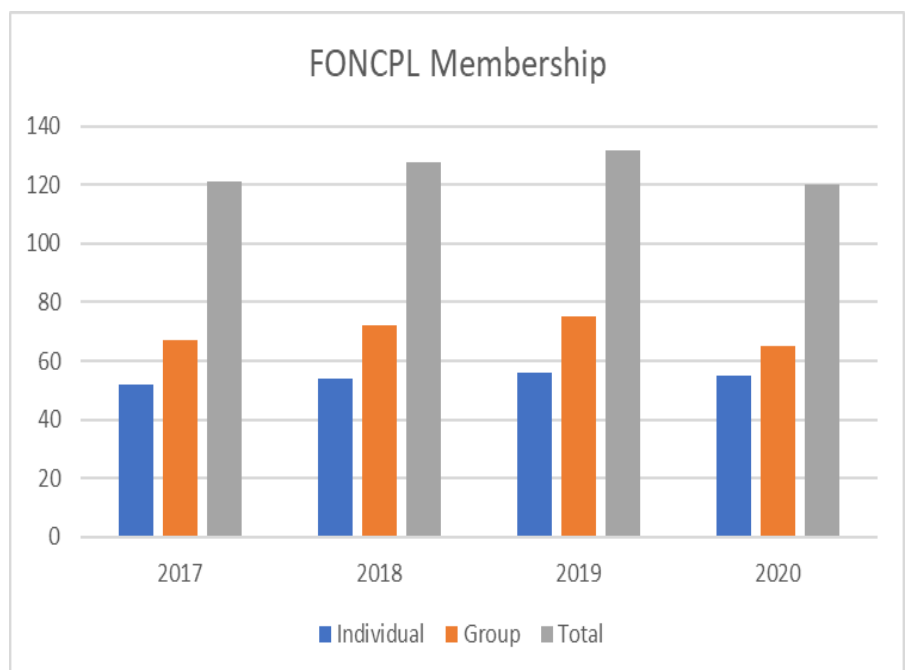
A very successful SE area workshop in Carolina Shores was attended by 40 Friends and was well received. Then we were hit with the news of the seriousness of the COVID-19 virus and the Board had to make a decision on the workshops. We cancelled the

next few, but held hope that in a few months the situation would abate and we could get back on track. That did not happen. We even considered trying to reschedule in the fall, but as the summer progressed, so did COVID-19. Eventually we had to acknowledge that the additional four 2020 workshops were a no-go.

The Board had heard from many that they did not like to have to travel to attend the FONCPL workshops. In late 2020 with the COVID-19 infection rates and deaths still climbing, the Board made the decision that in 2021 we would hold virtual workshops. The first is scheduled for April 10, 2021. While we are all probably ready to connect in-person, we hope you will join us in April. We do plan to post the sessions on our website.

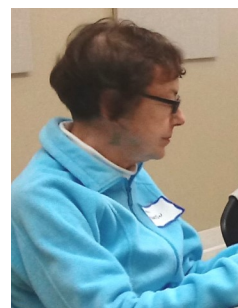
## FONCPL Membership 2017 TO 2020

As you can see from this graph, membership has changed little over the years. In early 2021 Board members researched existing Friends groups and found there were a number that were not members. We have reached out to them and hope they will join in 2021. There is strength in numbers. The FONCPL membership is a excellent value for what little it costs. We thank all our supporters and encourage you to contact us if we can assist your Friends. That is our purpose.





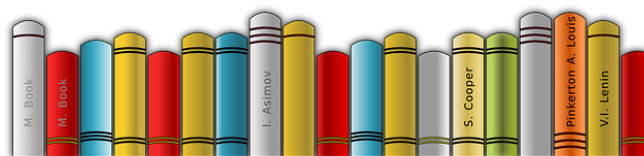
## 2020 Spring Southeast Workshop Photos



**2020 FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**Calendar Year 1/1/20 to 12/31/20**

		Budget	Actual
Balance on hand	1/1/2020	\$6,486.23	\$6,486.23
<b>Receipts</b>			
Membership Dues and Donations		4,500.00	3,385.00
Other Income		.00	25.00
Total Receipts		4,500.00	3,410.00
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administrative			
President's Discretionary		300.00	-
Secretary's Expense		50.00	14.95
Membership Expenses		400.00	143.68
Area Director's Discretionary		375.00	-
Workshops and Meetings			-
Workshop Expense		1,000.00	67.24
Workshop Coordinator		250.00	66.98
Annual Meeting		400.00	-
Outreach			-
Newsletter & Publicity		150.00	-
Website & Administrative		200.00	191.45
Advocacy and Awards			-
Advocacy		500.00	-
Awards		3,200.00	-
Other Expenses			-
Memberships		180.00	-
Total Expenses		7,005.00	484.30
Balance on hand	12/30/2020	\$3,981.23	\$9,411.93
Bank balance	12/30/2020		\$9,411.93

Mark West, Treasurer



Our mission is promotion and development of excellent library service throughout North Carolina by encouraging and assisting the formation, growth, and development of *Friends of The Library* groups in North Carolina and by providing the means for *Friends* to exchange ideas, information and experiences.

**Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries 2021 Board**  
(as of January 15, 2021)

<p><b>President</b> Judy Hills (Craven) <a href="mailto:jahnbnc@gmail.com">jahnbnc@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Secretary</b> Joanne Straight (Craven) <a href="mailto:jostraight@gmail.com">jostraight@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Treasurer</b> Mark West (Craven) <a href="mailto:mark@ontheboat.us">mark@ontheboat.us</a></p> <p><b>Director</b> Becky Smith (Catawba) <a href="mailto:smithbecky@charter.net">smithbecky@charter.net</a></p> <p><b>Director</b> Eileen Alexander (Catawba) <a href="mailto:northcountryartslady@gmail.com">northcountryartslady@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Director</b> Meg Forward (Carteret) <a href="mailto:meg4ward@gmail.com">meg4ward@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Director</b> Donna Morgan (Brunswick) <a href="mailto:ladyloves2read@protonmail.com">ladyloves2read@protonmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>State Library of North Carolina Liaison</b> Lynda Reynolds <a href="mailto:Lynda.Reynolds@ncdcr.gov">Lynda.Reynolds@ncdcr.gov</a></p> <p><b>Committee Chairs</b></p> <p><b>Newsletter</b> Eileen Alexander (Catawba) <a href="mailto:northcountryartslady@gmail.com">northcountryartslady@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Website</b> Mark West (Craven) <a href="mailto:mark@ontheboat.us">mark@ontheboat.us</a></p> <p><b>Membership</b> Becky Smith (Catawba) <a href="mailto:smithbecky@charter.net">smithbecky@charter.net</a></p> <p><b>Awards &amp; Grants</b> Donna Morgan (Brunswick) <a href="mailto:ladyloves2read@protonmail.com">ladyloves2read@protonmail.com</a></p>
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