



F·R·I·E·N·D·S

OF NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Supporting Friends of the Library Statewide

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends,

The Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries has many successes to celebrate in 2021. The FONCPL Board members have worked diligently to ensure that members receive a good value for their dues and contributions. This work was in addition to their work for their local Friends group as well as other community endeavors. It is said, "If you want something done, give it to a busy person." That seems to fit this Board!

In this document we will recount what we have managed to achieve this year. Please read it and share it with other Friends. That said, I'll not bore you with a recap here, but rather talk about our hopes for 2022.

In researching Friends groups in NC this past year we were able to identify approximately 170 that were active to some extent—although a few are described as being on life support. Of that number, 57 were FONCPL members in 2021 and another 35 groups had been an FONCPL member at least one year since 2017, leaving 78 that have never been FONCPL members. This represents an opportunity for us to reach and assist additional Friends in North Carolina. Dues are due in January and we hope that Friends will join both as groups as well as individuals.

Since COVID variants are still evolving, the Board agreed that our Spring 2022 Workshop will be virtual with the presentations posted on our YouTube channel. We have not yet made a decision about the fall workshop, but we have found that this YouTube format has so many more possibilities to reach our target audience than in-person events. It is highly likely that we will continue this format. In January we conducted a member survey of topics to present. We hope you responded.

We plan to evaluate other aspects of the organization and its structure during 2022 and may do at least one survey to get opinions.

In 2022 we hope to award additional Seed Grants to help start up or revive a Friends group. We also plan to award Challenge grants to member organizations.

For the past several years FONCPL has not had a vice-president. I will be exiting FONCPL once I complete my term of office the end of 2022, so we need to be grooming my replacement.

I thank the FONCPL Board members and hope you will as well. They have done a marvelous job re-energizing this organization. We look for even greater accomplishments in 2022!

Judy Hills, President

FONCPL 2021 VIRUTAL WORKSHOPS

In the spring, FONCPL offered nine workshop sessions in addition to the welcome message by FONCPL President, Judy Hills and the State Library update by Lynda Reynolds, the Friends' liaison. These included:

- How to Set Up a Book Storage Unit
- Smoothing Rocky Relationships
- How to Attract New Friends
- Endowments
- Grant Readiness
- Online Silent Book Auction
- Getting Authors to Speak
- Setting Up a Little Free Library

The two most viewed were How to Attract New Friends and Smoothing Rocky Relationships. There were a total of 284 viewing sessions. These YouTube videos will continue to be posted and may be accessed from our website.

In the fall, FONCPL offered eight workshop sessions in addition to the welcome message by FONCPL President, Judy Hills and the State Library update by Lynda Reynolds, the Friends' liaison. These included:

- Importance of a Speaker's Bureau
- New Member/Volunteer Orienting/ Onboarding
- Crafting a New Logo
- Importance of a Website
- Event Planning
- Evaluating Book Donations
- Importance of an Annual Report
- Crafting Arts & Craft Workshops

The most popular video was evaluating book donations. There were a total of 81 views, not quite the success that we had with our spring workshops, but these, too, are still available online for viewing.

2021 FONCPL Grants

In 2021 the Board voted to provide **Seed Grants** to NC Friends groups that were either forming for the first time or that were being revitalized. Up to \$500 may be requested for activities and fees associated with forming or revitalizing a dormant Friends of the Library group. Examples might include funding to: incorporate as a nonprofit in the state of NC, apply for 501 (c)(3) designation, design and printing of logo or pamphlets, minimum amount needed to set up a bank account, set up a website, copy & printing costs, etc. Seed Grant funding may not be used to purchase goods or services for the library or library system. FONCPL assigns a Board member to coach the Seed Grant awardees. The **Johnston County-Smithfield Library Friends** were the first recipients of this grant.

The Board also voted to provide a maximum of four **Challenge Grants** to Friends that are FONCPL members. Priority is given to a Friends group that has not received a Challenge Grant award previously. Groups that receive Challenge Grants are ineligible to receive

another for a period of three years. Up to \$250 may be requested for any project or program that aligns with the mission and purpose of the Friends group and which directly benefit the Friends. Award funding may not be used to purchase goods or services for the library or library system. We gave two grants:

\$250 to the **Friends of the Vanceboro-Craven County Public Library** for their project "Catch the Little Free Libraries Bus!" to fund construction of a little free library representing their revitalized Friends group.

\$250 to the **Friends of the Lexington Library** to fund a free book to every elementary age child that attends the May 7, 2022 Multicultural Festival in Lexington, reaching a new demographic audience in the community.

We invite member groups to apply for Challenge Grants in 2022.

FONCPL 2021 Awards

Frannie Ashburn Friend of the Year Award

The Friend of the Year award was instituted in 2007 to honor the work of individual Friends. Five outstanding volunteers - one from each of the Areas across the state - are chosen annually for recognition.

Frannie Ashburn was a leading force in encouraging Friends volunteers across North Carolina. Following her retirement as State Library Liaison to FONCPL in 2011, the Board voted to name the Volunteer of the Year Award in her honor.

Friend of the Year is awarded to a member of a Friends group who made an outstanding contribution to the Friends of the Library in the past calendar year. One Individual Friend of the Year award is made in each of the five geographic areas of the state (see FONCPL website).

The 2021 Frannie Ashburn Individual Friend of the Year was awarded to **Beth Klahre** of Southport. She has served as the **Friends of the Library Southport & Oak Island (FOLSOI)** Board Secretary since October 2018. This year she led a five-month strategic planning initiative conducted by a nine-member strategic planning sub-committee.

Frances B. Reid Group Award

Frances B. Reid was the guiding force in organizing and establishing the Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries (FONCPL) organization in 1980. As a consultant in Library Development at the NC State Library, she encouraged volunteers, helped draft organization bylaws and was always there when questions needed answers. She exhibited wit and wisdom that was needed to bring FONCPL into fruition. We recognize our debt of gratitude to her by the establishment of the annual Frances B. Reid awards, given to outstanding Friends groups in our state.

Friends Group of the Year is awarded to a single Friends group who made a significant contribution to their community in the past calendar year by supporting one or more libraries through contributions, advocacy, and volunteer services and by supporting reading and life-long learning.

The 2021 winner is the **Friends of the Library Southport & Oak Island**.

The FONCPL Board encourages member Friends of the Library groups to apply for these two awards in 2022.

FONCPL Website

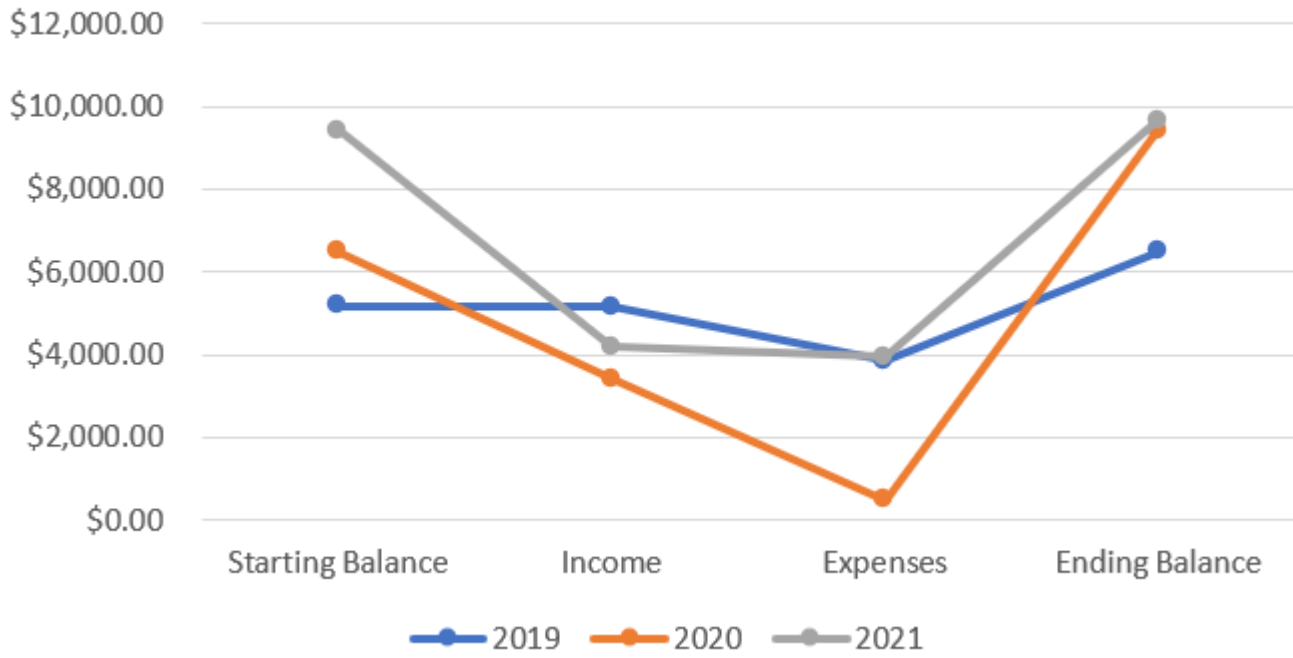


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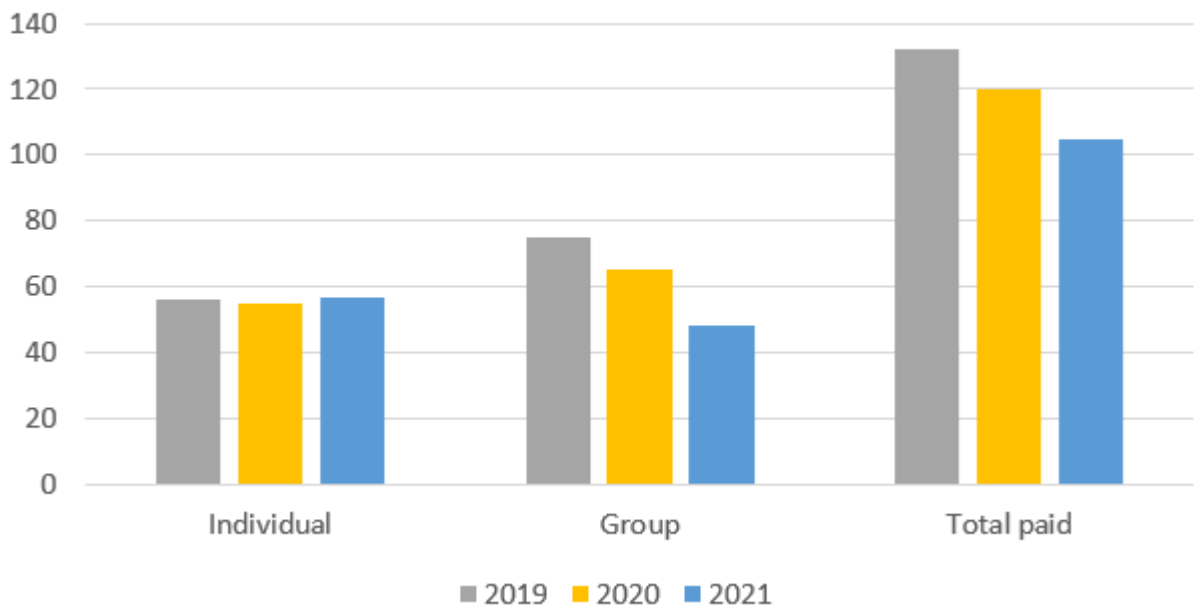
We continue to promote the FONCPL website which we totally revamped in 2021. It is packed with resources. We make a concerted effort to keep it up-to-date and

hope that you access it often. If you are looking for something related to running a Friends group—you'll probably find it here. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for material to add.

FONCPL Finances 2019-2021



Membership 2019 to 2021



FONCPL 2021 End-of-Year Financial Report—Tim Como Treasurer

		Budget	Actual
Balance on hand	1/1/2021	\$9,411.93	\$9,411.93
Receipts			
Memberships Dues and Donations		\$3,750.00	\$4,130.00
Other Income		\$0.00	\$0.00
	Total Receipts	<u>\$3,750.00</u>	<u>\$4,130.00</u>
Expenses			
Administrative			
President's Discretionary		\$250.00	-
Secretary's Expense		\$50.00	-
Membership Expenses		\$400.00	\$179.42
Area Director's Discretionary		\$0.00	-
Workshops and Meetings			
Workshop Expense		\$1,000.00	-
Workshop Coordinator		\$0.00	-
Annual Meeting		\$400.00	-
Outreach			
Newsletter & Publicity		\$150.00	-
Website & Administrative		\$200.00	\$2,263.40
Advocacy and Awards			
Advocacy		\$500.00	\$500.00
Grants		\$2,000.00	\$750.00
Other Expenses			
Memberships		\$180.00	\$230.00
	Total Expenses	<u>\$5,130.00</u>	<u>\$3,984.45</u>
Balance on Hand	12/31/2021	\$8,031.93	\$9,557.48
Bank Balance	12/31/2021		\$9,557.48



Website
<https://foncpl.org/>

2022 Officers

President
Judy Hills (Craven)
jahnbc@gmail.com
Term expires: Dec 2022

Secretary
Joanne Straight (Craven)
jostraight@gmail.com
Term expires: Dec 2022

Treasurer
Tim Como (Catawba)
826mechanic@gmail.com
Term expires: Dec 2023

2021 Directors

Donna Morgan (Brunswick)
Awards & Grants Chair
ladyloves2read@protonmail.com
Term expires: Dec 2023

Meg Forward (Carteret)
meg4ward@gmail.com
Term expires: Dec 2022

Joyce Speas (Alleghany)
joyce.speas73@gmail.com
Term expires: Dec 2023

Becky Smith (Catawba)
Membership Chair
smithbecky@charter.net
Term expires: Dec 2022

Kathy Lambe (Forsyth)
Newsletter Editor
klambe@me.com
Term expires: Dec 2022

Ann Holland (Burke)
Webmaster
littlequeenbee7861@yahoo.com
Term expires: Dec 2022

Open Positions:
Vice-President & Director

HISTORY

Frances B. Reid was the guiding force in organizing and establishing the Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries (FONCPL) organization in 1980. As a consultant in Library Development at the NC State Library, she encouraged volunteers, helped draft organization bylaws and was always there when questions needed answers. She exhibited wit and wisdom that was needed to bring FONCPL into fruition.

The Bylaws of the Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries were first adopted April 2, 1980, but Articles of Incorporation were not filed with the State of North Carolina until April 12, 2006. The FONCPL became a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization on July 26, 2009.

In October 2021 we created a new FONCPL logo, a new website, and gave our newsletter a name, "NC FRIENDS TALK."

Mission

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.

What We Do

- We encourage and assist the formation and development of local Friends of the Library groups.
- We foster and encourage cooperative efforts among citizens and libraries.
- We provide educational opportunities for Friends to exchange ideas, information and experiences.
- Our newsletter, website and emails keep members up-to-date on Friends and nonprofit organizational issues and opportunities.
- FONCPL may provide awards and grants to members depending on the plan of work and budget for that fiscal year.
- FONCPL is a member of the United for Libraries and the NC Center for Nonprofits. Through membership in these organizations, FONCPL receives news, ideas and information that benefits all of our NC Friends.
- We financially support the advocacy efforts of North Carolina Public Library Directors Association.

