



September 2022
NC F*R*I*E*N*D*S Talk

Dear Friends,

Fall is a busy time for nonprofits. Many, many fundraisers and events take place between Labor Day and the middle of November with some holiday festivities and solicitations occurring during the end-of-year crunch. Many of you are holding book sales and perhaps retail sale of items as well as raffles. We remind you that sales tax is owed to the State of North Carolina for retail sales—including books sold at book sales. There is only one exception to that: If your Friends only hold one book sale per year as your major yearly fundraiser (and you don't sell books any other time or any other way).

Each month our great newsletter editor, Kathy Lambe, includes ideas for fundraisers. We encourage you to try something new. This may help you to reenergize your Friends if engagement is lacking.

We also encourage you to do a reading/literacy project that will benefit your community. Examples might include programs like books for babies, barbershop books, or books for Christmas for students in a Title I elementary school. Placing and keeping a Little Free Library stocked at a park near an impoverished neighborhood is another worthy project.

Which brings me to this invitation to apply for a Challenge Grant. The Friends of the North Carolina Public Library (FONCPL) will award Challenge Grants of up to \$250. FONCPL reserves the right to determine the number of these grants to be awarded in a calendar year. It is expected that the project or program proposed will be partially funded by the grant and partially funded by the applicant. Applications are due September 15, 2022. [Click here](#) to read more and to access the application.

The FONCPL Annual meeting and elections will take place via Zoom on November 11, 2022 at 10 AM (Friday—Veterans Day). The information and link will be published in the October and November newsletters. FONCPL Director Meg Forward is the chair of the nominating committee. If you have a recommendation for President, Vice President and/or Secretary or would like to be considered yourself, please [email Meg](#). We have two open Director positions, one Director who will be retiring after 11 years on this board, and two other Directors up for re-appointment. Directors are appointed by the current Board. If you would like to serve, please [email me](#) or one of the other officers.

In closing, don't work too hard this fall and remember to celebrate your successes!

Yours in Friendship,

Judy Hills, FONCPL President



BOOKS ARE FOR EVERYONE!

The goal of the Friends of the Lexington Library's **BOOKS ARE FOR EVERYONE!** FONCPL's 2021 \$250 Challenge Grant award was to give a free book to every elementary age child that attended the May 7, 2022 Multicultural Festival in Lexington. This festival is a community event that highlights and appreciates the varied cultures that reside in our city and county. This book giveaway promoted book ownership, stimulated, and expanded imagination, encouraged visits to the library, supported reading and appreciated the colorblindness of books.

Our partnership with the Lexington Library provided us with the Bookmobile and Library staff to set up next to each other at the festival. While Friends gave books away to the children, Library staff had activities for the children, tours of the Bookmobile and opportunities for getting Library cards for the children and their parents. One of the Library staff members dressed up as the Red Panda. A movie by the same name had just been released.

We ordered 420 slightly used books and had donations of another 155 books. We were not able to give away all 575 books at the Multicultural Festival. We set up a table at the Lexington Library's Summer Reading Kickoff, as well as the Juneteenth Festival.

~ Karen Schrader, President

Friends of the Lexington Library



Thank you for
sharing
Friends of the
Lexington Library!

SEPTEMBER DAYS TO CELEBRATE!!

- 3 National Tailgating Day**
UNC_CH @ App St
NC State @ ECU
Put on your team colors. Bring your game face. Whip up your best batch of jalapeno poppers and get outside to watch your favorite team play on this National Tailgating Day!
- 5 National Cheese Pizza Day**
Order up or bake up your own cheese pizza to celebrate!
- 6 National Read a Book Day**
Share the experience! Read aloud either to children or to grandparents. Sit back, relax and read a book. Whether you prefer to escape into the world of fiction or learn something new, celebrate with your favorite books. Visit the library or the local book store. Pick up a new book or read an old favorite.
- 7 National Beer Lover's Day**
Visit a local brewery and enjoy a cold one!
- 11 National Grandparents' Day**
While we have our grandparents in our lives, it is important to cherish them. Pick up the phone and call them! Plan a day with them! Write a letter that they will read over & over.
- 12 National Chocolate Milkshake Day**
Enjoy a chocolate milkshake with a dollop of whipped cream! While you're enjoying this sweet treat, don't forget to introduce this delicious pastime to someone else.
- 18 National Cheeseburger Day**
Visit your favorite burger joint and order up a delicious cheeseburger.
- 20 National Pepperoni Pizza Day**
Enjoy a slice of Pepperoni Pizza at your favorite pizzeria.
- 25 National Comic Book Day**
Go read a comic book
- 28 National North Carolina Day**
12th state to join the Union. The Tar Heel state was the first state to vote for independence from the British at the first Continental Congress. Before the Civil War, North Carolina resisted secession from the Union. As a whole, the state was vehemently against dividing the nation even after other states had signed agreements to secede. Eventually, public opinion changed and the state was swayed to join the Confederacy. The state is filled with beauty from the Blue Ridge Mountains to Cape Fear and up to Kitty Hawk. Along with the beauty, you will find mystery buried in history and nature. Explore the sites of the first powered flight, the disappearance of the Roanoke colonists and with them the first English child born in the New World.

MORE INTERESTING ITEMS TO KNOW ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA



EveryLibrary
Institute

Fund Raising Tip.....

Invite the Community In

Show prospective supporters how fun the library can really be! Invite them inside the walls of your library in new, exciting ways for fundraising events.

Here are some ideas:

- Food / beverage nights: What's an excellent pairing? A tasty snack and a page-turning book! Host coffee time, food festivals, or wine tastings centered around a literary topic or a specific book.
- Get loud in the library: Invite local musicians, poets, or authors to make some noise with live performances and readings inside the library.
- Board game tournaments: Turns out, people who love to read usually love word games as well! Charge an entry fee for teams to participate in board game tournaments and spend time with other word game enthusiasts at the library.
- Book-themed parties: Bring classic stories to life and transform your fundraising events to match the theme of a well-known book. Great Gatsby Gala, anyone?

Don't be afraid to get creative with your fundraising events. You can host a scavenger hunt, transform your library into a mini-golf course, and nowadays, you can transform all of the above into a livestream event!



F.R.I.E.N.D.S.

OF NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Supporting Friends of the Library Statewide

ISSUES WHICH HAVE COME UP LATELY by Judy Hills, FONCPL President

Legal status of Friends—Incorporation as a nonprofit with the State of North Carolina

FONCPL has been beating this drum for a long time now: Friends should have legal status with the state. Your legal status is important as it gives you creditability with the public as you are required to meet certain standards, especially in regarding to the handling of funds. The state nonprofit incorporation offers certain protections to the Board of Directors, which is not available to those unincorporated Friends. It is very disturbing to see how many groups of Friends are still not even incorporated as a nonprofit with the state of North Carolina (21%) and that includes some that are members of FONCPL. We also advise that if you are incorporated with the state, that you look up your incorporation and see that your registered agent and addresses are correct. We have seen instances where the name of the identified registered agent was not even recognized.

Charitable Solicitation License (or Exemption) with State of North Carolina

“Generally, any organization or person that intends to directly solicit contributions in North Carolina, or intends to hire a person or business to solicit contributions in North Carolina, must first obtain a license from the Charities Division. Organizations must renew their licenses each year to maintain licensed status. There are several statutory exemptions to this requirement. A person that qualifies for an exemption does not have to obtain or maintain a license. See [Exemption List](#). **If an organization requires a license but operates without one, that organization may be subject to administrative penalties or fines in addition to civil and/or criminal prosecution.**” Those with contributions of less than \$25,000 per calendar are exempt—BUT MUST APPLY FOR THAT EXEMPTION AND RENEW YEARLY. Friends do directly solicit contributions, so you are required to comply.

Who controls the funds raised by Friends?

While this issue has not come up lately, it has been a bone of contention in the recent past. We need to make two important points here: 1) the library cannot tell a Friends group to “cease and desist” from raising funds in the name of the library and 2) as an independent nonprofit corporation and a 501(c)(3) publicly-supported charity, its board of directors has sole discretion and control in conducting the activities and expending funds consistent with its donor’s intent and in furtherance of its own charitable purposes. That benefit and support cannot legally be delegated to the Library Director or anyone else. We urge you to read this February 2, 2021 legal opinion on this issue so that you can fully understand why this is so. [Click here](#) to read.

Welcome
New Members

Friends of the Wren Memorial Library

Jack & Karen James

The Right to Read by Judy Hills

As I prepared questions on banned books for trivia night at various local establishments, I happened upon this quote from Stephen King. It is worth reading.

In response to his books being banned in 1992, King told kids, “There are people in your home town who have taken certain books off the shelves of your school library. Do not argue with them; do not protest; do not organize or attend rallies to have the books put back on their shelves. Don't waste your time or your energy. Instead, hustle down to your public library, where these frightened people's reach must fall short in a democracy, or to your local bookstore, and get a copy of what has been banned. Read it carefully and discover what it is your elders don't want you to know. In many cases you'll finish the banned book in question wondering what all the fuss was about. In others, however, you will find vital information about the human condition. It doesn't hurt to remember that John Steinbeck, J.D. Salinger, and even Mark Twain have been banned in this country's public schools over the last 20 years.”

Part of this quote, “...hustle down to your public library, where these frightened people's reach must fall short in a democracy...” relates to the freedom to read which is one of the pillars of libraries. King believed that surely in our democracy a library is sacrosanct when it comes to squashing our right to read. Au contraire, on or about August 5, 2022, the residents of Jamestown, Michigan (pop. Est July 2021—9,923) voted to shut down the town's library rather than to tolerate certain LGTTQIA+ books. Libraries, of course, are more than just a repository for books, especially in small communities such as this one. They are places to read, to study, to learn, to socialize. They provide wi-fi to those needing it. Heck, the vote to defund the library took place at the library!

The brouhaha started when a parent complained that *Gender Queer: a Memoir*, a graphic novel by Maia Kobabe should not be allowed to remain in the library. The book, which includes depictions of sex, was in the adult section of the library. The Library Board had the book placed behind the counter rather than on the shelves. This action did not satisfy the complainer. This individual and dozens other showed up at library board meetings and harassed the library director and accused her of indoctrinating kids. That director left as did her successor. The library board stood fast; the president said, “We, the board, will not ban the books.”

“When you remove those books from the shelf or you challenge them publicly in a community, what you're saying to any young person who identified with that narrative is, ‘We don't want your story here,’” Kobabe told the [New York Times](#) in May.

An article on EveryLibrary noted, “According to one of the members of the Jamestown Conservatives, ‘It's not a political issue, it's a Biblical issue.’ But what this unfortunate incident really proves is that religious conservatives will stop at nothing – even risking the entire intellectual well-being of a community – to antagonize people who do not mirror their beliefs and lifestyle.

And the latest from the state of Virginia, where Republicans are testing a new way to ban books and restrict their sales—two books are on trial for obscenity. “Rather than demanding that school boards or librarians remove books, the current case takes the books to court, using an obscure Virginia law that would allow the judge, if she found the books obscene, to ban bookstores, libraries, and even private citizens from selling or sharing them, everywhere in Virginia.” This was reported by Dan Kois on August 10, 2022. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

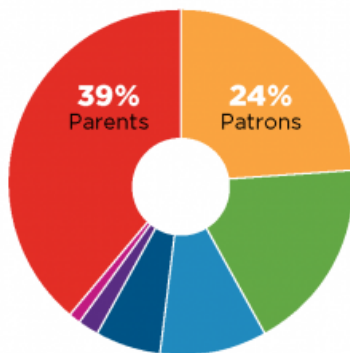
As we continue to hear and read about the challenges facing public and school libraries—and now the pending obscenity court case in Virginia, we are shaken to the core to think that our right to read may be next on the chopping block of freedoms we could lose. We hope to live in communities that not only tolerate, but celebrate differences and that civil discourse will carry the day. Our civil liberties are at stake. If the need arises, please consider taking a stand—for the right to read.

CENSORSHIP

BY THE NUMBERS

Books unite us. They reach across boundaries and build connections between readers. Censorship, on the other hand, divides us and creates barriers. In 2021, 1,597 books were affected by censorship attempts. **Learn more at ala.org/bbooks.**

WHO INITIATES CHALLENGES?



- 18% Board/administration
- 10% Political/religious groups
- 6% Librarians/teachers
- 2% Elected officials
- 1% Students

Statistics based on 715 responses

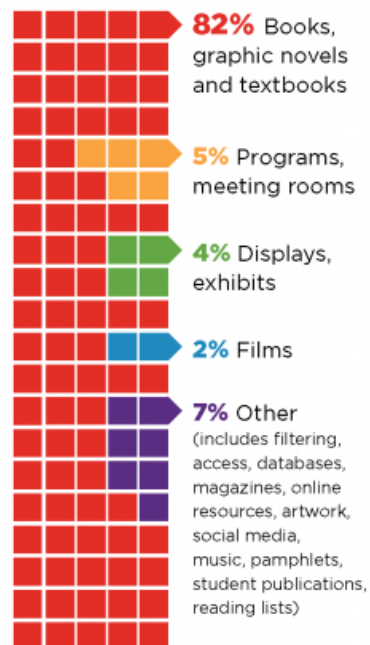
WHERE DO CHALLENGES TAKE PLACE?



Statistics based on 729 responses

BOOKS AND BEYOND

The ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom tracked **729 challenges** in 2021. Here's the breakdown:



REASONS FOR CHALLENGES

HOMOPHOBIC OR TRANSPHOBIC LOW LITERARY VALUE OBSCENE RACIST CONTENT OCCULT LGBTQIA ANTI-POLICE SEX EDUCATION WOKE
 GROOMING ABORTION WHITE PRIVILEGE
 POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION RAPE MAKES WHITE BABIES FEEL SAD ANTI-SEMITIC PEDOPHILIA DRUGS POLITICAL VIEWPOINT
 PROBLEMATIC AUTHOR NOT A HAPPY ENDING RACIALLY DIVISIVE SEXUALIZATION OF WOMEN MASTURBATION VIOLENCE POLARIZING
 SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MARXIST RELIGIOUS VIEWPOINT OFFENSIVE CHINESE STEREOTYPES
 BIASED AND UNBALANCED DANGEROUS AND DETRIMENTAL PROMOTES RACISM HATEFUL USE OF DEROGATORY TERM FOR AFRICAN-AMERICANS
 INDOCTRINATING KIDS CRITICAL RACE THEORY PROFANITY

Each word and phrase in this graphic is cited from 2021 censorship reports

CENSORSHIP
STATISTICS
COMPILED BY:



OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES



Do you want some money?

Each year, your Friends of the North Carolina Public Library award Challenge Grants of up to \$250. 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.

Challenge Grant Program Timetable

Deadline for Applications:	September 15th current year
Grants Awarded:	By October 31st current year
Project Completed:	By June 30th following year
Evaluation Deadline:	By <i>August 31st following year</i>

Grant Award Evaluation Criteria

Criteria on which grant applications will be evaluated include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Innovative and creative project or program proposal
- Potential for achieving objectives
- Quality of the application (planning, conciseness, financial soundness, and clarity)

Please go to <https://foncpl.org/challenge/> and follow the directions.

Now go get the money!!!

Here's an interesting article that you could skim & possibly use some or all these positives to get people to join your library!

15 Free Library Card Perks You Should Know About

by Mavis Butterfield

And books are just one of the MANY perks that come with that cool little library card. Holy Toledos people, did you know that your library card is basically like a platinum card when it comes to the perks you get. Sure you get to read an endless amount of books for free {unless you occasionally forget to return them on time, in which case you might be charged a minuscule fee}, but the other freebies offered at most libraries will blow you away!

Here are just a few of my favorites:

1. **Check out books.** Obviously. This is what brings most people through the doors. I checked out a whoppin' 219 books last year. The beauty of it is that I don't feel guilty spending money on a book I'm not even sure I'll like. If I start it and hate it {which is rare!}, I just bring it back. I'm not out the \$10+ I would have spent on a dud! You too can check out any book your little heart desires {and most libraries don't have limits on how many you can check out at a time, so go to town!}.
2. **Use the "hold" service if your library has one.** This is probably my favorite thing about our library. You can get an online account, search for whatever, put it on hold, then they notify you when it has come in. You go pick it up, when it is ready and waiting just for you. It helps you get exactly what you want without having to take the gamble that it might already be checked out.
3. **Free meeting space.** You can reserve study rooms for free. There are no noise disruptions, so it's the perfect spot for homework. You can also use these rooms for meeting places for book clubs, tutoring sessions, or study groups.
4. **Genealogy Research.** Many libraries have access to genealogy research databases. For FREE! A library near me even offers classes to help you research. Seriously, how awesome is that?
5. **Tax preparation help.** During tax season, many tax experts will offer their services for free at local libraries. Sometimes it's just free for individuals who make under a certain wage, but it certainly is worth a phone call if you need some tax prep help!
6. **Instead of having magazine subscriptions, check them out from the library.** While you can't check out the current month's issues, you can check out all of the back issues.
7. **Borrow movies.** The library has pretty much every movie you can possibly want {unless you live in a super small town}. So the next time you're thinking about renting a movie on Amazon, a quick trip to the library will make that family movie night FREE!
8. **Borrow video games.** Did you know that most libraries have a wide video game selection? You can even put them on hold {see above}, so your kiddos can totally try out the latest game before you buy it. Or even better, maybe you'll never have to buy it at all.

9. **Digital books.** If you are only into digital books, libraries can help with that, too. Most libraries have digital books that don't even require you ever getting in the car. So, if you have a laptop, kindle, iPad or some other device, chances are you can get some free reads by just logging onto your library's website. How cool is that?
10. **Internet usage.** Most libraries allow you to use the computer for an unlimited amount of time if there is no one waiting in line. Search for jobs and fill out applications, do homework, check email or even catch up with friends on Facebook. Some libraries even allow you to print a limited number of items for free.
11. **Take advantage of educational computer games.** The children's part of the library usually has computers loaded with fun educational games. For older kids, Wi-Fi offers a little bit of surfing with some pretty strict restrictions that will keep them fairly safe.
12. **Music.** Want to check out a CD? The library has those too. I can't tell you how much this has saved me over the years—sometimes I end up finding out that owning the whole album just isn't worth it.
13. **Newspapers.** Take advantage of your local newspaper or even the Wall Street Journal while your kiddos peruse for books.
14. **Take advantage of programs.** Most libraries have tons of free programs and classes. Younger kids can go to story time, older kids can do book clubs. My library even has a Lego club {where kids get to build massive creations} and a knitting club {for all skill levels}. Some even offer fitness classes!
15. **Free newsletter:** Most libraries send out monthly newsletters with a heads up on the latest programs and offerings. These are great so you don't miss out on any new free opportunities that may pop up. Make sure you read them!

I'm telling you, libraries rock!



You must check out this video by the Friends of the Library
Southport & Oak Island:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLxzAgurldc>

Thank you for sharing!!



Plan for a successful Library Card Sign-up Month

Use Library Card Sign-up Month as an opportunity to promote your collection and services to your entire community.

[Angela Hursh](#)

27 July 2022

In my corner of the world (Cincinnati, Ohio), the cicadas have been buzzing, signaling the impending end of summer. For me, that sound means it's time to start thinking about fall and the second biggest library "holiday" in the United States, Library Card Sign-up Month. This initiative, launched in 1987 by the American Library Association, is intended to emphasize the importance of library cards to a child's education and to combat illiteracy.

If you start now, you've got plenty of time to plan for a successful, comprehensive Library Card Sign-up Month campaign. And your library can do more than grow your cardholder base. Use Library Card Sign-up Month as an opportunity to promote your collection and services to your entire community. Here are five ideas to help you achieve that goal.

Incentivize current cardholders to recruit new cardholders. This worked surprisingly well for me when I did marketing for my library. Just ask current cardholders to recruit a new cardholder for a chance to win a prize. The prize could be library swag or gift cards from local businesses. Draw winners at the end of the month and post their photos on social media. You'll be surprised how many people will help your library for the chance to win a prize!

To promote your contest, email your cardholders to let them know about the giveaway. Create flyers or bookmarks to promote your contest and slip them into holds, curbside pickup bags, or make-and-take craft bags.

Lean on your partnerships. Ask partner organizations to distribute a bookmark or flier to their visitors. Local realtors and rental agencies can also give out bookmarks or fliers to prospective homeowners or new renters. So can daycare providers, teachers, summer camps, and recreational centers. You can even ask restaurants to include a library card sign-up flyer or bookmark in their takeout bags!

[Saline County Library](#) in Arkansas took this one step further. They partnered with 62 local businesses that provided discounts to people when they showed their library cards during the month of September.

They signed up 330 new cardholders, renewed 1,713 cards, and formed bonds with local businesses because of the campaign. The approach garnered the library a coveted [John Cotton Dana Award](#).

Promote with infographics. Never underestimate the power of visuals! Our brains are hard-wired for visuals. And in your campaign to recruit more cardholders, you might be tempted to tell everyone about all your services. A good infographic can help you do that. Infographics can explain complex ideas and convey a lot of information in an uncomplicated way that is accessible to many audiences. They grab attention.

Grow your newsletter subscriber lists. Did you know that 99 percent of people check their email at least once a day? You can ensure your newsletters and emails get in front of more eyes all year long by using this library holiday as a reason to ask for cardholders' email addresses. Slip a bookmark into their holds, asking them to share their email address using an online form or by calling the reference desk. Your library can also use social media to gather email addresses.

Gather testimonials. Library Card Sign-up Month is a wonderful time to gather stories for promotion later in the year. Ask your staff to be on the lookout for remarkable story ideas from patrons.

You can also use this month to gather stories about your staff in action. What do they love about interacting with the community? What made them want to work at the library? What is their favorite memory of the library from their childhood? What are they reading? Then, tell those stories using the platforms you have available including your blog, your newsletters, and on social media.



suggested the following 4 ideas for Sign Up Month:

MAKE A VISUAL TO REPRESENT NEW CARDHOLDERS

To celebrate new library members, you could keep track of every new one visually. One idea was to create a tree on a window and everyone can put up a leaf when they get a new card. What a cool way to show the community how many new members are joining!

TAP INTO LOCAL CELEBRITIES

Another library system took a picture of their county judge showing his library card and used it in advertisements and social media. You can do this with anyone well known in your community -- school principals, the mayor, radio station personalities, etc. -- to catch the eye of nonlibrary users to send them

SHOW YOUR CARD FOR A SPECIAL TREAT

Add some fun to the children's room! Ask children patrons to show their card for a special library treat, connected to ALA's theme. (i.e. Last year was Snoopy, so they gave out Peppermint Patties.) It was a big hit with the kids!

RANDOM PRIZES FOR NEW AND *RETURNING* CARDHOLDERS

Everyone who signs up for a library card is put into a drawing for gift cards and event passes. You can take this a step further and reach out to patrons who haven't used the library in 3 months and invite them back! When they use their library card, they can also win prizes.



Do you have an
Outstanding Friend of the Library
in your group?

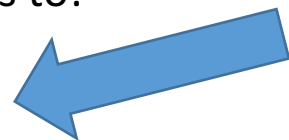
Why not nominate your Friend for the
“NC Friend of the Year” award??

Please send us the name of your Friend, a photo and a concise paragraph on why your Friend is outstanding. How have they contributed to your Group? When did they join your group?

Send us all the fun facts no later than **September 30, 2022!**

We would like the opportunity to celebrate & thank this individual so please email your nominees to:

ladyloves2read@protonmail.com



*We will be looking for all of our
Outstanding Friends across NC!!*



The Booker Prize is awarded to what is, in the opinion of the judges, the best sustained work of fiction written in English and published in the UK and Ireland.

Highlights from 2022's longlist:

Features youngest & oldest author ever

At 116 pages, Claire Keegan's book is the shortest book

3 debut novelists make the list

2022 BOOKER PRIZE LONGLIST

Glory by NoViolet Bulawayo

Trust by Hernan Diaz

The Trees by Percival Everett

Booth by Karen Joy Fowler

Treacle Walker by Alan Garner

The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida by Shahan Karunatilaka

Small Things Like These by Claire Keegan

Case Study by Graeme Macrae Burnet

The Colony by Audrey Magee

Maps of Our Spectacular Bodies by Maddie Mortimer

Nightcrawling by Leila Mottley

After Sappho by Selby Lynn Schwartz

Oh William! by Elizabeth Strout



Do you shop on Amazon? Your purchase can automatically benefit your Friends of the Library. Set this up so that when you shop, go to: www.smile.amazon.com and choose Friends of the ???? Public Library as the charity. Amazonsmile uses your regular account. Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase price to your FOL group..

Another Fund Raising Idea





Zoom Open Mic Night
Thursday September 22, 2022
7:00 PM

Topic: Celebrating success and
recognizing member contributions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83880949146?pwd=OWVNcExpTnZGVlhHMEI2aG1ySEdndz09>

Call in: (310) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 838 8094 9146

Passcode: 951522



Don't Forget for September!!



Please consider coming on board
the Friends of North Carolina
Public Libraries...there are
several offices & director
positions available. It is fun and
it does not take a lot of time
helping others!

WE NEED YOU!!

Please contact Judy Hills
jahnbnc@gmail.com

And let her know that you
will gladly participate!



Send in your news & your pictures from all of your activities at your Library by Sept 25, 2022.
Be sure to share with us so that we can share with our FONCPL members!

klambe@me.com Kathy Lambe