



2022



F·R·I·E·N·D·S
OF NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Supporting Friends of the Library Statewide

NC F*R*I*E*N*D*S TALK

Hello Friends,

The FONCPL Annual meeting and elections will take place via Zoom on November 11, 2022 at 10 AM (Friday—Veterans Day). [Click here](#) for the Zoom link to attend the meeting and to vote. FONCPL Director Meg Forward chaired the nominating committee. She was unable to find any candidates for the President or Vice-President positions. We have had continued problems getting those with Friends leadership experience to take on these roles. It is important that this knowledge be shared with those groups that are struggling or forming. FONCPL performs a valuable service for Friends, but in order for it to continue to exist, it requires leadership. If you value this organization and you have the requisite skills, I implore you to speak up and run for President or Vice-President. Please [email Meg](#) ASAP.

Joanne Straight has agreed to continue to serve as Secretary, if elected, and Treasurer Tim Como's term will not be up until 2023. We also have need of three Directors, which are appointed by the Board. Please [email me](#) if you are willing to serve as a Director.

Our Fall workshop YouTube videos will be posted to our website by mid-November. Normally we would have had them up in October, but there have been unexpected delays. We'll send out a notice when they are available to view. There are a number of good videos already posted on our YouTube channel, check them out on our website—click on the workshop link for a pull-down menu. We are disappointed in the small number of views, given all the work that has gone into producing them.

We only had one applicant for the Friend of the Year award. Each group of Friends could have nominated a Friend and we would have recognized them all. The Friends of the New Bern-Craven County Public Library nominated their Secretary and Book Storage Unit organizer, Lisa Keesen, as Friend of the Year for all the many hours and her personal commitment to ensuring the donated books are checked, scanned, organized and boxed. Lisa plays an important role in organizing two Big Book Sales per year. Congratulations to Lisa Keesen!

Thanks for all you do for your respective libraries!
Yours in Friendship,

Judy Hills, FONCPL President



YOU ARE INVITED to our

FONCPL Annual Meeting & Elections

Friday November 11, 2022 at 10 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85631080798?pwd=ZHo0R1hWYWRRQWIBXakp0N0NMbTVsZz09>

Meeting ID: 856 3108 0798

Passcode: 939142

Dial in number: (301) 715-8592

WE NEED YOU ON THE BOARD!! LET US KNOW THAT YOU WILL VOLUNTEER TO HELP!!

And then please join us for OPEN MIC NIGHT with Judy!!

FONCPL Open Mic Night—Topic: Annual Reports

Tuesday November 15, 2022 7:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84995022911?pwd=NGk1OWhMY2Vra3RZbkNBSiYvazZBUT09>

Meeting ID: 849 9502 2911

Passcode: 293904

Dial in number: (301) 715-8592





F·R·I·E·N·D·S
OF NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Supporting Friends of the Library Statewide

October 1, 2022

Friends of the Wren Memorial Library
C/O Wren Memorial Library
500 North 2nd Avenue
Siler City, NC 27344

Dear Friends,

Congratulations Our Board approved your application for a FONCPL Seed Grant and your initial funding of \$250.00. issued by our Treasurer Tim Como, is included. As part of your award, our Membership Committee Chair Becky Smith will add you to FONCPL's roster for a complimentary one-year membership.

Your first steps will be incorporating as a nonprofit with North Carolina and completing the IRS application for 501(c)(3) status.

Once you have expended the initial monies, please you send me your interim report so we can disperse the \$250.00 balance of your grant. FONCPL Judy Hills President suggests sharing copies of your meeting Minutes to provide insight into your group's progress.

FONCPL President Judy Hills will be your contact during the process. Reach her at jahnbnc@gmail.com for support as needed. Please check out the FONCPL website: <https://foncpl.org/resources/resource-start/>

In any publicity you generate regarding your new organization, we request you use the phrase "Funded [in part] by a grant from Friends of the North Carolina Public Libraries."

Thank you for your application and, again, congratulations.

Warm regards,

Donna Morgan
FONCPL Awards & Grants Committee Chair
(949) 370-2341
ladyloves2read@protonmail.com

Friends of the Library Southport & Oak Island
Winner of the Challenge Grant \$250 !!



They plan to build replicas of this bench found in the Ukraine. They estimate that it will cost \$1,290.



GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

<https://www.givingtuesday.org/>

Looking ahead, think about advertising your Library's needs so on



Tuesday Nov 29th

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

some gifts may be directed your way!



For Fund Raising, get the word out in November that
“Friends of the Library” Memberships can be gifted for Christmas presents.
Also, that a gift to the Friends of the Library can be gifted in someone's
honor as a Christmas gift.



Let's ask Judy!

Do you have any information about best practices regarding library requests for funding and the manner in which Friends turn that funding over?

First, I suggest you view this YouTube video I created this spring on this topic: Money matters: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1YDq8ndsOXw> Here is the link to the PDF version so you can click on the links at the end: <https://foncpl.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Money-Matters.pdf>

Here are the ways the money can be handled:

1. The library creates a wish list—gives it to the Friends—Friends make desired purchases and have them shipped to the library. One advantage is that the Friends can be reimbursed from the state for the sales tax they paid for the purchases. So, if they are making a very large purchase (e.g., new conference room furniture), this would be advantageous.
2. Friends develop their yearly budget and allocate an amount for the library (e.g., \$5,000). They convey a check for \$5,000 to the library along with a letter that tells the library that this is a grant. The letter instructs the library as to the parameters for spending the funds (e.g., computers for public use, book & media for collections, refreshments for public programs, summer reading program materials, etc.). The letter should be specific, but not overly restrictive. The library handles this in their fund accounting system like the grant that it is. They make the purchases and charge them to the grant. The auditor reviews the purchases charged to the grant against the intended uses delineated in the letter. This is the best way, in my opinion as it allows the library some latitude for spending the funds while holding them accountable for the intended uses of the funds.
3. Some Friends entertain funding requests from the library throughout their fiscal year. Hopefully they included an amount in the budget and that they stick to that amount.
4. My Friends do both 2 and 3. We have an amount we give like described and then we also entertain special requests for opportunities that might unexpectedly pop up, but we are in a financial position to do so.

Friends that give the library money should ALWAYS send a letter stating the intended uses. Best practice is for the library to report back to the Friends periodically on the grant and/or purchases made with Friends funding. Backing this up with a copy of the library's financial report showing the line items is also a best practice.

I did not go into this topic in this email, but there are concerns about Friends being asked to fund things that are legitimately the responsibility of the library to provide. Friends are advised NOT to supplant funds. View the video or PDF for details.

There are many ways to skin this cat, but the most important thing is to come to an agreement that is fair and agreeable to both parties.

Let's Ask Judy!

QUESTION: My source of confusion is from the NCSOS's NC Charitable Solicitation License FAQ (Topic: Registration and Reporting), which states:

Does a charity have to file anything with CSL if it is exempt?

No. However, some charities like to register with us anyway. Then they get an exemption letter for their records and their organization is listed as exempt in our on-line Search Registry.

I'm trying to figure out what the NCSOS CSL means by this because it seems at odds with everything else I've read from other sources (including the NC Center for Nonprofits) that states we are required to file for an exemption with CSL.

Do you have any insight into this, or could it be addressed at some point?

JUDY'S ANSWER:

Here is what the statute says:

131F-3(3) Any person who receives less than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in contributions in any calendar year and does not provide compensation to any officer, trustee, organizer, incorporator, fund-raiser, or solicitor. (Note: This exemption requires an annual review of an organization's financial information by the Department. The Department has developed a form to assist in this annual review process.)

So, this goes back to the reason one considers their organization "exempt" or "eligible for an exemption." There are a number of types of organizations that are considered exempt under this statute, but let's assume that most Friends qualify as exempt under the "...receives less than \$25,000 in contributions in any calendar year..." You could look at this and say that because you qualify under this contribution requirement that you are automatically exempt and don't have to complete the exemption paperwork, but note the phrase in parenthesis: "This exemption requires an annual review of an organization's financial information by the Department. The Department has developed a form to assist in this annual review process." So, in reading 131F-3(3), the only way for your organization to PROVE you qualify under this exemption is to have an annual review by the Department. The exemption approval process is free and then you are listed on the Department's registry. Why would you not want to do this, especially if your Friends are not a 501(c)(3)? We, FONCPL, continue to urge Friends groups to bring their organizations up to a standard of professionalism that includes: incorporation with the state of NC, 501(c)(3) status, and compliance with the CSL laws (either a license or an exemption). Of course, these are decisions that individual groups must make.

First Editions—How to Spot Them

"There are **four major criteria** your book must meet, be it a hardcover or a paperback, to be considered a true first edition. You can check whether "first edition" is mentioned on the copyright page, but you also need to check it for the correct **publisher, date, edition number, and print run number**. Different publishers arrange this information differently, so, with some books, be prepared to play a detective." (Bookscout)

[Abe Books—Identifying the First Edition of a Book](#)

[Book Deal—How to Tell if a Book is a First Edition \(2021 Guide\)](#)

[Book Riot—How to Tell if a Book is a First Edition or Valuable](#)

[Pan Macmillan—How Can I Tell if My Book is a First Edition? \(2022\)](#)

[Bookscout—How to Tell if a Book is a First Edition: A Complete Guide \(2022\)](#)

CHECK OUT THE FRIENDS OF PERQUIMANS COUNTY LIBRARY!!

We are fortunate to have such a beautiful new library in Perquimans County which was built in 2018 to replace our outdated and smaller old library. In support, the Friends of Perquimans County Library is a vital part of our community with the new library being a hub of activity for adults and children alike. The mission of our FOPQL is to serve the library through volunteer services, fundraising and promotional activities.

The Friends of Perquimans County Library holds two major events each year, one in the fall and one in the spring. For our fall event, we traditionally host a Silver Tea which also kicks off our membership drive for the upcoming year. This year's 2022 Silver Tea was held October 3rd in the large meeting room of the library. Besides delicious and elegant tea fare, the event included silent auction gift baskets and a raffle for a framed print of the historic Hertford S-Bridge plus recognition of our Special Friend of the County, Sandy Stevenson. Mr Stevenson and his wife, Bobbi, are Friends of Perquimans County Library members and he is president of Perquimans County Restoration Association and past two time president of Hertford Rotary. He is active in Holy Trinity Episcopal Church as former vestry member as well as in the home owners association at Albemarle Plantation in Hertford where he resides. His name was applied to a FOPQL Special Friend of the County recognition plaque with 17 previous "friends" over the years with space for 20 more years of awards. Approximately \$1800 was raised at the Silver Tea through new memberships, renewal memberships, gift basket auction and framed S-bridge print.

In Spring 2023, our second event/fundraiser will be a card party. The date is not yet set, but it is traditionally in May or early June. Gift baskets for auction will be available as well as light lunch.

Our winter activities for members and guests will include guest speaker Deborah Dunn, local author of the historical fiction, *The Coffins*, to be held on February 21, 3-5pm at the library. Other plans are a presentation on banned books as well as a presentation by another local author.

In addition to our primary events, this year we have advocated for our library by showcasing various yesteryear personal vintage collections of FOPQL board members in the foyer of the library. Exhibits thus far have been a vintage hat collection in April and local high school memorabilia in June. Fall exhibits began with antique tools, being followed by a holiday salt and pepper shaker collection in November. The exhibits will culminate in December with a collection of antique toys which will include a life-size vintage Santa Claus Coca Cola advertisement cut-out.

This year we also celebrated National Library Workers Day with "thank you" goody bags for the library staff as well as a Black History Month display of books for our local students in the children's section.

From our previous fundraisers, we have purchased needed items: two library carts, a laptop, audio books and DVD's plus supported updating the Juvenile Nonfiction section.

We are looking forward to adding five new board members to our board in January making our 10 member board complete for the first time in many years.



President Brenda Hollowell-White awarding Sandy Stevenson, Friend of the County



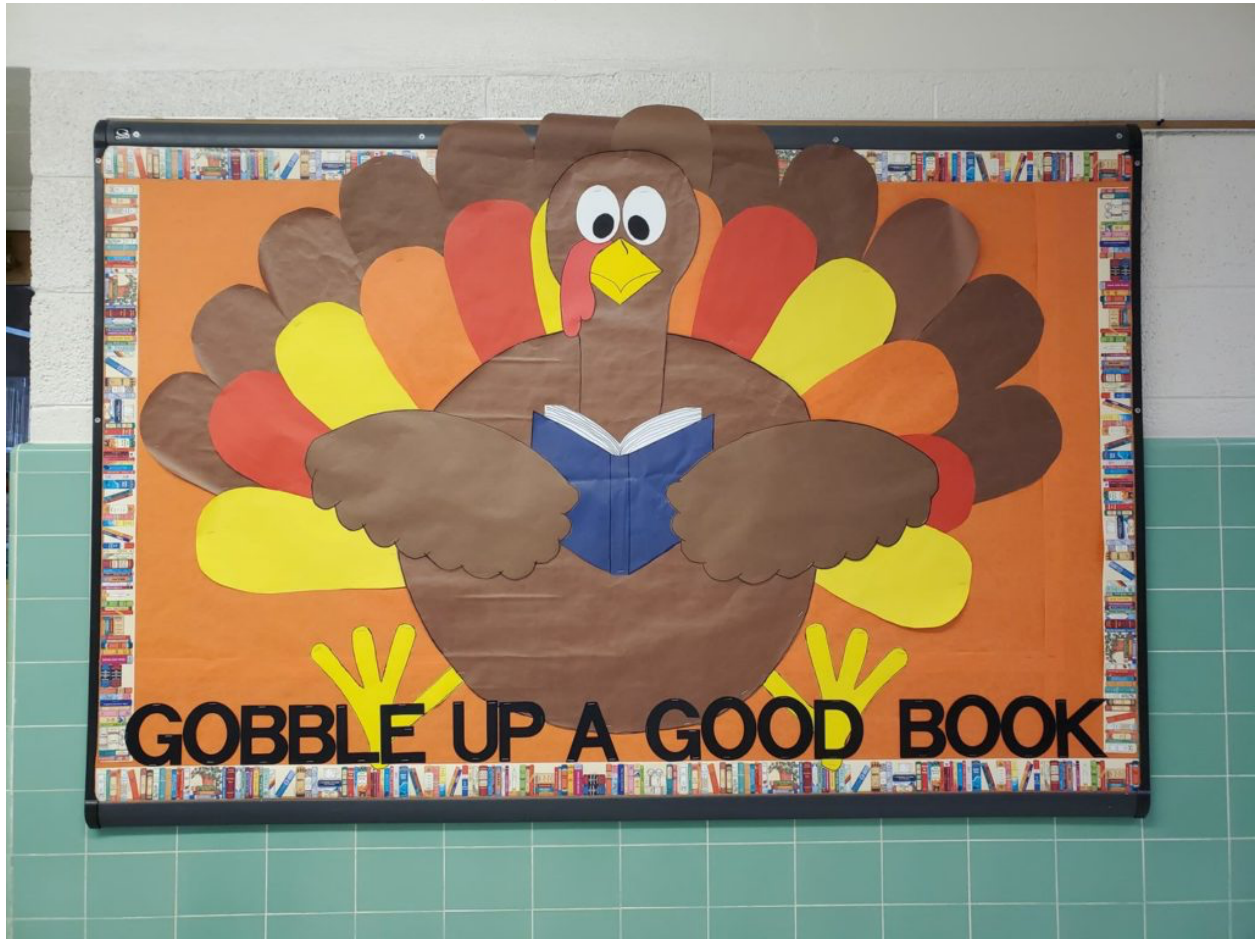
*Guests at the Silver Tea
A decades old fundraiser tradition
for Perquimans County Library*



Array of silent auction gift baskets at the Silver Tea

Brenda Hollowell-White, President, Friends of Perquimans County Library

Just an idea to put you in the November mood!



And the Winner of the Booker Prize is:



INTERESTING TO NOTE:

For Friends that maintain Little Free Libraries, please know that you can count the books as in house circulation.

October 11, 2022—Article on BookDeal: "See Books & Textbooks online: 10 Best Websites Compared." <https://www.bookdeal.com/blog/top-7-best-website-to-sell-books/>

Our October 10th Zoom Open Mic Night had some great discussion concerning book sales.

Here is some of the discussion:

From Julie in Cashiers: Can anyone tell me if they use Thrift Books to get rid of some of their used books? Do they take fiction or just nonfiction?

Do they pay for shipping? Their website says yes but not sure if that is totally true. Do you have to have pallets full? Any information someone can give me would be great. I would prefer hearing what experience people have had with them.

We have used Better World Books in the past for nonfiction but as we all are - we are drowning in used fictions. We have a large used bookstore and storeroom attached to our library

From Donna on the FONCPL Board: Our City Library used ThriftBooks to send two pallets of "approved books" to them. Unless they sell the books for more than it costs to offset shipping, you get nothing. It was so much work scanning the books, getting them on the pallets properly wrapped—it ended up getting us no money. So we donate unwanted books to the jail, nursing homes, senior facilities. We have a couple of places (City Hall, private business) where we leave a donation box & selection of books. Also put in Little Free Library of which there are many around here.

From Sally on Macon County Friends: Macon Co. FOL Bookstore again...When we first started, I worried that it was taking LOTS of time to scan and store the boxes before we could send them out to ThriftBooks. We finally got 2 people to volunteer to do the scanning. They come once a week and go thru the books we've set aside for scanning. They each spend between 2-4 hours a week at this job. One of them also cashiers one day a week, the other cleans books another day per week. Then there are 2 other part-time scanners who whip in to help when they can spare some time. It doesn't take long to train them and they of course, work at their own pace! We also have one lady who specializes in our old and rare books, who sometimes scans those separately for Thrift. We are in need of someone to sell our "exotic" books online.

Bottom line, if you can convince someone to specialize in scanning, it can be done and be very profitable!

From Judy on FONCPL Board: Our FOL scans all donated books that meet buy back company parameters and do about \$2000 per year in online sales to them. They pay shipping and we box up and drop off. We scan using bookscounter app. You do not have to pay NC sales tax on these sales.

We look for author signed books and sell them separately online. We have a person who helps us price old books at our twice a year book sales. We would like to have someone selling these online, but haven't been successful yet in getting a volunteer to do so.

At the end of each sale we have a \$5 per paper grocery bag day and do our best to get rid of remaining inventory to prisons, nonprofits, teachers, senior facilities, LFL stewards, but still have a large number left. We made the decision several years ago not to keep any books after the sale. This has not impacted the number of books we have to sell at each sale.

We, too, evaluated selling the remainder in bulk to World Books and Thrift Books, but we found their requirements too onerous based on potential income.

BTW we rigidly cull our donations. Better culled books, children's books, and teen books are used in the four LFLs that we maintain. And we understand that we can now keep track of these books and the library gets to count them in their distribution stats. Win-win.

From Sylvia: It looks like you all have covered most of the info that was asked. ThriftBooks helps pay shipping, but your part comes from your profits. I would not recommend shipping the popular fiction due to that reason, since they have an abundant supply of those books already.

Our library ships their books removed from the shelves to TB and we add to those from our donations but are selective in the ones we ship. We ship 4 pallets at a time. We need to learn about the scanning part with Bookscounters or other groups. Yesterday I saw a person at our ongoing book sale shelves scanning some books. I assume he buys them cheap and resells for a profit. Okay, he is helping us, but I thought he looked guilty when he saw me looking at him.



The FONCPL “*FRIEND of the YEAR*” award goes to *Lisa Keesen!!*

Lisa was nominated by the Friends of the New Bern-Craven County Public Library. She is their Secretary and Book Storage Unit Organizer. In this month of Thanksgiving it is good to exclaim how grateful they are for her many hours and her personal commitment to ensuring the donated books are checked, scanned, organized and boxed. They couldn't have their two Big Book Sales a year without her!

An important update on StoryWalk® 2022

We are thrilled to share that StoryWalk® week 2022 will be **November 7-11!** Our partner the Association of Bookmobile & Outreach Services has prepared this [StoryWalk Submission Form](#).

Who is eligible to participate? Anyone! We welcome all to share their efforts to combine reading, trails, paths, and public space. Whether you call your effort a StoryWalk®, a story trail, a book trail, a poetrywalk, or something else, we want to feature you in this international celebration!

What can I share? The [form](#) asks you to upload a photograph documenting your StoryWalk. Ideally, the photograph should be from the past year. It can also include flyers for upcoming events, if your library plans a StoryWalk, but not yet done it.

When can I share? The form will be open through November 3.

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!

Thank you!!!

Send in your news & your pictures from your Library activities by November 25, 2022.

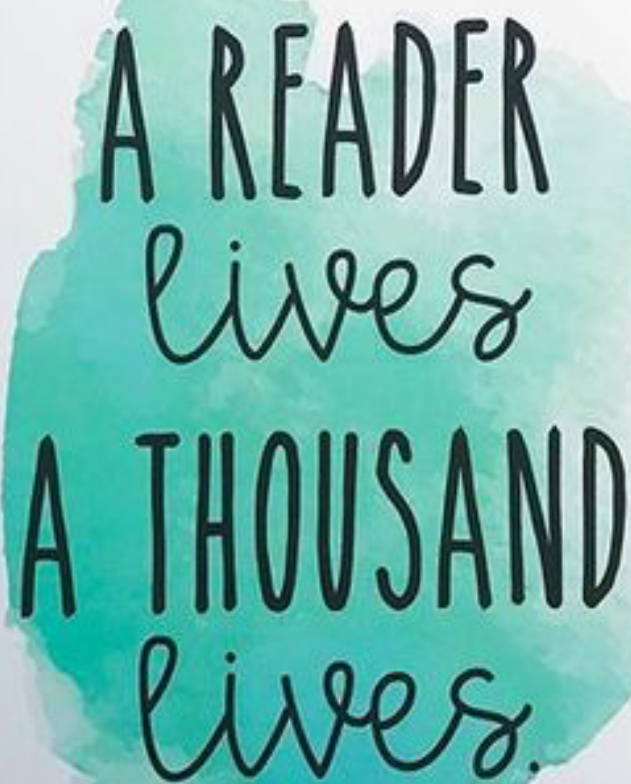
klambe@me.com Kathy Lambe



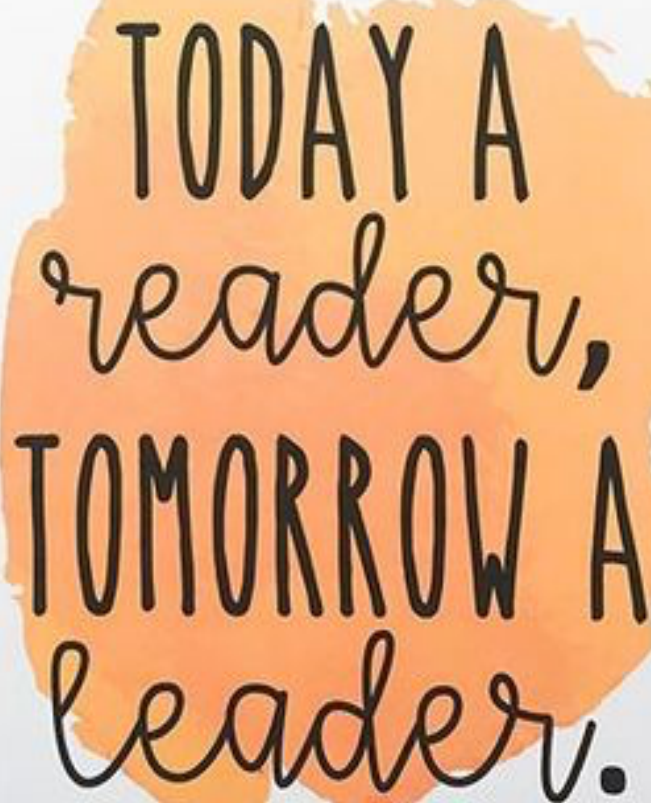
NEVER JUDGE A
book
BY ITS
movie.



READING IS
dreaming
WITH YOUR
eyes wide open.



A READER
lives
A THOUSAND
lives.



TODAY A
reader,
TOMORROW A
leader.