



News From the Friends

Newsletter of the FRIENDS of the York County Library
www.YCLibrary.org

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Book Sales Strong Halfway Through 2022

By Jim Beamguard, Treasurer, Friends YCL

The first half of 2022 was financially successful for the Friends of the York County Library (YCL). Volunteers who support the York County Public Library have collected 58% of expected annual revenue while holding expenses slightly below budget. All three major sources of income were better than expected: local book sales, online book sales and donations.

Proceeds from Friends on Main Bookstore, five YCL lobbies and two coffee shops account for 70% of our revenue to date. On-line sales on eBay and Amazon account for another 19% of revenue. Donations, which include all gifts and memberships, are 9% of income. Memberships are slightly below budget.

From January through June, revenue was \$53,518.90, for an average income of nearly \$300 a day. Last year we averaged \$283. That's a healthy 6% increase during a time when the overall economy is thought to be slowing down.

The Friends this year have contributed \$6,200 to YCL. We incurred other expenses of \$17,037.60. As of June 30, our remaining balance was \$30,030.46. Of course, we will transfer more money to the library before year's end, mostly to cover the Summer Learning Program and for the purchase of books.

Obviously, the bookstore must cover a number of expenses related to Friends Books on Main, our used-book store at 206 E. Main St., Rock Hill. After subtracting expenses, including credit card fees, we see that local sales so far this year account for almost 59% of revenue, while online sales amount to slightly more than 26%. It is encouraging that the bookstore is increasingly popular. At this point, the store is \$10,887 ahead of the same period last year.

Other high notes:

- Sales from the lobby of the Main Library in Rock Hill are nearly \$2,000 ahead of budget.
- Coffee shop revenue is above budget, despite the closing of Virgin Bean in Clover.
- Despite aggressive budgeting for on-line sales, eBay was at 72% of its 2022 budget by mid-year and Amazon sales were at 70.5%.
- Thanks to some unanticipated bequests, donations to date are nearly twice what we expected them to be for the whole year.

The only concern of note is with consignment sales, which are significantly below budget through June. Our consignment agents have not stocked any of our books so far this year because of health issues in their company. Last year they paid us more than \$8,000. We expected about 10% of our revenue in 2022 to come from consignments. So far it has been less than 2%.

All said, I think it is a tribute to our hardworking volunteers that we have more than made up the difference so far in 2022.



YCL Outreach Assistants Brannon Nance (left) and Stu Withers bring books to residents of Wellmore of Tega Cay during their weekly visit to the assisted living facility. The YCL Outreach Van is equipped with rolling carts and a wheelchair lift. Friends of YCL contributed \$50,000 toward purchase of the van, which supplements services provided by the YCL Bookmobile. Schedules for both Outreach vehicles may be found at: www.yclibrary.org/outreach.

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Friends of YCL Website Goes LIVE!

By Diane Ingersoll, Friends YCL Board

The Friends of the York County Library's website is **LIVE!** Be sure to check it out at yclibraryfriends.org.

Thanks to Friends volunteer Tom Roulliard, the Friends of YCL now have our very own website. There is text and photo-editor access for the Friends to add pictures and items of interest. Also, the site includes links to our eBay and Amazon storefronts. The Amazon link takes you to a list of the titles being sold by YCBookShelf, but be sure to look through the list of items available to find the one offered by **ycbookshelf!** Current and previous newsletters are also stored there.

In the future, Friends of YCL will be able to renew or purchase memberships via PayPal from the website.

Any pictures or ideas you would like to have added, just send a note via **"Contact Us"** on the website. All contacts via the website are responded to by a member of the Friends Board.

Below is a screen shot of yclibraryfriends.org page



Friends' Bookcase Adds to Knowledge Perk Ambience

In early July, the Friends launched their latest coffee-shop book sales operation at Knowledge Perk Coffee Company, located at 130 W. White St., Rock Hill.

"Earlier this year, we lost the second of our two coffee shop sales locations when Virgin Bean closed in Clover," said Friends President Susan Lyle, "so we were delighted when Knowledge Perk owner Ryan Sanderson gave his blessing to let us sell books in his shop."

Until the Knowledge Perk bookcase was started, Amelie's, 157 E. Main St., Rock Hill, was the Friends remaining sales site, other than Friends Books on Main and YCL branches, Susan said.

The idea of offering used books for sale in a coffee shop locally originated with Amelie's. Other than when the French bakery was closed because of the pandemic, it has been a steady source of income for the Friends.

While coffee shop sales comprise less than 2% of our budgeted revenue for 2022, they provide a high-profile presence in desirable locations, Susan said.

"One of our goals is to support libraries in their efforts to promote reading," said Terry Plumb, the Board member who coordinated the Knowledge Perk venture. "We think our book display adds to the ambience and will introduce the Friends to a new audience."

Jennifer Daly, manager of Knowledge Perk, could not have been more helpful, Terry said.

The three-shelf bookcase is located in the middle of the coffee shop, not far from the sales counter. Assisting in selecting books and in setting up the bookcase were Board members Debora Hutchins and DeeAnna Brooks, who were responsible for sales at Amelie's and Virgin Bean, respectively.

"Books chosen include a mixture of history, classics, fiction — even children's books," Terry said. "Within three days, 16 books were sold."

Both Knowledge Perk and Amelie's sell the

Friends' books without charging the Friends. "These coffee shops are very generous," Terry said. "I hope our members will tell them 'Thank you' whenever they visit."

Friends volunteer Debora Hutchins setting up the Friends bookcase at Knowledge Perk Coffee Company



Friends Honor Susan Brown

The Friends Board of Directors made a \$100 donation to the YCL's *Bucks for Books* fund in memory of Susan Brown, 72, who passed away June 9.

Susan, a longtime volunteer in the Friends' sorting room at the Main Library, was a native of North Carolina. She is survived by her husband of 49 years, Jerry Paulo Brown, four children and five grandchildren.

Faye Wyatt, a fellow sorting room volunteer said of Susan: "She was a congenial co-worker who went about her tasks quietly and efficiently. She was noted for her reliability and patience. Susan had an uncanny ability to find just the right spot of where to shelve the difficult or awkward book."

The YCL Bucks for Books fund goes to purchase new books for the York County Library. Donations to the YCL Bucks for Books fund may be made to York County Library, Book Budget, PO Box 10032, Rock Hill, SC 29731.

Simrill Credited for Helping Thwart Censorship

State Rep. Gary Simrill (R-Rock Hill), helped thwart an amendment to the state's annual budget bill that state and local library officials say would have threatened parents' right to decide what their children should or should not read.

On June 10, the conference committee charged with resolving differences in the respective budget bills of the S.C. Senate and House declined to adopt language from Senate Amendment 32. The amendment stipulated that before county libraries receive state money, they must certify that they do not offer in the children's section any books or materials that would appeal to the "prurient interest" of children under the age of 13, and that such materials are made available only with explicit parental consent.

Gary said his decision to oppose Amendment 32 came down to his strong belief in local control. "We have a board of library trustees, who are appointed by the York County Council, and that is where such decisions should reside," he said.

According to Law Insider, a database and resource center subscribed to by more than 300,000 attorneys, "prurient interest" means a "shameful or morbid interest in nudity, sex, or excretion and is reflective of an arousal of lewd and lascivious desires and thoughts." While most parents want to protect their children from pornography or other inappropriate material, opening the door to censorship would have been dangerous, according to librarians.

Jason Hyatt, director of the York County Library, said the library follows set procedures for selecting and distributing books and other materials. Also, no child may be issued a library card without their parent's permission, and librarians encourage parents to be involved with their child's reading.

If a parent or any citizen has a concern about a book, York County's libraries have procedures by which patrons may request that the material be removed or reclassified, Jason said.

In response to a request from the S.C. State Library, members of the Friends of YCL sent emails and made phone calls to Gary and other members of the conference committee, asking them to oppose Amendment 32.

Jason pointed out that the budget bill approved for the coming fiscal year contained significant benefits for all South Carolina public libraries. The bill redefines the \$2.25 per capita funding for public libraries as "recurring funds" — instead of relying on less reliable proceeds from the S.C. Lottery — and increases the minimum grant for county library systems to \$150,000 per year, from \$100,000.

"That change will not affect York County," Jason said "but it's a big deal for some small, rural libraries. That's pretty much their entire budget."

Board Matches FOSCL 'Mini-grant' to Support Library Documentary

The Friends of YCL recently matched a grant from the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) to underwrite a video documentary about South Carolina libraries. At its June meeting, the Friends Board of Directors unanimously agreed to contribute \$250 for production of a video tentatively titled, "More than a Place of Reading."

FOSCL, a nonprofit organization that fosters support for local Friends of Library groups in South Carolina and advocates for improved library services throughout the state, approved a \$250 "mini-grant" for the documentary.

The theme of the documentary will be how the look and function of public libraries have changed dramatically over the past 20 years. Concepts such as makers spaces, mini-conference rooms, drive-up circulation windows and career development departments distinguish new libraries, said Friends of YCL Past President Terry Plumb.

"Many older libraries offer such services, of course," Terry said, but many are hampered because they lack the space or other assets. "For example, drive-up circulation services are immensely popular these days, especially in the wake of the COVID pandemic, but it would be extremely challenging to add a drive-up window at our Main Library, which is nearly 40 years old and is hemmed in by City Hall on one side and the city's Law Enforcement Center on the other."

Terry Roueche, a retired commercial photographer, will serve as the videographer on the project. He recently launched Radio Free Rock Hill (radiofreerockhill.com), where he posts interviews and other articles about Rock Hill and nearby areas.

His most recent project is "Seven Coffee Shops," a documentary about how coffee shops are helping revitalize small downtowns.

"Terry (Roueche) was looking for new projects, and I suggested he do one on libraries," Terry (Plumb) said. He jumped at the idea. The next step was applying for the FOSCL mini-grant, which was followed by the Friends of YCL grant.

The 30-minute documentary will be made available to Friends groups and library trustees across the state and to anyone interested in enhancing library services in the Palmetto State.

"A common misunderstanding is that the Internet has made libraries obsolete," Terry (Plumb) said, "when nothing could be further from the truth. We hope this documentary will help people understand that the public library remains a vital institution in our communities."

Friends Books on Main Adds Sunday Hours

Following is a list of highlights from the first half of 2022:

- Effective June 5, Friends *Books on Main*, 206 E. Main St., Rock Hill, added Sunday "Summer Hours" (12:30-4:00 PM). Other store highlights included participation in Rock Hill's annual Pride Fest in June, the addition of a white board bulletin board donated by a benefactor; and a paperback bag sale three weekends in May.
- Friends representatives attended the Feb. 24 dedication of the York County Library's new Sprinter Van. In addition to funds from the S.C. State Library and York County, the Friends donated \$50,000 towards the purchase of the van.
- Dina Grant, Community Engagement manager for YCL, received the 2022 Public Library Employee Excellence Award from the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) during their annual meeting in March. Grant was nominated by the Friends of YCL and is the third YCL employee to receive the award. Abbie Townson, manager of Young Adult Services, was honored in 2010 and Terry Cobb, former manager of the Clover Library, in 2016. During National Library Week in April, the Friends board surprised Dina with a floral bouquet and a gift card in honor of her award.
- Also, at the FOSCL annual meeting, Terry Plumb was named to the state organization's board for a two-year term. Terry is a former president of the Friends of YCL. FOSCL was created in the late 1980's to help foster, create and support local Friends of the Library groups.
- The Friends donated \$6,000 to YCL for the annual Patchwork Tales Festival. A billboard was posted on I-77 to promote the event.
- A New Member Orientation for board members was held April 11 at the Main Library.
- The Catawba Valley Land Trust donated a collection of books to YCL from the estate of the late Lindsay Pettus. Pettus, a passionate environmentalist and political leader from the Indian Land area of Lancaster County, was instrumental in the conservation of nearly 9,000 acres, including the Forty Acre Rock, Landsford Canal State Park and the Cedar Creek Reservoir near Great Falls.



Dina admires her beautiful flowers

Friends Spruce Up Store's Rear Entrance

A Friends board member received the following email in February: "I haven't even gotten home yet to show Forrest the pictures that I took of the rear entrance to the Friends. You all have done so much to make that building look so much better, and there is so much activity and so many volunteers there that it just warms my heart each time I go."

Totty Wilkerson, wife of Forrest Wilkerson, who owns the building that houses *Friends Books on Main*, 206 East Main St., Rock Hill, was referring to the beautification of the rear entrance to the book store,

Several volunteers deserve credit for the project, according to longtime member Connie Newland: "It was definitely a team effort," she said. "DeeAnna (Brooks) and Mike (Kropp), painted the doors. I got the pots. Mike (DeeAnna's husband), found and planted the evergreens. Debbie (Turner) provided and maintains the flowers."

Friends President Susan Lyle said, "We always felt the back door looked bad. After the alley behind the store was upgraded, we decided it was time to spruce up the back entrance."



YCL INFORMATION

All Branches are closed on Sunday

YORK COUNTY MAIN LIBRARY

138 East Black St., Rock Hill (803-981-5858)

Monday–Thursday: 9 AM–7 PM; Friday–Saturday: 9 AM–6 PM

Drop donated books in Donation Box to the left of the front door.

CLOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

107 Knox Street (803-222-3474)

Monday–Thursday: 9 AM–7 PM;

Friday: 9 AM–6 PM; Saturday: 9 AM–2 PM

Drop donated books at Circulation Desk

FORT MILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

1818 Second Baxter Crossing (803-547-4114)

Monday–Thursday: 9 AM–7 PM; Friday–Saturday: 9 AM–6 PM

Drop donated books at Circulation Desk

LAKE WYLIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

185 Blucher Circle (803-831-7774)

Monday–Thursday: 9 AM–7 PM; Friday–Saturday: 9 AM–6 PM

Drop donated books at Circulation Desk

YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

21 East Liberty Street (803-684-3751)

Monday–Thursday: 9 AM–7 PM;

Friday: 9 AM–6 PM; Saturday: 9 AM–2 PM

Drop donated books at Circulation Desk

York County Libraries In-Person and Curbside Pick-Up at all of the Branches

Monday–Friday: 10 AM–6 PM

Saturday: 10 AM–2 PM



StoryWalk at Miracle Park

Miracle Park Executive Director Kylie Carroll

led children on a tour of the park’s new StoryWalk. The Eagle Scout project of Will Dalton, a recent graduate of South Pointe High School, the StoryWalk consists of 18 panels on which a children’s picture book is displayed.

The first book chosen was *Louie’s Together Playground*, by Dr. Nicole Julia, with art by Jeff Crowther. Described as a “celebration of dwarfism, diverse friendships and inclusive playgrounds,” the book features Louis, a llama with dwarfism, who loves to build, construct and create.

Miracle Park, located at 1006 Eden Terrace in Rock Hill, opened in September 2021 and features playground equipment, walking trails and events designed to accommodate children of all abilities. The park is operated, maintained and programmed by the Rock Hill Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department.

Development was led by the York County Disabilities Foundation in partnership with Winthrop University and support from many volunteers and donors. York County Library assists the StoryWalk and regularly conducts outreach events at Miracle Park.



Support YOUR Library the Easy Way!



Amazon offers an easy way to donate to the Friends of the York County Library. Since 11/2021, the Friends have received over \$725.73 from AmazonSmile, which enables customers to designate a favorite nonprofit group to receive a contribution equivalent to a half-percent of qualified purchases.

Go to smile.amazon.com. Follow the directions. Enter “Friends of the York County Library” as your charity. *You shop — Amazon gives! It’s easy, helps your library and costs you nothing!*

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FRIENDS OF THE YORK COUNTY LIBRARY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Please print clearly. Your information will not be shared.)

Membership: New Renewal Date: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

CHOOSE A MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:

- Friend (Individual): \$15
- Family Friend: \$25
- Good Friend: \$50
- Supportive Friend: \$100
- Best Friend: \$500
- Student Friend: \$10

List the names to include in this membership. (Adults must live at the same address and are limited to 2 per \$25 membership and 4 per \$50 and up)

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

CHOOSE ONE OF THE 2 PAYMENT OPTIONS:

① Enclosed is my check made payable to: **Friends of the York County Library**

② Charge my credit card: Visa MasterCard Discover

Name as it appears on card (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ CVC _____

The Friends of the YCL is a 501 (C)(3) organization. Your membership is tax-deductible as allowed by law.

I AM INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING MY TIME AND TALENT. MY AREAS OF INTEREST ARE:

- Friends Books on Main book store
- Library branch book sales
- Sorting donated books and materials
- Other. Please contact me so we can talk.

Return completed application and payment to any York County Library Branch (addresses above on left)

Or Mail To: Friends of the York County Library, PO Box 10032, Rock Hill, SC 29731

For more information or to contact us, please visit yclibrary.org or call 803-272-8303.