

Julie and Jim Beamguard named Volunteers of the Year



Jim and Julie Beamguard

The Friends honored Julie and Jim Beamguard as the 2021 Joann Woods McMaster Volunteers of the Year. Announcement of the award, named after the late founder of the Friends, was made during the Annual Meeting January 23.

“Julie began as a volunteer after moving back to her family farm outside Rock Hill,” said 2021 President Terry Plumb. “Jim began volunteering after Friends Books on Main opened in 2015. Volunteers like Jim and Julie are the backbone of the Friends organization.”

Before moving to Rock Hill, the Beamguards most recently lived in Tampa, Fla., where Julie worked in the public library system and Jim was a newspaper editor.

Julie serves as one of six store “leads” and is responsible for one of the largest categories — children’s books. When the Sorting Room was overflowing with children’s books donated by a local charter school, Julie organized special sales at Friends Books on Main and in the lobby of both the Main Library and Fort Mill Library.

Jim, currently treasurer of the Friends, previously served as secretary. He also takes photographs for the Friends newsletter.

Jack Hutchins, who nominated the couple wrote: “Jim and Julie work as a team at the store every week and are great with the customers. Jim is a guy who will raise his hand when a thankless job needs filling. He also volunteers at the store with Julie and takes care of several categories, including Westerns, Science Fiction, and Vintage.”

The Joann McMaster Volunteer of the Year Award was established in 2005 to recognize volunteers who have shown extraordinary dedication to the Friends on behalf of the York County Library. Names of awardees are engraved on a plaque that hangs outside the Sorting Room at the Main Library.

Sprinter Van Surprise Guest at Friends Board Meeting

Friends of YCL Board members received a big surprise during their November meeting when Dina Grant, YCL Community Engagement Manager, announced that the new Sprinter Van was parked outside. She treated them to an advance peek of the van, which will supplement the Bookmobile by catering to senior readers. The van, for which the Friends contributed \$50,000, features a wheelchair lift and is equipped with roll-off carts so that books can be taken into senior centers and other venues that serve elderly patrons.



Friends Board members admire the Friends gift to the library — a beautiful Sprinter Van!

Past Winners of the McMaster Volunteer of the Year Award

2020	Lois Stimax
2019	Debora and Jack Hutchins
2018	DeeAnna Brooks
2017	Mac Lyle (posthumous)
2016	David Needham
2015	Faye Wyatt
2014	Martha Ferguson
2013	Nancy Coleman
2012	Connie Newland
2011	Janie Matson
2010	Jane Kasemersky
2009	Deborah Wiegand
2008	Joan King
2007	Michael Simmons
2006	Marianne O’Neill
2005	Jinny & Jinilyn Anderson

LOVE and MURDER!



This winter, fiction lovers of contrasting tastes will find something appealing in the front windows of **Friends Books on Main**, 206 East Main Street in Rock Hill. Volunteer Lora Matthews has created a Valentine’s Day display in one window and in the other a display encouraging passers-by to “*Read a Book and Catch a Crook.*” The mystery scene, festooned with crime-scene tape, includes the outline of a corpse and other clues. Lora is known for her imaginative window treatments.

Inside this newsletter . . .

Friends Hold Annual Meeting (2)
Key Note Speaker at Annual Meeting (2)
Three New Board Members Elected (3)
2021 Friends Highlights (3)
Report to YCL Trustees (3)
Friends Books on Main Featured in New Book (3)
YCL and Curbside Pickup Information (4)
AMAZON SMILE Donations Exceed \$700 (4)
YCL Thanks Friends During National FOL Week (4)
Become a **FRIEND** today! (4)

Susan Lyle Elected President

The Friends elected Susan Lyle as president during their Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition Sunday, January 23, held both in-person at the Main Library and via Zoom.

Lyle, a longtime member has served as a “lead” at Friends Books on Main, and most recently as vice president/president elect. She replaces Terry Plumb, who continues on the board. Board member Diane Ingersoll becomes vice president/president elect.

Reappointed to the Executive Committee for 2022 are Treasurer Jim Beamguard and Secretary Judy Gritzmacher. By voice vote, three new members were unanimously elected to the board: Jack Hutchins, Chad Lynch and Joy Price. (See related article on page 3.)

Jason Hyatt, director of the York County Library, updated the audience on library matters, including recent upgrades to the Main Library and branches. Of special note, he said, was the addition of a Sprinter Van equipped to serve senior patrons. The Friends contributed \$50,000 toward its purchase.

“The Friends do a tremendous job of managing donations and turning those into a solid revenue stream to support library programs and initiatives,” Jason said. “The Friends’ are reliable, rock-solid advocates for the library. In this, yet another year of pandemic living, I also have to point out how much we love and appreciate the support that extends far beyond the mere financial.”

In describing the Friends’ financial status, Treasurer Jim Beamguard said 2021 was a “great year financially, especially considering we started the year with the bookstore (Friends Books on Main) closed. The Friends raised over \$100,000 in revenue, nearly half of that from the bookstore. Expenses, not counting support for the library, totaled less than \$34,000.” Jim singled out on-line sales (eBay and Amazon), which produced about 29% of revenues in 2021. “We should expect another good year because we are financially successful in so many areas,” he said.

Board terms are for three years, and members may serve two consecutive terms. The Executive Committee is appointed by the previous year’s Board of Directors, while board members are elected by the membership during the Annual Meeting.

Members who rotated off the board are: Glenn Ackerman, Debora Hutchins and Connie Newland. Glenn resigned last year upon moving to Florida. Debora and Connie completed their second three-year terms,

Outgoing president Terry Plumb thanked the departing board members, adding that Debora will continue to manage sales at Amelie’s and volunteer at the Clover Library and that Connie has agreed to remain financial secretary.

During the Volunteer Recognition portion of the meeting, supervisors thanked volunteers and briefly described the work they do.

By voice vote, members approved several changes to the bylaws. Terry described the amendments as housekeeping details. For example, he said, the bylaws, last amended in 2016, called for five classes of membership, but the board since added a sixth category, for students. Copies of the amended bylaws will be emailed to members.



Susan Lyle



Jason Hyatt

Keynote Speaker at Friends Annual Meeting Cecil Ivory’s Fight Reverberates Today

The Rev. Cecil A. Ivory, pastor of Hermon United Presbyterian Church, died young, but the civil rights struggle he waged in South Carolina still reverberates 60 years later, said Claudia Smith Brinson, keynote speaker at the Friends Annual Meeting.

In her address, “*We Will Return Your Hate with Love*,” Brinson described how Ivory, despite a spinal injury that forced him to use a wheelchair, inspired Rock Hill’s African American students and faith leaders to take on the prevailing Jim Crow culture.

In July 1957 he organized a boycott of the Rock Hill bus line after a young African American woman, Addelene Austin White, was mistreated by a white bus driver. With the support of Black churches, the African American community formed car pools, then bought its own bus, eventually driving the Star Bus Line out of business.

In February 1960, days after Black college students in Greensboro, N.C., made history by demanding service at “white-only” lunch counters, Friendship College students who Ivory recruited conducted the first sit-in demonstrations in South Carolina. Not only were the Rock Hill protests the catalyst for similar protests by other South Carolina HBCU students, but they also were unique in that they continued long after other protests had petered out, Brinson said.

A year later another group of local students, the Friendship Nine, would choose “jail, no bail” and become civil rights icons. Ivory ministered to them in prison and organized protests on their behalf.

Ivory also played a key role in bringing the Freedom Rides to Rock Hill in May 1961. Among the riders assaulted by white rowdies in the Greyhound bus terminal was young John Lewis, the civil rights champion and Georgia congressman.

Less well known is how Ivory served as a bridge between the two most important civil rights organizations, the NAACP and CORE (Congress of Racial Equality). The NAACP won its biggest victories in the courtroom, while CORE sought racial justice through direct action. Ivory, a charismatic speaker and brilliant strategist, managed to get the rivals to work together.

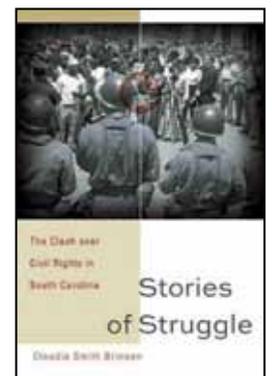
It was ironic, Brinson said, that Ivory didn’t live to see his greatest victory. In December 1964, three years after his death, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned his conviction and that of Arthur Hamm, Jr., for illegal trespass at McCrory’s variety store.

The court ruled that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 meant that sit-in demonstrators were not subject to state or federal prosecution. As a deceased plaintiff, Ivory’s name had been removed from the case, *Hamm v. City of Rock Hill*.

Brinson, a veteran journalist, is author of *Stories of Struggle: The Clash over Civil Rights in South Carolina*, USC Press. Her book may be ordered at uscpress.com/Stories-of-Struggle.



Claudia Smith Brinson



Three New Board Members Elected at Friends Annual Meeting

Jack Hutchins, Chad Lynch and Joy Price were elected to serve three-year terms during the Friends of YCL Annual Meeting January 23 at the Main Library.

Below are brief sketches of the new members:

Jack Hutchins: Jack is a South Carolina native and a retired electrical engineer. His career included jobs at several different companies, including Springs Industries, as well as periods of freelance work. His wife, Debora, and he started volunteering with the Friends more than a decade ago, first at the quarterly book sales. Jack later helped Jane Kasemersky with shipping books she sold on Amazon. Four years ago, he took over eBay sales for the Friends, a source of revenue that has shown steady growth during that time. His efforts really paid off during the pandemic when Friends Books on Main and all the York County libraries were closed for months.

Colleagues will tell you that Jack is tireless in his efforts on the Friends behalf. One recent example of how his expertise has benefited the Friends was when he sold some donated cookbooks for several hundred dollars.

Jack and Debora were honored as the Joann McMaster Volunteers of the Year in 2020.

Chad Lynch: Chad and his wife, Katrina, are both graduates of Purdue University, where he earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering. He is a licensed professional engineer in three states and works at Amazon as a construction manager, converting the delivery van parking lots to accommodate EV vehicles in the southeast.

Katrina is a nurse at Novant Health Charlotte Orthopedic Hospital. They have two children and sponsor a high school exchange student from Spain.

Chad says he is a lifelong reader, who remembers going to the library as a child. He wanted to make sure he exposed his kids early to reading and the library. That's why he joined the Friends soon after they moved to Tega Cay in 2017,

Joy Price: A 38-year resident of York County, Joy recently completed her second term on the York County Library Board of Trustees, during which she served both as vice chair and secretary. A volunteer at Friends Books on Main, she says that her years of reshelving books as an elementary school media specialist qualifies her for that job.

She received a BS in education from the University of Illinois. After her husband's career brought them to Charlotte and her sons reached school age, she resumed her career as librarian and administrative assistant at St. Patrick's Elementary School. After obtaining a MS in library and information science from USC, she launched a new career as a library science media specialist, first in Mecklenburg County, later at Gold Hill Elementary in Fort Mill. During her 40 years in education, she was selected as Teacher of the Year three times and was a finalist for the First Union Ben Craig Educator's Award.

She retired in 2016, two years after her husband, Andy, passed away.

2021 Friends Highlights

- 50 volunteers provided 4,570 hours of service to the Friends of York County Library.
- The Friends donated \$27,700 to YCL, most of which paid for the Summer Reading Program.
- The Friends previously contributed \$50,000 toward purchase of a new sprinter van, which the YCL will use to serve senior patrons. *(See photo of the new van and related article on page 1 of this newsletter.)*
- Despite a slow start because of pandemic-related closings and/or facility upgrades, retail sales rebounded strongly. Revenues totaled \$103,137, exceeding budget by nearly \$40,000. Significant events included sales of children's books and sales during Rock Hill's Christmasville event.
- Online sales (eBay and Amazon) raised \$22,147, more than \$10,000 over budget.

Friends Books on Main Featured in New Book!



Friends Books on Main is featured as a special place in *Alice's Hometown Adventures: Rock Hill, South Carolina*, a new children's book. Author Lisa Bzowski says she created the story to inspire families to visit new places and to "let children lead the way through their very own adventures." Katya Engalichev, a 2020 graduate of Winthrop University; illustrated the book. The book may be purchased at Overhead Station in Rock Hill; Books-4-Ewe, in downtown York; or online at www.LisaBzowski.com.

Report to YCL Trustees

Each quarter, the president of the Friends of YCL issues a report to the York County Library Board of Trustees. The following covers highlights from the third and fourth quarters of 2021:

- Because the Moore Room has been unavailable due to ongoing construction projects, the board held monthly meetings at least once in each of the four branch libraries in 2021.
- The annual Volunteer Workshop was held in September. More than 20 volunteers attended. Issues discussed included sorting and pricing procedures, improved display of books for sale at various branches and disposal of unsaleable books.
- The board made donations of \$100 and \$500 to the YCL Bucks for Books fund in memory of Nik Bramlett, YCL Board of Trustees member, and Joann McMaster, founder of the Friends of YCL, respectively.
- The board agreed to contribute up to \$500 to the York Library to buy signs for the library's Story Walk project.
- Board member Diane Ingersoll raised \$468 for the Friends as a birthday fund-raiser on Facebook. She also sold donated board games to an online wholesaler for \$550.

AmazonSmile Donations to YCL Exceed \$700!



Amazon offers an easy way to donate to Friends of YCL. Since 11/2021, the Friends have received \$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. Amazon reported that as of November, 2021, over \$306,872,769 had been donated to U.S. charities.

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!*

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

News From the Friends Winter 2022

News From the Friends is a publication of the Friends of the York County Library, Rock Hill, SC

Editor: Terry Plumb

Lay Out and Design: Cindy Schafer

Proofing: Judy Gritzmacher

Photographer / Writer / Proofing: Jim Beamguard

Writers: Julie Beamguard, Judy Gritzmacher, Terry Plumb

FRIENDS 2022 BOARD

OFFICERS

President: Susan Lyle

Vice President: Diane Ingersoll

Treasurer: Jim Beamguard

Secretary: Judy Gritzmacher

DeeAnna Brooks Chad Lynch Cindy Schafer
Jack Hutchins Terry Plumb Debbie Turner
Diane Ingersoll Joy Price Debora Wiegand

YCL Thanks Friends During National FOL Week

The York County Library appreciates the support it receives from the Friends of YCL. Following is an item the YCL staff posted on social media during last year's October *National Friends of Library (NFOL) Week*:

"National Friends of Libraries Week, a time to thank our Friends of the Library for the difference they make, raising funds to support new books for our shelves, our popular Summer Learning and Winter Reading Challenges, Patchwork Tales Storytelling Festival, and so much more.

"Why not join the Friends to make friends of your own, give back to our community, and make our library even better? Already a Friends member?"

In observance of NFOL Week, the Main Library also presented the Friends with a Keurig coffee maker and a *Thank You* poster signed by staff members.

"That was a very nice thing for them to do," said 2021 Friends President Terry Plumb. "All of our workers are volunteers, who are happy to work without compensation because they believe in public libraries. That their efforts are appreciated just makes the work that much more rewarding."



"Thank you" poster sent to the Friends by YCL staff members. It's nice to be appreciated!

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.