



**P.O. Box 159
Young Harris, GA 30582
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Web: <http://www.mountainregionallibrary.org> E-mail: mountain@mountainregionallibrary.org

Comments from FOLT C Co - Presidents, Barbara Hale and Marilyn Pierce

The falling leaves and cooler weather are reminding us that another year is drawing to a close, and that it will soon be time for our Annual Meeting in December with, perhaps, some new officers and chairpersons taking the helm.

Instead of a single president this year, Barbara Hale and Marilyn Pierce acted as Co-Presidents, dividing up the duties of this fairly demanding office. We feel that it was a successful experiment, with each of us bringing our strengths to the particular duties we opted to perform.

We now have detailed "job descriptions" for most of the office and chair positions within the organization. This should simplify the recruitment process by enabling interested persons to study the responsibilities of each position-holder before committing themselves to a particular job. It will also make it much easier for those future office- and chair-holders, who won't have to "learn as they go."

2011 saw the revision of our By-Laws, bringing them up-to-date and enlarging our Board. It was possible to do this quickly by invoking already-existing provisions within the By-Laws, and allowing the officers and chairpersons who comprise the Board to meet more frequently than every two months to complete this task.

Both the job descriptions and By-Laws can be found in our "gently used" file cabinet, which was recently purchased to house all of our FOLT papers. Donna Howell has graciously found a location within the Mountain Regional Library for it, and this will be the official "home" for our important documents. Our papers will be more secure, and we will no longer have to intrude on the library's storage facilities. We have done something similar with books collected for future books sales, and we have rented a storage unit to house them.

Comments from FOLT Co – Presidents Continued

We tried a new type of fundraiser this year, in cooperation with Moschetto's Continental Café. FOLTC provided the publicity, and Andy gave us 10% of his proceeds. Although the July event was more profitable than the one held in September, we hope to try it again.

Unlike former years, we did not have an April book sale due to a logistical problem, but we did have a highly successful August Book and Bake Sale. Our fundraising enabled us to match Commissioner Kendall's second challenge grant of \$5,000 for our libraries. In light of the state's continued cuts to our libraries' budgets, with the necessity of additional sacrifices by our wonderful library staff—FOLTC now provides approximately 87% of the money needed for new materials--this is welcome news indeed!!

Officer Roster

Co-President	Barbara Hale	706-379-3296	bhale@brmemc.net
Co-President	Marilyn Pierce	706-379-6672	abetree@windstream.net
Vice President	Doris Tilly	706-379-1306	wdtilly@windstream.net
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Book Sale	John & Jan Roberts	706-994-0958	aggie37@windstream.net
Book Bunch	Barbara Hale	706-379-3296	bhale@brmemc.net
Newsletter	Linda Dye	803-230-2571	ldye29730@yahoo.com
Publicity	Janice Cochran	706-379-3419	janicecochran@brmemc.net
Scrapbook	Shirley Heide	706-379-3861	dbsty@windstream.net

--CHANGE IN MEETING DATES AND TIMES FOR 2012--

Currently, Library Board meetings conflict with the time scheduled for FOLTC meetings. It was suggested at our April Meeting that FOLTC change its meeting time/day, so that members of one organization would not have to miss those of the other. FOLTC officers and chairpersons were recently contacted and have agreed to the following change: Beginning in 2012, FOLTC meetings will take place on the **second Tuesday** of the month at **2:00 pm**, rather than on the first Tuesday at 10:30 am. Thus, our schedule for 2012 will be: **February 14, April 10, June 12, August 14, and October 9**. The meetings will continue to be held at Mountain Regional Library. We hope that this change is convenient for our members.



Special Fundraiser



FOLTC will be having a new fundraiser this year
— a gift-wrapping service --

which will take place at the Mountain Regional Library on the following dates:

Friday, December 16th from 1 – 5 pm; Saturday, December 17th from 10 am to 4 pm; and Friday, December 23rd from 1 – 5 pm. Prices will range from \$1.00 to \$3.00 per package, depending upon size. Please bring your gifts for Santa's "elves" to wrap this year, and help out our libraries at the same time!



Check-out these newly available titles at Towns County's Libraries!

Books:

101 Questions Your Dog Would Ask Its Vet by Bruce Fogle
A Paddler's Guide to Northern Georgia by Sehlinger, Bob

Music CDs:

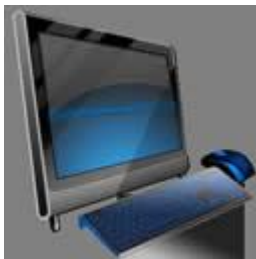
The Lost 1967 Kingston Trio Album
Mac Wiseman #1 Christmas

Audio Books:

On the Run by Iris Johansen
The Daughters by Joanna Philbin

Of course there are many more – come in and see what's new!

Free Computer Classes at Mountain Regional Library



Mountain Regional Library in Young Harris is launching a series of Computer Basic and Consumer Computer Based classes. All classes are hands-on and are limited to the number of computers available. They started Wednesday November 9, 2011 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. with a full class of eager students! The first class was *Making Sense of Email or Never Lick a Stamp Again!* This class focused on the ABC's of emailing—when it is your best opportunity and how to avoid risks when emailing. This class will be repeated on November 14th due to overwhelming demand! Other classes in the line-up include *Back to the Basics* (includes mouse skills, keyboarding, and getting acquainted with your computer), *Googling to the Max* (includes online searching plus evaluating the information you find), *Buy it Now* (online shopping just in time for the holidays!) and more. For information and/or to sign up please call the Library at 706-379-3732. The classes are free but are limited to 12 participants and pre-registration is required. All classes are taught by a certified trainer on the Library staff. More information is available at the library or the library website at www.mountainregionallibrary.org.

From Director Donna Howell's Desk

What a beautiful Fall we have experienced! Is there any time of year in Towns County that doesn't take your breath away? If there is, I haven't seen it in my 20+ years here. How blessed we are to live here!

Our libraries are really hopping! We have started offering computer classes – the first one is on e-mail and is scheduled for November 9th. Others have been scheduled and you may pick up a brochure at the circulation desk, or check the library calendar at www.mountainregionallibrary.org. Sandy Kraft, one of our wonderful library assistants, is teaching the classes and she does a terrific job. I hope you will take advantage of the classes and let us know what else you may be interested in learning.

We are pleased to welcome a new library assistant, replacing Jean Nichols, at MRL. Christy Manganiello started in October and is doing a great job. Please take time to meet Christy when you are in the library.

As you know, Towns County voters passed a SPLOST by an almost 90/10 margin and that SPLOST included the local matching funds for renovation and addition projects for both our Towns County libraries. As we work toward the new legislative session, now is the time to be talking with our elected officials at the state level to help advance our library renovation and addition projects. Our Towns County Public Library has outgrown the available space and is in serious need of space and repairs. Mountain Regional Library needs some repairs and some additional parking. All of these are part of the plans for our libraries, but we need your help to make it happen. Debbie is putting together a list of elected officials with mail, e-mail, phone, and fax contact information to make it easy for you to voice your support. Please let your elected representatives know how important your libraries are to Towns County!

As we approach Thanksgiving, I want to be sure to thank all our amazing library users for making our libraries the dynamic and fun places they are, and our truly dedicated library staff who take such good care of our library users every day. I want to thank our volunteers who help us keep up with all those library users and add so much to the services we are able to offer. I want to thank our supportive library board members who give of their time and talents to make sure our libraries remain vital. I must thank our wonderful Towns County Commissioner, Bill Kendall, the hard-working Towns County Board of Education, and the great Mayors and City Councils of Hiawassee and Young Harris, for providing the funds that keep us open and operating to serve Towns County's citizens. And finally, I need to thank all our Friends who put their hearts and hands to work to provide those things we could not operate without – books, supplies, programs, computers, and willing hands to help with whatever is needed. I am humbled by your support and encouragement!

I wish you all a safe, happy, and truly blessed Thanksgiving!

Book Bunch 'n Lunch Info from Barbara Hale, Chairman

Book Bunch 'n Lunch will continue on Wednesday, January 18 at noon at Moschetto's. Discussion of Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin will be led by Maureen Gustafson. February's selection, The Beans of Egypt, Maine by Carolyn Chute, will be discussed by Steve Howell on Wednesday, February 15 at noon at Moschetto's. Lunch is optional at noon; discussion begins at 1.

New members are always welcome and are encouraged to join the Bunch.

--Annual Meeting--

FOLTC's Annual Meeting will take place on **Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30 pm at Moschetto's Continental Café and Deli**, 1155 Main Street in Young Harris. A complete buffet, with Beef Burgundy, side dishes, beverages and dessert, will be available for \$15.00 per person. A brief program has been planned, and a business meeting, with the election of new officers and the appointment of chairpersons, will take place. This is the only official notification that will be sent out. Please plan on attending this very important holiday dinner and meeting. For reservations contact **Barbara Hale** at: **(706) 379-3296** or bhale@brmemc.net before December 10th.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Choose one: New Membership Renewal Membership

Please select membership type:

Individual (\$12.00) Family (\$24.00) Sponsor (\$30.00)

Business (\$35.00) Donor (\$50.00) Patron (\$100.00)

Please make check payable to FOLTC and mail to Friends of the Libraries of Towns County, P.O. Box 159, Young Harris, GA. 30582.

Friends the Libraries of Towns County

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