

# friends of kansas LIBRARIES

Assist - Support - Educate

FoKL POINT Newsletter — November 2025

**FIRST FRIDAY  
WITH FRIENDS**

will not meet  
in December.



**HAPPY  
THANKS  
GIVING**

## KLA Memories

The FoKL Board had a great time meeting librarians from across the state at KLA Conference on November 5-7. Our annual awards were presented at the State Librarian Luncheon on Thursday. If we missed visiting with you and you have questions about starting a Friends group or a specific question about your existing group, get in touch with us at [friendsofkansaslibraries@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofkansaslibraries@gmail.com).



FoKL Board



Judith Cremer and board members



Getting mugged!



Robin Cook (Louisburg Library Friends) -  
Outstand Friend Award



Judith Cremer (Pottawatomie Wabunsee Regional Library)  
Duane F. Johnson Library Leadership Award



Friends of Mary Cotton Library (Sabetha) -  
Outstanding Group Award

## Focus on Friends

### Creative Events, Programs, and Outreach

Hats off to the following groups!

**Friends of Johnson County** - Capped off their National Friends of the Library Week events with a fundraiser at the Overland Park Panera with 20% of sales going to the Friends.

**Friends of Lansing Community Library** - Sponsored a pumpkin craft at the Lansing Fall Festival.

**Friends of Bradford Memorial Library** - Hosted a Sloppy Joe fundraiser with pie and dessert auction. They also provided support for the Library to give away 850 books to children at El Dorado's Halloween celebration on Main Street (see photo, right).

**Friends of Ellis Public Library** - Threw a Bunco fundraiser party with prizes, snacks, friendly competition, and lots of fun.

**Osage City Public Library** - Had a delicious time with their Third Annual Pie and Cheesecake Fundraiser, with an amazing 27 pies and cheesecakes to choose from.

**Delaware Township Library** - Valley Falls KS - Had a great time at their very first Bunco Fundraiser for the library.



Sharing books in El Dorado

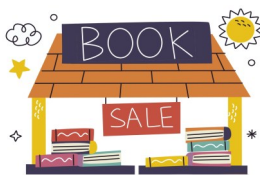


Welcome table at the Basehor Volunteer Appreciation Open House

**Friends of Basehor Library** - Were honored with a Volunteer Appreciation Open House to celebrate the accomplishments of their active group. Guests enjoyed fruit and pastries, a craft, and raffles, and the volunteers also received a small token from the Library to show their appreciation (see photo, left).

**Friends of Louisburg Library** - Hosted their 3rd Annual Fundraiser, featuring author Lou Eisenbrandt. They also had a great time handing out candy and visiting with the community at *Halloween on Broadway* in Louisburg.

### Book Sales!



Book sales are a staple fundraiser for Friends of the Library groups and Library Foundations to support a variety of library programs, events, and services.

Although they can be labor intensive events for volunteers, they are always popular with readers and serve as an important and certain source of good will in the community. In addition to groups that have year-round sales within the library, recent special sales events have been hosted by...

Friends of the Augusta Public Library

Friends of the Abilene Public Library

FRIENDS OF DOROTHY BRAMLAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Friends of the Emporia Public Library

Great Bend Friends of the Library

Stevens County Library, Hugoton

Coffeyville Public Library Foundation

Friends of the Wichita Public Library

### Quilt Raffles



**Friends of Linwood Community Library** - This beautiful king-sized quilt was donated in support of the library and the Linwood Quilters club.

**Friends of Haysville Public Library** - A "Give Thanks" quilt was stitched by the Haysville Library Quilters in support of the library.



**Randolph-Decker Public Library** - A sweet Christmas quilt created by Sandra Detrixhe for the library.



## FoKL Annual Meeting

The FoKL Annual Meeting was held Friday, November 21 on Zoom. Highlights of our year include:

- Increased memberships in 2025. Thank you to everyone who joined and supported Friends groups across the state!
- Provided Challenge Grants to four Friends groups, one Start-Up grant, and awarded Outstanding Individual Friend, Outstanding Group, and the Duane F. Johnson Library Leadership Awards.
- Increased awareness of FoKL's work and the importance of Friends groups in libraries by providing a presence at the Kansas Book Festival in September and KLA in November.
- Established a system for FoKL to receive online donations and memberships. [Click here to visit our new online portal!](#)
- Updated and added to FoKL's online resources for Friends, including sample by-laws, MOU, organizing tool kit, roles and responsibilities chart, and more. View [Starting a New Friends Group](#) and [Resources by Topic](#) at [www.fokl.net](http://www.fokl.net).
- Provided programs of interest to Friends groups through our *First Friday with Friends* events.

The meeting included the election of officers and board members for 2026.

### 2026 FoKL Board

#### Officers

President: Carolyn Little, Topeka  
Vice President: Dalton Tornadoen, Eudora  
Secretary: Cheryl Sylvester, Perry  
Treasurer: Diana Weaver, Lawrence  
Past President: Judy Burgess, Manhattan

*Thank you to Linda Knupp for your service on the FoKL Board as Vice President and Governance Chair.*

#### Trustees

Janet Schmidt, Salina  
Barbara Mathews, Eudora  
Marilyn Von Soosten, Girard  
Cindy Lightle, Hays  
Susan Bryant, Robinson  
Christy Molzen, North Newton  
Susie Scott, Wichita  
McKenzie Murphy, McPherson

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## Friends of Wichita Public Library (FWPL)

The FWPL held the last used book sale of the year on November 15. Nearly 700 book lovers shopped at the event that was held on the first floor of the Advanced Learning Library in Wichita. Friends volunteers also sold book-related merchandise, including T-shirts, yard signs, tote bags, and banned book swag bags. These popular items were also sold at the official grand opening of the Rockwell Branch that was held the same day as the used book sale.

The dates have been set for the 2026 used book sales: March 6-7, July 10-11 and November 13-14. Friends volunteers are also looking forward to planning special events next year to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Wichita Public Library.



### Contact us!

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