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Spring 2023

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# Friends Of Oskaloosa Library

315 Jefferson St., Oskaloosa, KS 66066

[www.oskielibrary.org](http://www.oskielibrary.org) 785-863-2475

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## Greetings Friends of Oskaloosa Library!

It is Spring and the annual Friends of Oskaloosa Library Plant Sale is scheduled for April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Now is a great time to divide your house plants and share! In addition to your plants, let Margaret or Jo know if you can help set up, or work the sales table at any time. We are tentatively planning a Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, 5:30 pm at the Bookstore or Library, to talk plants and library needs, etc, Specifically, Summer Reading funding support. This is a traditional FOOLs service support, and the amount and Library needs change every year. What can we do to define what we are willing to annually give? Below are notes from Library director Cheryl Sylvester. Hopefully by next newsletter, we will have a Friends President to fill some space. Support staff is ready!

## Library Notes by Cheryl Sylvester, Director

### Silent Auction and Bake Sale

The library silent auction and bake sale successfully exceeded previous years with \$1,651 in funds. Adding the bake sale brought in even more people, and we'll consider adding an online auction option for next year. The Board of Trustees appreciates the efforts of the FOOLS in helping with this fundraiser. The monies will benefit summer reading, capital improvement, and be considered for other library projects.

## Thoughts and Wishes

How can we make Friends a consistent, established volunteer organization? The summer reading theme "All Together Now" reminds me of the library history. Why is there a library in Oskaloosa? There was a concentrated effort to see that everyone had access to reading materials! We have names of important citizens in this library from the

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## Book Fool Bookstore

602 Liberty  
Oskaloosa, KS

Saturdays  
10-noon  
Wednesdays  
3-5 pm

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## FOOLs Meeting

**Tentative next meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 5**  
**5:30 pm at the Bookstore**

## Community

**Oskaloosa**  
**Independent**  
**Newspaper**  
<https://bit.ly/3CDMGtw>

**Friends Facebook Page**  
<https://bit.ly/3s4xPTU>

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past, dedicated to working together. A Library usually begins with a Friends group before there is even a tax base for a community library.

Today our library still takes a community of support. Our Friends group has been in operation for over 40 years. However, an issue with small communities, is continuity. The energetic and dedicated people that first organized the Friends group have stepped back, moved, or passed away. How was the torch passed? Without continual new faces added, it lagged being a functional organization. Jeannette stepped up and kept the torch lit for FOOLS without much help, until recent years. Thank you, Jeannette!

Last year, FOOLS created by-laws and began the process of revitalization. FOOLS is looking for a leader dedicated to seeing the group grow and fulfill its mission. Are you that person? Carol has stepped in as secretary. Thank you, Carol! We have two actively organizing a plant sale for April. Thank you, Margaret, and Jo! We need someone to convene meetings 3 times a year and lead the group. Please consider filling this void. We need a president!

### **Summertime Fun**

This summer's reading program theme is "All together Now". Lisa is busy planning fun activities for the children. We are excited to have the focus on the community. We hope to see a lot of students continue reading over the summer. The best motivation for enrollment is to have prize incentives and programs. In the past, the FOOLS organization has helped support this. Hopefully this will happen in the future as well. Thank you FOOLS!

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Check out the "Secrets of Success" with First Friday with Friends, <https://fokl.net/firstfriday/> Zoom meetups.