Auburn Friends of the Library
Annual Report
2025–2026

President's Annual Statement

Auburn Library's renovation continued throughout this year. FOL has worked hard this year to add to our enhancement fund supporting this renovation. We are pleased to be able to present $130,583.17 this fiscal year for this project. We, and the community, are looking forward to being back in our home on Nevada Street.

Our year has been full of outreach activities and community involvement. Noon Speaker Series feature local fascinating speakers. The Used Book Sales attracted book lovers each month. Our "We Love Our Library" dinner gave library supporters a time to gather together. Community members got to know TK-3rd graders through our Reading in the Classroom program. We shared with other non-profits and local businesses through participation in the annual Celebrity Chef dinner. During National Library Week we thanked our Library staff with a brunch. A new partnership with Word Busters allowed FOL to give each 1st grader in the Word Buster program a book to take home. Our culminating activity, May's Big Day of Giving, brought financial support from our community.

It takes many volunteers to develop and deliver these programs. FOL is appreciative of our community of Library supporters.

Kathleen Edwards, President Auburn FOL

Community Enrichment Programs

- NOON Speaker Series continued with amazing speakers the 3rd Friday of each month
- Reading in the Classroom for grades Pre-K to third grade
- Kidz books collected from members of FOL and gifted to the community
- Presented all first-grade students in the Word Busters program with a book to take home.
- Auburn Library Summer Reading Program Support

Communications and Gifts of Service

- Footsteps newsletter sent to member 3x a year & monthly Eblasts informing members of upcoming activities.
- An incredible Used Book Staff of 35+ Volunteers dedicated to our monthly sales and donation days.

Fundraising and Revenues

- A Library Enhancement Fund to support the library needs post remodel
- Big Day of Giving profits: $29,538.00.
- Annual "We Love Our Library" Dinner Event
- Membership Donations

Executive Board (Elected)

President:	Kathleen Edwards
Vice President:	Michele Young
Past President:	Louise Isaacson
Corresponding Secretary:	Charlene Messner
Recording Secretary:	Mary Piette
Members-at-Large:	Anne Holmes
	Ralene Snow
	Delana Ruud
	Kt Baker

Standing Committees (Appointed)

Great Books:	Walt/Bonnie Wilson
Facebook:	Deanna Stilwell
Used Book Sales Team:	Michele Young
	Mary Piette
	Margaret Kindig

Ad Hoc Committees (Appointed)

Annual Dinner:	Mick Darlington
Raffle:	Charlene Messner
Reading in the Classroom:	Anne Holmes
Big Day of Giving:	Judy Monahan
Celebrity Chef:	Gail Penman
Historian:	Anne Holmes
Kaff Trust:	Louise Isaacson
Hospitality:	Sherry Couzens
Harvest Festival:	Jane Hamilton

Library Advisory Board (Auburn City Council Appointment)

Jane Hamilton

Facebook

Deanna Stillwell

Footsteps Newsletter Publication

Erin Isaacson

Webmaster

Laura Bracken

Community Enrichment Programs

FOL and WORD BUSTER — 1st Grade Partnership

September 2025 – May 2026

The goal of the project was to purchase a book for every first grade student in the Auburn Unified School District who completed the Word Buster 2025-2026 literacy program. The gift of the book intended to reinforce the students' interest in reading and to invite and welcome them to the Auburn Public Library system.

The Friends of the Auburn Library allotted $3000 for this project, use of funds to purchase a book for each student and develop associated materials to go with the book. A special bookplate was created, noting it was a gift from the FOL and provided an area for the student to write their name; a book mark with information about FOL and WB; information insert with helpful ways to assist the new reader in developing their reading skills.

Linda LoBue, Director of Word Busters, coordinated WB volunteers who worked with each first grade student through out the year in seven first grade classrooms: Skyridge, EV Cain, Auburn Elementary and St Joseph's. Linda selected Cutest Animal Collection, by National Geographic as the book to be given to each student.

During the week of May 4, a FOL and WB volunteer met with each student in their classroom to present the book, had the student read a page from the book, congratulate them on completing the program, encourage them to continue developing their reading skills and invite them to visit the library.

FOL and WB volunteers, including the participation of County Supervisor Cindy Gustafson, reported the students were really pleased to receive their very own book, the personal recognition and the encouragement. This was a very rewarding project that would be appropriate to take under consideration to repeat next year.

Chairs: Ralene Snow, Anne Holmes

Supervisor Cindy Gustafson, student, and Vice-President Michele Young

FOL WB President Steve Young, and FOL President Kathleen Edward

Reading in the Classroom Program

Another successful reading in the Classroom Program was brought to our Auburn schools the week of March 2–7, 2026. The readers I have talked to all confirm they had fun and appreciate this opportunity to interact with the children and promote our library in the process.

We had 30 readers that went to 30 classrooms reading to students from TK–3rd grade.
We welcomed 12 new readers this year.

The schools were Auburn Elementary, EV Cain, Skyridge and Bowman. Readers have 30 minutes to read a book of their choice and discuss it with the students. This program provides the Friends of the Library a chance to share the joy of reading and promote our library.

Thank you to all past and present readers who help us with this important outreach program to promote literacy and share the love of reading with our schools.

Anne Holmes
RIC Chairman 2026

Celebrity Chef's Community Dinner

FOL provided five crock-pots of our ever popular meatballs for the annual 49ers Lion's Club community fundraiser on March 12, 2026. Held at the Gold Country Fairgrounds, attendance was good this year and attendees always enjoy our meatballs.

Chair: Gail Penman

Auburn Harvest Festival

The Auburn Harvest Festival is sponsored by the Auburn Recreation District and was held on Saturday, October 18, 2025. We shaded a table with bright umbrellas, highlighted our FOL banner, and passed out candy and books to attendees. We also provided information about FOL, inviting folks to join.

Chair: Jane Hamilton

Books for Kidz of Placer County

In December, Auburn FOL and members partnered with Placer FOL (formally Rocklin FOL) to donate books to Placer Community Action Networks' Kidz Community for the second year. Auburn FOL was able to gather 250 books for children ages birth to 18. The children selected their own book with their family. It was a huge success for our community.

Branches at the Carnegie Christmas Tree Contest

New this 2025 year, Branches at the Carnegie invited the community and local non-profits to decorate a tree. The Carnegie provided a tree for an entry cost of $50. FOL decorated it with a theme of the Auburn Library, past and present. Ribbons hung from the top with photos of past librarians and historical statements about the library. Children's books were wrapped and placed on and under the tree for children to take home. FOL received a lot of notice, furthering our presence in the community. Our beautiful tree did not win the top prize of a free full-day at the Carnegie, but it was purchased by someone to be enjoyed even more.

Noon Speaker Series

Held the 3rd Friday of each month the Noon Speaker program brings community together to hear and learn about a myriad of topics. While the Library is under renovation the Noon program has been meeting the Rose Room at the Auburn City Hall.

Topics this year included:

- Why is there a fire insurance crisis in California – William Witzke
- Learn the art of legacy writing – Rebeca Inch-Partridge
- Dolphy, the Webber family murders of 1904 – Gus Thomson
- Can your home be defended in a wildfire – Scott Wofford
- Reading in the Wild –Joan Griffin
- The Mary Poppins of death – death doula – Christy Braun
- Leadership in Community health care – Auburn Faith CEO – Shanti Margoschis
- Chinese Railroad Workers and the Sierra Crossing – Phil Sexton

Chair: Bob Snyder

Auburn Library Summer Reading Program

FOL helped sponsor the annual library Placer County Library Summer Reading Program with seed money of $250**0 f**or the 2025 summer program "Endless Fun". The program was a huge success with more than 3,000 participants joining the reading challenge and logging over 2.4 million minutes — beating last year's record by 150,000 minutes. Alongside the challenge, thousands of people attended the programs. Library Services had a range of activities from magic shows, trivia, puppets, wild animals, crafts, and more.

Great Books

Great Books meets the second Tuesday each month from 1–3 PM. We have been meeting at Pioneer United Methodist Church, but will now be returning to the Beecher Room. Each month, we read two selections from "Best American Short Stories of the Century" We also discuss books we are personally reading. All are welcome, and usually we host six people.

We had a mini-retreat in May. A nonfiction book is discussed, a catered lunch and the movie is shown. This draws people from Reno, the Bay Area, and the Central Valley, in addition to Auburn.

Chair: Walt & Bonnie Wilson

Communication and Gifts of Service

Used Book Sales and Donations of Materials 2026:

The FOL Used Book Sale fiscal year ended with a fruitful and flourishing grand total of $13,000.00. The Jean Couzens Annex bustles with enthusiastic buyers and donation folks on the first Tuesday and the following Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Additional donation days are the second Tuesday and following Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We have around 35 volunteers who work tirelessly each month to make sure that all donated items are received and sorted by genre, cash register table is fully manned, books are shelved, and when necessary culled, duplicates or items not being used by us are sent to other entities that can use them and all damaged, etc., items are placed in the two toter bins just outside of the Annex where they are picked up each Monday and turned into pulp. In addition, once a month a representative from the Placer Food Closet comes by and picks up books from us to use for the Food Closet recipients.

Our wonderful volunteers put in over 120 hours per month helping our Used Books Sales/Donations thrive.

Team Leaders: Margaret Kindig, Mary Piette, Michele Young

Volunteers Hours & In-kind Donations: 3,300 Estimated Hours

We no longer record our volunteer hours so we can only estimate. We do know that the Used Book Sales team continue to compose the biggest chunk of volunteers, about 35 and volunteer hours of about 175 hours per month. In addition, the Executive Board positions require many volunteer hours of around 100 per month. We cannot thank our volunteers enough for the work they put in to make Friends of Auburn Library strong and able to support our library and community.

Footsteps, Eblasts, Facebook

FOL's newsletter, Footsteps, was emailed/mailed three times: October, January, April. These issues featured new books at the library and articles about FOL events. Monthly Eblasts kept members aware of current events. Facebook was kept updated. This year we changed our provider to Constant Contact to allow us to send more communications to our members.

Fundraising and Revenues

Big Day of Giving — May 7, 2026

FOL once again joined other non-profits in our area for the annual Big Day of Giving. There were 24 hours to donate to your favorite non-profit. This is through the Sacramento Region Community Foundation and includes four counties: Placer, El Dorado, Yuba and Sacramento.This year FOL set a goal of raising $20,000. We are so pleased: 51 donors gave $29,538

On-line donations	$3,613
Off-line donation	$13,446
Matching Funds	$9,154
Late donations	$3,325

For the early donation in April, we received a deposit of $716.71 ($754 less $37.98 fees).
Estimated deposit of remaining on-line donations is $2897 less fees.
Donors were generous covering fees. Transaction fees were $179.93 - $160.24 = $19.69.
We thank our community for their generous support of FOL.

Chair: Judy Monahan

Library Enhancement Fund

A little more than a year ago, we launched a Library Enhancement Fund to support the needs of the library remodel that weren't included in the original plan but would nonetheless be important to the success of the project and needs of our community.

So many wonderful friends and community members generously donated to this fund. In all, with interest we were able to give the library $130, 583.07 that was used for the Children's section enhancement.

Chair: Louise Isaacson

Marjorie Kaff Trust

A trust distribution from the estate of Marjorie Taylor Kaff of $25,00 was presented by FOL to the Placer County Library in September 2025. Following the guidelines of the trust the money was used to support and expand non-fiction books for all age levels.

From November 2025 to June 2026, the library purchased 1,895 Kaff-funded items (all but one item was purchase after January 1, 2026). Of these items, 806 are for the Children's Collections, 34 items for the Teen Collections, and 1,055 items for the Adult Collections. For this round of purchases, the library primarily focused on refreshing and modernizing Adult Literature and Recreation, along with updating the time-sensitive topics including medicine, legal, and travel, as well as filling subject gaps in the Children's area.

The annual distribution of $25,000 from the trust began in July of 2023 when Friends of Auburn Library received a $300,000 Trust Fund from the estate of Marjorie Taylor Kaff. This was the third distribution of $25,000.. The trust earned $7207.49 in interest for the 2025-2026 fiscal year with a remaining balance of $256,805.45,

Chair: Louise Isaacson

Annual “We Love Our Library” Dinner — January 24, 2026

1st Congregational Church, 710 Ravine Road, Auburn, CA

Our Annual Dinner changed locations this year. With hopes of generating more income we moved to the Overmiller Hall at the Congregational Church. 140 guests perused a beautiful raffle, bid on silent auction items, and enjoyed appetizers and drinks before dining. The buffet dinner was catered by Gourmet Garage.

The dinner/raffle/auctions brought in $10,924.45.

Chair: Mick Darlington

Membership 2025–2026

Membership: 262 members — $5,270 donations

Our membership year began in July 2025 with 284 members. We closed the year with 262 members. During this fiscal year, we lost a number of life-time members. Our membership dues remain at $10 per year although many members contributed more than the minimum.

Chair: Barbara Jicha

Revenue and Expense Summary

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

REVENUE:

Account #	Description	Amount
Fundraising:		
R1	Membership	6,765.00
R2	Used Book Sales	11,648.58
R4	Library Dinner	12,077.00
R4R	Raffle-Dinner	5,132.00
R4S	Sponsors - Dinner	3,475.00
R5	NOON Program	0.00
R7	Donations	19,926.00
R7A	BDOG	29,875.15
R8	Memorials	2,350.00
R12	Miscellaneous	200.00
	Total Revenue	**$91,448.73**

Activity Summary

Total Revenue		**$91,659.73**
Total Expenses - Minus		**$149,485.85**
	Net Proceeds	**$ (57,826.12)**
Beginning Cash Balance 07-01-2025		**$86,562.55**
	Cash Balance	**$28,736.43**
5-Aug	Transfer from ck to CDxx7028	$ (40,000.00)
2-Feb	Transfer to savings	$ (2,500.00)
15-Jun	Transfer to ck from CD	$ 42,896.88
15-Jun	Transfer from savings to ck	$ 82,103.12
		$ 82,500.00
Ending Cash Balance 06/30/2026		**$ 111,236.43**
Kaff Fund Certificate of Deposit 6.2.2026		**$ 256,805.43**
Acct xx8090 Savings Account 6.2026		**$ 6,074.30**

EXPENDITURES:

Accoun	Description	Amount
Fundraising Expenses:		
F1	Membership	117.76
F2	Used Book Sales	2,666.22
F4	Library Dinner	9,766.01
F4R	Raffle - Dinner	430.45
F4S	Sponsors	0.11
F5	BDOG Fees	377.80
F7	Annex	0.00
	Total Fundraising Expense	**$13,358.35**
Library Expenses:		
L1	Library Materials	125,000.00
L2	Literacy program	1,000.00
L3	PCFL Trust	1,000.00
L4	Memorials	$0.00
	Total Library Expense	**$127,000.00**
Community Enrichment		
CE2	Summer Series Concert	0.00
CE3	Reading In The Classroom	1,170.38
CE4	Library 50 Year Celebration	96.95
CE5	Noon Program	0.00
CE6	Community Festival	$0.00
CE7	Summer Reading	$2,500.00
	Total Comm Enrich Expense	**$3,767.33**
Administration Expenses:		
A1	Hospitality / Courtesy	162.46
A2	Insurance	1,525.00
A3	Newsletter	919.02
A4	Office Supplies	1,473.67
A5	Advertising	386.48
A6	Website	727.00
A8	Miscellaneous	229.00
	Total Administration Expense	**$5,422.63**

Total All Expense Catagories **$149,485.85**