



## Friends of Lubbock Public Library

FOL is a non-profit organization devoting its members' time and efforts to raising funds for the Lubbock Public Library.

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Linda Muehlbrad  
Co-Vice President  
Walter Wilhoit  
Co-Vice President  
LaFonda Gerhart  
Director of Operations  
Dianne Ivy  
Treasurer  
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Membership Director  
Marjorie Malek-Ahmadi  
Special Events Director  
*Other Contacts:*  
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Volunteer Coordinator  
Leslie A. Smith  
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Charity Donaldson  
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### Contact us!

1306 9th Street  
Lubbock, TX 79401  
(806) 775-2852  
fol@lubbockfol.org

### Visit us online!

[www.lubbockfol.org](http://www.lubbockfol.org)



# Lubbock FOL Annual Meeting

## Sunday, April 14, 2024

Mahon Library Community Room

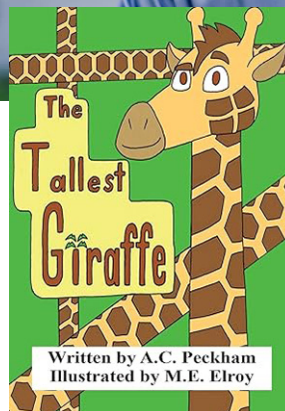
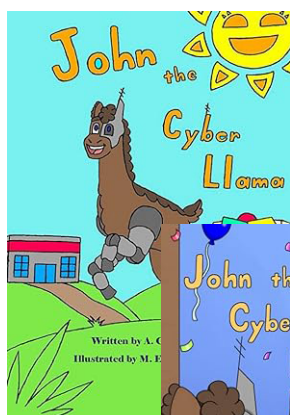
Meeting at 2:00 pm – Speaker at 2:30 pm

Guest Speaker

## A.C. Peckham

Author of  
*John the Cyber Llama,*  
*John the Cyber Llama's House Party,*  
*The Tallest Giraffe,* and  
*Bunbear Believes in You!*

*FOL memberships are available at the door.*



Thank  
You

A Special  
Thank You to:

United  
Supermarkets  
for donating paper  
bags and providing  
drop-off locations  
at Frankford Ave. &  
82nd St. and  
Indiana Ave. &  
129th St.

All of our wonderful  
patrons who  
donate items for us  
to sell. Without you  
we wouldn't exist!



### Regular Volunteer Hours

Mon.	9am-3pm
Tues.	9am-8pm
Wed.	9am-3pm
Thurs.	9am-12pm
Fri.	Closed
Sat.	10am-2pm
Sun.	Closed

## From the Special Events Director...

by Marjorie  
Malek-Ahmadi

### Friends of the Library General Meeting April 14th, 2024

#### Speaker: A.C. Peckham

Come on down and bring the kids to our Friends of the Library Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 14 at 2:00 pm! We will welcome a new, young author named A.C. Peckham, who says he has always loved stories and storytelling.

He grew up right here in Lubbock, being homeschooled through grade 12. He got his undergraduate degree in Creative Writing from Lubbock Christian University in 2019, and then went on to finish his Masters of Christian Ministry in 2023. He says he has always loved to write. Even as a kid with a big imagination, he wrote many stories (most of which he says he hid because they were not so good with subsequent readings).

Mr. Peckham says his greatest influences were the child-friendly stories of C.S. Lewis, and the stories of Mo Willems because they are fun and silly, and they can be read for a lesson and a laugh. Some of his books include *John the Cyber Llama*, *John the Cyber Llama's House Party*, *The Tallest Giraffe*, and *Bunbear Believes in You!*

The author has agreed to do a reading from one of his books during his visit. He will also bring along his paperback books for sale for \$15.00 each. He may even try to work in his music, which he says is a combination of hip hop and rhythm and blues. His performing artist name is A.C. the Bard.

Please join us in the Mahon Community Room on Sunday afternoon, April 14!

## From the President...

by Brian Beauchamp

We are off to a fast start in 2024! Our January BookStore produced almost \$15,000 in sales—great start thanks to a great group of volunteers and the support of our loyal customers. We anticipate similar results throughout the year. Our Online sales also had a fast start in January with over \$7,000 for the month. Great job!

Our budget for 2024 has a \$20,000 increase in our support to the library. Each successful month of Online and BookStore sales makes the increase possible. Thanks to all the volunteers and customers who make it a reality. I am so proud to be a part of an organization that is making a positive impact on the library services available to the citizens of Lubbock.

Our annual meeting is April 14, 2024. Please circle the date in your calendar, and we hope you can attend.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as President for the last two years. It is an honor to be a part of this amazing organization. We have an incredible group of volunteers that produce amazing results. Thank you so much!

## Book donations are welcome!

Donations of books (less than 6 boxes) can be made **anytime** at the following free-standing sheds:

**Groves Branch Library**  
5520 19th St.

**Godeke Branch Library**  
5034 Frankford Ave.

**United Supermarkets**  
Frankford Ave. & 82nd  
Indiana Ave. & 129th

There are also yellow donation bins inside the door at the following Library branches:

**Mahon**, 1306 9th St.

**Patterson**  
1836 Parkway Dr.

In making donations to the sheds, boxed and bagged books are appreciated. The books arrive in better shape and hold their value for resale.

## Large Donations

Larger donations are accepted at the Mahon Library rear loading dock BY APPOINTMENT. Call 806-775-2852 to speak to a volunteer or leave a message for callback to schedule a drop-off time. Our ability to accept donations is dependent on having volunteers available to accept them.

## Slate of Officers

Please join us at our annual meeting. The nominating committee consists of Lillian Arzagli, Brian Beauchamp, Wade Estep, Desiree Freyburger, and Cathy Sypert.

The committee presents the following nominees for election April 14:

President: Tim Ebelthite  
1st Vice-President: Linda Muehlbrad  
Membership Director: Cathy Sypert  
Director of Operations: Larry Valdez  
Special Events Director: Jennifer Morris

Each of these officers will serve until the office's next election term. Nominations may also be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

## From the Online Sales Director...

by Susan Stack

Where did 2023 go? Seems like only yesterday that we were saying the same thing about 2022! That said, 2023 was a busy year for the Online section in Lubbock FOL.

A few of the highlights:

- Over 1,500 items sold and shipped
- 1,300+ buyers
- Average sale over \$43
- Highest item sold was a set for \$1,057
- 20 individual sales over \$200
- 27% increase in repeat buyers from 2022 to 2023
- Shipped to over 20 foreign countries as well as all 50 states

We continue to make changes to our way of doing business.

At year-end 2023, we closed out our AbeBooks store and are in the process of merging that inventory into our current eBay inventory. Once the merger is complete, we will have an inventory of approximately 10,000 items. This will add efficiency to the operation by dealing with only one vendor, at a lower overhead cost.

In addition to the normal "online" sales, the Buy Back program we began several years ago continues to produce a growing monthly revenue stream.

Many thanks to the entire volunteer group that keeps us supplied with a never-ending stream of items to research to help us expand our inventory. They are the greatest!

## Shop Our Online Book Sales Anytime!



eBay.com  
<http://tiny.cc/FOLeBay>

FOL members receive a 25% discount on any of our listings purchased directly through our online sales office!

## Join Today!

### Annual Membership:

\$10 – Individual/Family

\$25 – Bronze Patron

\$50 – Silver Patron

\$75 – Gold Patron

\$100 – Platinum Patron



### Benefits of Membership:

- Online Discount (25%)
- Entry to Members Only Sale Days
- Online Newsletter
- Email Announcements
- Special Speaker Events

# We ♥ our volunteers!

In 2023, our 128 volunteers put in 21,834 total volunteer hours.

We also had 81 student volunteers who put in 251 hours!

## FOL VOLUNTEER HOURS - 2023

### 40 plus

Sally Carthel  
Brooks Ezra  
Kathleen Faulk  
Nick Kellogg  
Katie Logan  
Lesley Logan  
Chris Lonngren  
Dena Matthews  
Jerry Matthews  
Richard Meyer  
Jennifer Morris  
Sandra Mulsow  
Louise Ramsay  
Terry Ramsay  
Suzie Rather  
Gretchen Scott  
Leslie Smith  
Laurel Strickland  
Suzanne Tilley  
Mavis Whitten  
Jamie Whittenburg  
Piper Whittenburg  
Andrea Wilms  
Sandra Witt

### 100 plus

Bonnie Aycock  
Sheila Carlson  
Janet Carson  
Charity Donaldson  
Ron Dunaway  
Gina Duran  
Penn Ezra  
Kitty Gage  
Wesley Ingram  
Virginia Minchew  
Julia Parker  
Larry Valdez  
Terry Wilson

### 150 plus

Sally Brown  
Ginia Davis  
Wade Estapp  
Kari Ezra  
Glenna Kite  
David Owens  
Sarah Stubbs  
Beth Trostle

### 200 plus

Cindy DeRoeck  
LaFonda Gerhart  
Kristina Kohl  
Gayle Modrall  
Carolyn Moreno  
Linda Muehlbrad  
Kathy Nale  
Tom Trost  
Cathy Syper  
Walter Wilhoit

### 250 plus

Diane Acebedo  
Bonnie Akard  
Desiree Freyburger  
LuNell Gribble  
Connie Nugent  
Loraine Oglesby  
Sharon Ryan  
Tess Trost  
Christine Valdez

### 300 plus

Susan Ebelthite  
Tim Ebelthite  
Kathy Heppert  
Danny Kennedy  
Gina McCasland  
Carla Moore  
Connie Teague

### 350 plus

Shirley Boyce  
Terri Coffey  
Susan Matchett

### 400 plus

Gale Richardson

### 450 plus

Arla Jo Gideon

### 500 plus

Brian Beauchamp  
Bill Ackors

### 550 plus

Maxine Asmah  
Sandi Harper  
Lynne Strickland

### 600 plus

Marjorie Malek-Ahmadi

### 650 plus

Marit Dubois  
Tony Kite

### 800 plus

Dianne Ivy

### 1000 plus

Lillian Arzaghi

### 1500 plus

Ron Hays



## Volunteer!

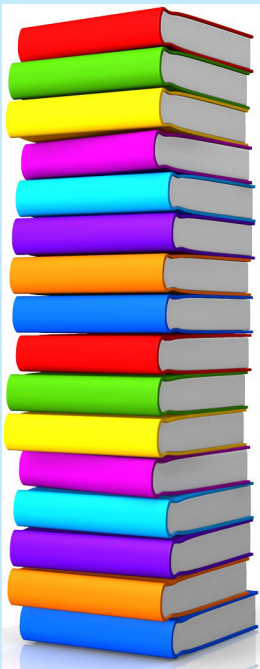
Hours of Operation:

Mahon Library  
Basement

Mon. 9am-3pm  
Tues. 9am-8pm  
Wed. 9am-3pm  
Thurs. 9am-12pm  
Fri. Closed  
Sat. 10am-2pm  
Sun. Closed

### Benefits of Volunteering:

- Unlimited purchases from Regular and Better Book Shelves
- Name Badge
- Volunteer Announcements
- Free Books from the Free Table and Unwanted-Book Carts



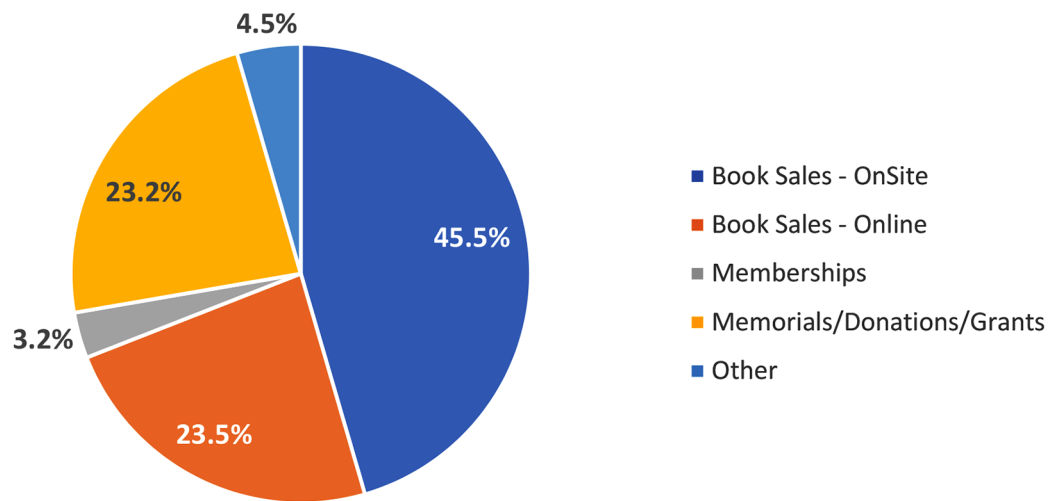
# From the Treasurer...

by Dianne Ivy

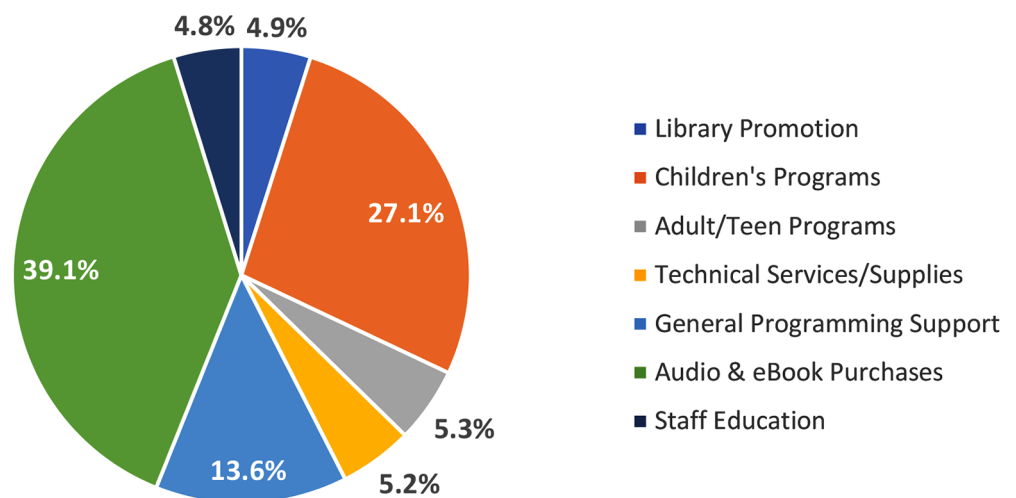
2023 was another great year for FOL. Our monthly BookStore format has been well received by the public and proved to be a good revenue generator. All of this would not have been possible without the hard work of all our volunteers and the generosity of our members and the public. So, a big **THANKS!** to all those involved in making FOL a success in 2023.

The two charts below show the source of FOL's 2023 income and how our financial contributions to the Lubbock Library System were spent.

### FOL Sources of Income

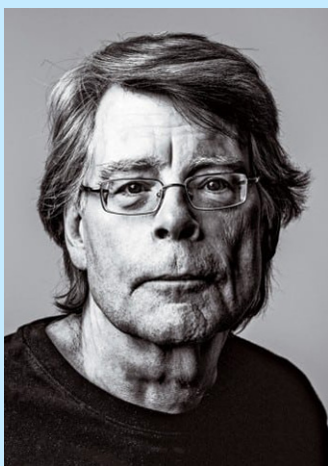


### 2023 Contributions to the Library System





“There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate’s loot on Treasure Island.”  
Walt Disney



“Books are a uniquely portable magic.”  
Stephen King

## From the Membership Director... by Cathy Syper

“Membership” is defined as belonging to some group, society, or organization. There are many reasons for joining: instruction or comfort, access, financial benefits, support for the organization or cause, time with like-minded people, and belonging and comradeship.

FOL membership fulfills many of the above-mentioned reasons for joining. From the books available at fantastic prices, you can learn and draw satisfaction from that knowledge or escape into fictional stories. You have early access to our inventory at each sale. Your purchases or volunteering supports a vital service to the community in the Lubbock Library system. Working with people whose goals match yours places you among others with whom you can relate.

So, please keep your membership current at the incredibly priced \$10.00 per year. As an FOL member, step it up a notch and volunteer with us in the basement of the Mahon Library where you will meet great people and possibly develop friendships that will last a lifetime. Hope to see you soon with your fellow bibliophiles in the basement!

“Thank you” to each and every one of our members. The dues you pay through your membership support the continued services provided by your local libraries.

Have a great spring!

## From the Book Sale VPs... by Linda Muehlbrad and Walter Wilhoit

Spring is coming and it is time to do spring cleaning...of books! Since your shelves need dusting, anyway, all previously read books can be given to Friends of the Library so new homes can be found at our monthly BookStore event. Then you will have room to add new books to your dust-free shelves. Good deal both ways! See you at the next BookStore or volunteering in the Mahon basement!

A perk of being a regular volunteer is getting to shop between sales. New books are coming in daily. Ask a volunteer for more information. See you at the next sale!

## From the Lubbock Library Staff...

### Godeke

The past year has been filled with old and new events. Our long-time campaigns such as the Summer Reading program and our continuing craft-focused events have proven to be staples at Godeke. There are a few notable new programs that have been initiated, as well as some that have been revamped.

**Cozy Corner Mystery Book Club** is hosted by the Godeke Librarian Carla James. There are 6-8 regular attendees in this cozy mystery book club where

*See STAFF, page 7*

Carla facilitates open discussion and, of course, thematic snacks!

**Magical Mondays:** The Magic Tree House is a new program started by Branch Manager Amanda Gwin, focusing on young readers transitioning to chapter books. It had a wonderful turn-out at the first program where a Texas Tech Museum paleontologist presented real dinosaur fossils to complement the dinosaur-themed Magic Tree House book.

**Crafty Seniors** has had an enthusiastic turnout with Dawn Cruz, one of our experienced Library Assistants. The older adults really love the crafts she chooses, and several of them take the craft ideas with them to share.

**Godeke Story Time** with Rocio. A new Library Assistant this year has brought a fresh face to story time. Bringing her teaching experience and high-interest crafts for our youngest patrons, she has proven to be a welcome asset to the library.

**Level Up!** (formerly *Teen Link*) has gotten a face lift with a focus on gaming that facilitates social and emotional well-being. This program is hosted by two licensed counselors from Lubbock, as well as the Godeke Librarian, Carla James.

## Mahon

The Friends of the Library is truly the backbone of all our library programs across all age groups. FOL funds help us buy art supplies, books, prizes, decorations, snacks, and so much more to keep our community engaged, learning new skills, and coming into the library.

These programs include a bit of everything ranging from art classes to workshops to story times to comedy nights. Our programs with some of the highest attendance this year were Mahon staples for young patrons and their families—the St. Patrick’s Day Scavenger Hunt and the Egg Hunt for Little Ones. These programs brought in around 300 and 250 people respectively! We were also able to branch out into newer programs aimed at our teenage and adult patrons like Guess That Anime, Genealogy for Beginners, and Homemade Bath Salts, to name a few.

Overall, every program we are able to offer is a

result of the generosity of FOL. And for that, we are beyond grateful.

## Patterson

2023 saw many activities at the Patterson Branch Library.

In February, we hosted the 20th Annual African American History Month Program and Reception honoring the lives and legacies of Bobbie Gean and Thomas James “T.J.” Patterson, Sr., through a memorial celebration.

At the end of May, we held our first Summer Reading program Kick-off Ice Cream Social. This event started off the summer reading sign-ups with free ice cream, take-and-make crafts, games, community supporters, and resources. Some community partners that helped with this event were FOL, Alliance Credit Union, Atmos Energy, Maniac Game Shack, and Walk By Faith Radio.

June saw the Juneteenth Kick-Off Celebration, then participation in the Juneteenth Parade. The Kick-Off provided a hub for information concerning activities during Juneteenth week with refreshing lemonade/tea and teacakes, storytime, and questions and answers about why we celebrate Juneteenth.

August is one of our most exciting times of the year. We plan and prepare for National Night Out. This event consists of an evening filled with food, music, and games, all ways to get to know your neighbors and community.

One of our latest events held in September was Ready to Read Storytime. This storytime was fun and unique because we had a guest reader, Jeriami of 806 DC Offroad. He brought monster trucks for the kids to look at and take pictures.

Thanks again to the Friends of the Library for all their generous support in helping the Lubbock Public Libraries continue to provide services and programs to the community.

## Summer Reading Program

An astounding impact was achieved in 2023 when the Friends of the Library generously funded our Summer Reading Guides, which proved to be

See STAFF, page 8

a tremendous asset for our library patrons, offering valuable information about the library's summer reading activities. One standout feature was the inclusion of a hanging calendar, a big hit with our patrons. Unlike previous years when guides were often discarded and replaced multiple times throughout the summer, the high-quality publication made it possible for many to keep their guide for the entire season.

We are immensely grateful for the invaluable support of our Friends of the Library organization. Your commitment ensures that our library system shines!

### **Outreach**

The Friends of the Library has been instrumental in supporting Lubbock Public Library's outreach efforts. Your generosity has allowed us to upgrade our image, creating a more professional and engaging experience for the Lubbock community.

Thanks to this support, we've invested in branded marketing materials like tablecloths, banners, and more, enhancing the overall quality of our outreach activities. Notably, we recently acquired a utility wagon, and the impact has been truly transformative. This seemingly minor addition has greatly improved our outreach efforts by simplifying supply transport, making it possible to carry everything in one trip, even across challenging terrains. Moreover, the wagon has streamlined event preparation, with all supplies neatly organized and readily accessible, making outreach preparation and execution more efficient and enjoyable.

We extend our profound gratitude to the extraordinary FOL organization. Your unwavering support is vital to our mission of providing exceptional library services to the Lubbock and West Texas communities. You are an integral part of our success.

### **Groves**

The Friends of the Lubbock Library are a great asset to the Groves Branch. Without their help, we wouldn't be able to provide the Lubbock community

with as many wonderful programs as we do! Some of our programs include family LEGO nights, Nerf Wars, Paint Wars, Laser Tag, Yard Games, Adult Coloring, Anime and Gaming afternoons, themed story times, and craft programs.

One of our biggest accomplishments at Groves this year is our revamped "Reel Books" Book Club. We have added an interactive element with four to five interactives to open while you read the book. Members seem to enjoy this new experience and participation has more than tripled!

Another popular program is our December Pajama Storytime that we do after-hours. Families can wear their winter jammies while listening to holiday stories and making a craft. Each child gets to take home a goodie bag with cookies, cocoa, popcorn, and stickers. This is a wildly popular program which we are excited to host again in December 2024.

The Groves Branch staff are so thankful for everything that the FOL does to keep our library and our programs running smoothly.

### **MMS**

MMS (Materials Management Services) is located the closest to the Friends of the Library spaces at the Mahon Library, and we daily enjoy their companionship and sense of humor. We are so grateful to have access to the books that are donated to FOL. They save us so much in terms of time and money when it comes to collection development. The estimated savings from FOL donated items includes, but is not limited to:

- Bestsellers: \$400 (new copies or additional copies added to the collection)
- 2022-2023 Copyright Books: \$697
- Children's Books: \$656 (we added or replaced 41 books from the Warrior Cats series)
- Other Children's Books: \$1,121 (We found some great books to add to our collections!)

Thank you very much to our FOL. We could not do it without you!

*"Walking the stacks in a library, dragging your fingers across the spines—it's hard not to feel the presence of sleeping spirits." — Robin Sloan*



You are invited to the  
Friends of the Lubbock Public Library

# Spring BOOKSTORES

March 22-23  
April 19-20  
May 17-18

9AM - 2PM

(Shop until 3pm)  
Friday - Members Only  
Saturday - Open to the Public

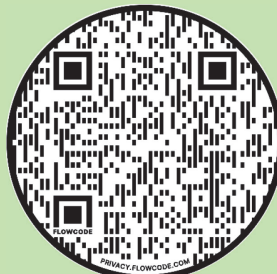
Friends of the Library



Serving Lubbock  
Since 1967

Scan the QR code  
for more info!

fol@lubbockfol.org  
806-775-2852  
www.lubbockfol.org



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Facebook  
FriendsOfTheLibraryLubbock

MAHON LIBRARY BASEMENT  
1306 9TH ST.,  
DOWNTOWN LUBBOCK

CASH, CHECKS, CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED.

Friends of the Library



Serving Lubbock  
Since 1967

## Membership Form

*Please write legibly!*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to volunteer? YES / NO

Are you a Bookseller/Bulk Buyer? YES / NO

Annual Membership Level (Circle one):

- \$10 - Individual/Family
- \$25 - Bronze Patron
- \$50 - Silver Patron
- \$75 - Gold Patron
- \$100 - Platinum Patron

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Paid by:

- Cash
- Check # \_\_\_\_\_
- Credit Card

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Received by \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to:

1306 9th Street, Lubbock, TX 79401 - 806.775.2852 - fol@lubbockfol.org

Friends of the Library



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Since 1967

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