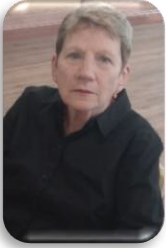


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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS 2025

**2026 – And We're Off!!!**

*By Dr. Lynn L. Remly, President*

After a flying finish to 2025, the Friends of the Hudson Library are off to the races again, with new goals for a new year.

We crossed the finish line with a total donation to the library of \$40,250, almost \$1000 better than 2024. Most of the purse is used for programs and materials that benefit all library patrons, and we are proud to do our part.

Most of our annual intake comes from our three weekly book sales, which would be impossible without the hard work of our dedicated volunteers. About thirty sorters get together four days each week to take in book donations from the community, sort and shelve them, and ensure that the store stays neat and accessible. About eight sellers staff the sales, committing their free time to help readers find just the right book. In 2025, we took in 1470 donations, most of the several box loads. Overall, our volunteers logged 3700 hours to ensure the sales' success.

Our crew is not only dedicated, but they are also dynamic, always looking for ways to improve sales. As early as 2018, one volunteer came up with the idea of selling books on Amazon, a project that brought in \$700 in December alone. Other tech-savvy volunteers had the idea of selling at other online sites, and these have added up to a fair sum each month.

Likewise, volunteers spotted an opportunity and created our summer Sidewalk Sale, as part of Hudson's annual outdoor sale. Another idea became our yearly Holiday Sale, which this year set a record of about \$1000 for holiday books, music, and DVDs. And on it goes, as we continue to improve, working for the library and its patrons.

Heading into the first turn this spring, we are holding our Membership Drive, recruiting volunteers and supporters to the cause. I cannot think of a worthier entity than the Hudson Library and Historical Society, which is a center and foundation of the Hudson community. Children's and family events, concerts, lectures, author talks, tech services-- even the fact of a quiet place to read, write, study, or just think: it is all right there for all of us.

Join us in this year's run for the roses: become a member of the Friends.