



2014-2015 Annual Report



Our Vision

To help and support local Friends groups integrate their library thoroughly into the life and work of their community.

Our Mission

The Friends of Tennessee Libraries (FOTL) is a volunteer organization of individuals and organizations dedicated to supporting Tennessee Libraries and local Friends of Library groups through:

- Establishing and helping Friends of Library groups succeed;
- Communicating with libraries and trustees about the value of Friends;
- Serving members as communication network and clearinghouse for information;
- Advocating for library funding and legislative support on a local, state, and national basis.

We promote libraries and their Friends.

We support libraries and their Friends.

We advocate funding for libraries on a local, state, and national basis.

Board meetings were scheduled for the 3rd Friday of **June, Sept, and Mar** and the 1st Friday of **Dec** and were held on June 20, September 19, December 12, and March 20, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

<http://www.friendstnlibraries.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Tennessee-Libraries/78895803726?fref=ts>

FOTL 2014-2016 OFFICERS

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ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR


1.  We continued to work cooperatively with our partners:




THE TENNESSEE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
UNITED FOR LIBRARIES: ASSOCIATION OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES, ADVOCATES,
FRIENDS AND FOUNDATIONS. A DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
THE GOVERNOR'S BOOKS FROM BIRTH FOUNDATION / IMAGINATION LIBRARY
PICTURE BOOK MONTH

2. ___ Hold meeting for Division Representatives in each Grand Division. **In Process**

-  Developed and posted on the FOTL web site a **Tool Kit for Building a Library Friends Group** and **Sample ByLaws of Tennessee Friends Groups** for a Gill-Shepherd-Reynolds program for Kingston Friends as a model for future workshops.
-  Connie Albrecht presented "What Are Friends For?" for the Art Circle Library Friends in Crossville.
-  Developed **Welcome to the... Friends of Tennessee Libraries** and **Why Join FOTL?** handouts distributed at Regional In-services and TSLA Trustee Workshops.

3.  We held Board Meetings on June 20, September 19, December 12, and March 20. We are now posting our **Board Meeting agendas and minutes** on our web site as they happen so members can be up-to-date.

4.  We developed a Board of Directors Info Packet, which will be posted on web site.

5.  We held one of four Quarterly Board Meetings via conference call:
We used the TSLA conference call bridge for December 12th Board Meeting.


6. ___ We encouraged the Secretary of State's Communications Office to distribute library press releases to the four library Listservs: FOTL, TASL, TLA, Tn-Libraries, TENN-SHARE

7.  We expanded the FOTL Board Members Listserv to carry higher content volume.

8.  We developed a second Listserv to communicate with all FOTL members.

9. ___ We are transferring Membership, Benefactor, and Grant Applications/Evaluations to PDF ACROBAT. **In Process**

10.  We developed a Vision Statement (top of page).

11.  Governor Haslam and Secretary of State Hargett issued a Proclamation for Tennessee Friends of Libraries Week, October 19-25.
<http://www.friendstnlibraries.org/wp-content/uploads/Procamationcolor.pdf>
Brentwood city, Knox and Sevier counties also issued proclamations.

12. We gathered applications to award the Friend of the Year Award at TLA to the Friends of the Williamson County Pubic Library.
We also recommended that the Award be split into two: one for smaller communities and one for larger communities.
13. We gathered applications to award 3 grants of \$300 each at April Annual Meeting.
Advocacy Grant: Friends of King Family Library, Sevierville
Fundraising Grant: Friends of Lobelville Library
Membership Grant: Friends of Putnam County Library
14. We gathered applications to award 2 Recognition Certificates with \$100 each.
Jill McMaster - Kingston Public Library
Judy Titsworth - Putnam County Library, Cookeville
15. We published *newsletter* in: May-June; July-Aug; Sept-Oct; Nov-Dec; Winter; Spring
16. We added 2-5 posts a day to our Facebook Page.
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Tennessee-Libraries/78895803726?fref=ts>
17. The President wrote a membership invitation letter to non-member groups and a thank you membership renewal letter to member groups.
18. We developed an 8 1/2 x 11" Certificate for FOTL Members:
"Our Friends Are FOTL Friends"
19. We supported the Tennessee State Library Standard from *Tennessee Standards for Non-Metropolitan Public Libraries (2014)* under "Community Relations" that,
6. Each Library has a Friends of the Library group. (p.30)
<http://www.tennessee.gov/tsla/lps/Library%20Standards%20for%20Non-Metropolitan%20Libraries.pdf>
20. We supported the Tennessee 3-Star Community Program that,
"A public library is a vital part of a well-rounded program of community life, providing information necessary to the welfare and future advancement of a community. It offers every citizen the means of self-education and strengthens and extends appreciation of the cultural and *?[WORD MISSING]?* values of life.
Each community should work to have a local library that has a well-organized nonprofit group of support that can establish private funds, provide volunteer hours and act as a community liaison in order to supplement the community's library needs."
<http://tn.gov/ece/threestar/>
<http://www.tn.gov/ECD/threestar/pdf/ThreeStarProgramOverview.pdf>
21. ___ Develop "100 Ways to Use Your Library" Poster. In Process
22. ___ We have developed a Statement about Tennesseans Deserve. In Process
23. We began publication of an electronic FRIENDS eNOTES to communicate with members.
24. We supported the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation / Imagination Library.
<http://www.governorsfoundation.org>




We joined the **10th Anniversary Celebration, September 14-20, 2014.**
We continue to oppose post office shredding of undeliverable Imagination Library books in local communities.

We published **Parent Tips for Reading Aloud** and posted on web site.
<http://www.friendstnlibraries.org/wp-content/uploads/Parent-Tips-for-Reading-Aloud-Sept-2014-Imagination-Week-Handout-REV-FINAL1.pdf>



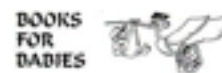
25.  We supported and promoted the Southern Festival of Books, October 10-14.
<http://www.humanitiestennessee.org/programs/southern-festival-books-celebration-written-word>



26.  We encouraged an Update of the Tennessee Literary Map.
Tennessee Council of Teachers of English.
1976: <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/land/landsout.html#obj5>
The Tennessee Council of Teachers of English still has custody of the Tennessee Literary Map. It appears to have been updated in 2012, but there are lots of omissions. See it at this link:
2012: <http://www.ncte.org/library/NCTEFiles/Groups/Affiliates/Maps/Tennessee.pdf>



27. ___ Support and Promote Books for Babies Kits.
http://www.ala.org/united/products_services/booksforbabies



28.  We became the first library-related partner of Picture Book Month. **June 20.**
<http://picturebookmonth.com>



We supported and promoted Picture Book Month in November.

29.  We supported National Ag Week in Tennessee, March 15-21, including National Ag Day, March 18, <http://www.agday.org/>



30.  We considered becoming an Amazon Smile Organization, but decided not in favor of recommending local groups should join the program. **March 20.**
AmazonSmile. You shop. Amazon gives.

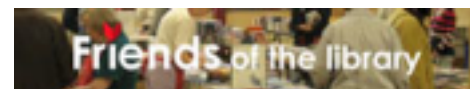
When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates to your favorite charitable organization. <http://smile.amazon.com>
(You can change it any time.)

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.



31.  We supported and promoted National Library Week (April 12-18) and Children's Book Week (May 4-10)

32.  We planned program for annual TLA Trustees/Friends April 24th lunch in Memphis. We engaged Miguel Figueroa, Director of the new ALA Center for the Future of Libraries as speaker for the Friday lunch and program. Check out the Center's web site at:
<http://www.ala.org/transforminglibraries/future>



33.  We planned and held an Annual Meeting on April 25th in Memphis. Hosted by the Friends of the Memphis Public Library, the program was about Marketing.

34.  President-Elect William Sundquist represented FOTL in Washington, D.C. at the annual Library Legislative Day on May 4-5.

35. ___ We have prepared a DRAFT for an *Ethical Dozen Statement for Friends*. In Process

36. ___ We are developing a Procedures Manual of our FOTL programs and activities. In Process