



# Friends of Tennessee Libraries *newsletter*

March-April 2012

Volume 19, Number 2

## ***Friends To Learn and Network At Annual Meeting on May 11***



Ellen Myrick  
Myrick Marketing & Media, LLC

### **Save April 9 Nashville Is Setting For Legislative Day**

From Wendy  
Cornelisen, president  
of Tennessee Library  
Association (TLA),  
comes this word about  
Library Legislative Day in  
Tennessee on April 9:

Participants will soon  
be able to register at the  
TLA Conference March  
21-23 and on the TLA  
website: <[tnla.org](http://tnla.org)>.

Do you want to increase your membership but don't know how to reach potential members? Are you confused about what you can do to advocate for your library and still protect your non-profit status? Do you wonder what a writer's life is really like?

Speakers at FOTL's annual meeting at the Progressive Savings Bank in Cookeville on Friday, May 11, will answer all these questions.

Ellen Myrick of Myrick Marketing & Media, LLC, wants to help you market your Friends' group. In an interactive session she will invite participants to share marketing ideas that have worked—or failed to work—for them and will offer advice about how to develop a more effective marketing plan.

Jim McCarten, attorney, believes that "Forewarned is forearmed." The IRS and the state of Tennessee now impose a number of rules on tax-exempt organizations and their fundraising. His presentation will introduce those rules and explain how Friends can avoid personal liability if those rules are violated.

Jennie Ivey, author of *E Is for Elvis* and other books, will talk about her experience as a writer and will also give advice about finding a publisher. At lunch her books will be available for purchase.

Lodging at special rates will be available at the Holiday Inn Express in Cookeville. For example, a room with two beds or a king-size



Jennie Ivey  
Author

bed will cost \$85. Friends of Tennessee Libraries should be mentioned when reservations are made. Telephone: 931.881.2000. Address: 1228 Bunker Hill Road, Cookeville

See page 5 for a registration form and directions. A fee of only \$20 covers a continental breakfast, lunch, the program, and the opportunity to network with other Friends.

### ***Late-Breaking News from Benton County: Possible Compromise***

When the newsletter went to press, it appeared that, as the result of a meeting in Benton County on February 21, a compromise between county officials and the State of Tennessee may restore the library's materials and services. See pp. 2-3 for the back story.

# FOTL Gives to Library Campaign in Benton County

By Susie Webb Ries

*President, Friends of Tennessee Libraries*

In 2011, the Benton County Commission voted to cut the library's funding by 24 per cent. The lack of funding violated the Maintenance of Effort for state services which led to the recent removal of 6,500 books from the two Benton County libraries.

This is the first time in the 75-year history of the Tennessee Regional Library System that the state library has been forced to reclaim state-owned books and materials as well as access to R.E.A.D.S. e-books and audio book online services, technical assistance and consulting services from the Regional Library, weekly courier pick-up and delivery of

interlibrary loan materials, and the allocation of \$10,745 provided by the state for purchases of materials.

The Benton County mayor reports that other mayors are calling him to find out if this is an allowable way to cut funding in their county. There is concern that if the lack of funding is allowed to stand, the Benton County Library will be the first domino to fall in a long line of libraries that could lose the state's support of funding and services.

Donations should be sent to Benton County Friends of the Library, c/o Save Our Library Campaign, 121 South Forrest Avenue, Camden, TN 38320.

More information about this unfolding story appears on page 3.



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On behalf of the Benton County Friends of the Library, Susan Hubbs Tyner, left, and Carol Ann Snider receive a \$1,000 donation from FOTL President Susie Ries, center. Empty areas on shelves in the background are where books supplied by the state used to be. Carol Ann is president of the Benton County Friends and vice chair of the library board. Susan is Friends' secretary and the CYS librarian. FOTL's donation brought the total raised by February 17 to \$5,400.

## Maintenance of Effort Affects Benton County Libraries

Friends of the Benton County Public Library have launched a drive to raise \$10,000 to help overcome reductions in both county and state support for the county's two libraries, located in Camden and Big Sandy.

When the County Commission reduced the library budget by more than \$25,000, Library Director Rhonda Tippitt had to reduce staff, operating hours, and other expenses because of the cuts.

Library supporters also learned that the county had violated its Maintenance of Effort contract with the State Library and Archives. This contract, under state law (TCA 10-3), requires that member libraries in the Regional Library System must maintain "the allocation of locally appropriated funds at a level not less than the amount appropriated the last fiscal year as well as the expenditure of locally appropriated funds at a level not less than the total amount expended in the last fiscal year"

Although the State Library and Archives offered to compromise with Benton County if it would restore some portion of the cuts, the County Commission could not secure enough votes to restore any funds. The deadline passed on January 31, at which time the Reelfoot Regional Library discontinued services in Benton County.

Library users in the county saw 6,500 state-owned books removed from the shelves. They are also losing access to the R.E.A.D.S. downloadable book service, computer technical support, and funds for purchasing materials. In all, regional services are valued at more than \$40,000 per year—far more than the County Commission saved by cutting the budget.

The Benton County Friends group and other donors are working to raise \$10,000, the amount of money the state holds out as a compromise position that would return the books to the shelves and restore services.

## For Time Well Spent Compensation

By Barbara Zurl

*Coordinator Ex Libris Program*

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote about compensation—every sweet hath its sour and all that—but for the members of the Blount County Ex Libris Team, the notion takes on even greater meaning. Twice a month, a team of seven dedicated women deliver hour-long programs in seven different assisted-living and nursing-home facilities. Though there is no monetary compensation, we all come away richer for our dealings with the people we meet.

Last October as I told the folks at Asbury Health Center about the Great Chicago Fire, one of the attendees, Miss Georgiana, spoke up and told me that her grandfather's hotel burned during that fire and that her grandmother, mother, and brother walked out of the city amid thousands of others escaping the flames. Georgiana was 101 at the time she recounted this story. The timeline is right—the fire occurred in 1871 when her grandparents were alive.

While volunteers read at Shannondale Retirement Center about the film debut of Walt Disney's *Snow White*, one of the ladies shared that her "litttle" sister who was 13 back in 1937, was asked by the local theater to wear a Snow White costume and sit in a store window portraying the character to drum up business. According to this woman, her sister had "milk-white skin and long jet-black hair."

We never know what we will learn—from women keeping the home fires burning during World War II, to a war veteran recounting his stories as an Army photographer at the war's end, documenting the condition of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. When asked what that was like, his face said it all. It took a few minutes for him to say "nothing at either place was higher than three feet tall."

It is always good to save the best until last. In early February, while interacting with the residents at Wellington Place, we were talking about winter wildlife—in particular ground hogs and skunks. One of the residents, Peg, is 90 years old and sharper than sharp. She said, "Oh I have a skunk story for you—and it has to do with Amelia Earhart."

**See Compensation, page 6**



Peg Moore, mother of Larry Moore, president of the Blount County Friends, rests with the champion pumpkin raised by another son in Massachusetts. Hearing Peg's story about Amelia Earhart is one of the compensations that author Barbara Zurl celebrates.

# Help FOTL Reward Your Benefactors by April 1

Once again, every FOTL member has the opportunity to recognize those having a positive influence on Tennessee libraries. The nomination itself is an honor and will be appreciated by anyone recognized for service.

The following examples are representative of those who in the past have received certificates of appreciation at the FOTL annual meeting in the past. Now FOTL is searching for such outstanding individuals to be celebrated at the annual meeting on May 11, 2012, in Cookeville:

- civic-minded individuals who have donated buildings to be used as libraries;
- foundations that have been established through the generosity of individuals;
- Friends' groups that have completely renovated buildings;
- individuals donating many hours a year in such significant roles as library workers who extend the hours of local libraries, computer instructors, fundraisers, coordinators of book sales, composers of brochures about library services, organizers of book-and-author luncheons, founders of Friends' groups, editors of newsletters, or organizers of summer-reading programs.

Outstanding Friends may also be recognized posthumously. The awards will again include \$100 cash. (Most of those honored in the past have chosen to present their checks to their local library or Friends' group.) Guidelines include the following details:

- **The nominator must be an FOTL member.** (Enrollment may accompany the nomination.) Nominations by people who do not have **individual** memberships in FOTL will be disqualified.
- An FOTL member may submit one nomination per year.
- Nominations must be based on achievements during the past two years.
- Nominees may be
  - a living individual
  - an individual recently deceased
  - a Friends' group
  - a business
  - other groups (e. g., a club, a foundation).
- Duplication of past winners will be avoided.
- Nominations must be returned by April 1, 2012.

Get busy and return your nomination for consideration.

## CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION NOMINATION FORM (For achievements during the past two years.)

**If your nominee is an Individual, Librarian,  
Friend, or Benefactor**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominee's phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Category \_\_\_\_\_  
(individual? librarian? Friend? benefactor? other?)  
Library \_\_\_\_\_  
Library's address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Library's phone number \_\_\_\_\_

**If your nominee is Local Friends' Group, Business,  
or Other**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
President of organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Category \_\_\_\_\_  
Library \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**In 100 or fewer words, describe the nominee's contributions to libraries in the past two years. Attach that description to this form.**

**Name of Nominator, FOTL member** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail by April 1, 2012, to Connie Albrecht, 1560 Country Club Place, Cookeville, TN 38501.**

# Join Us on May 11 in Cookeville

Directions to Progressive Savings Bank, 1080 Interstate Drive, Cookeville (across from Starbucks)  
 From Nashville: Going east on I-40, take Exit 286 (South Willow Avenue). Turn left onto South Willow Avenue. Go .3 mile and turn right onto Interstate Drive. Go 1.2 miles. Progressive Savings Bank will be on the right.

From Knoxville: Going west on I-40, take Exit 287 (South Jefferson Avenue). Turn right onto South Jefferson Avenue. Go 300 yards. Turn left onto Interstate Drive. Go .2 mile. Progressive Savings Bank will be on the left.

If you enter the back door of the bank, the elevator will be on your right. Go to the second floor. If you enter from the front of the building, go toward the back door. Elevator will be on your left. Go to second floor.



Jennie Ivey  
 Author



Ellen Myrick  
 Myrick Marketing  
 & Media

## Networking with Friends

(\*Cookeville is on Central Daylight Savings Time.)

Location: Progressive Savings Bank, 1080 Interstate Drive, Cookeville, TN.

- \*8:15-9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00-9:30 a.m. Welcome and Brief Business Meeting
- 9:30-10:15 "How To Market Your Friends' Group"  
 Ellen Myrick  
 Myrick Marketing & Media. LLC
- 10:15-10:30 Break
- 10:30-11:30 "Hey, Did That Really Happen?  
 A Writer Spills All"  
 Jennie Ivey, Author
- 11:30-12:45 Lunch and Networking
- 12:45-1:45 p.m. "Protecting Your Library, Your Friends'  
 Organization, and Yourself: Doing  
 Things Right and Avoiding Federal  
 and State Penalties"  
 Jim McCarten, Attorney at Law  
 Burr & Forman LLP
- 1:45-2:00 p.m. Break
- 2:00-2:30 p.m. FOTL Recognition Awards
- 2:30-3:00 p.m. Door Prizes and Announcements
- 3:00 Adjournment

Registration covering both continental breakfast and lunch is \$20. **Registration deadline is May 2.** Detach this form on the dotted line and mail it with your check, payable to FOTL, to Connie Albrecht, 1560 Country Club Place, Cookeville, TN 38501. Please print.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

## Brentwood Children's Library Among the Best: Livability

Livability.com, an online resource highlighting "500 of America's best places to live, work, play, explore, and belong," has named the Brentwood children's library among the top 10 "most dynamic" facilities for youngsters.

Of the top 10, Livability says, "These libraries are designed to stimulate young imaginations and foster engagement with books and literacy programs." According to Livability.com, "They play a vital role in not only educating children, but getting them excited about books." See the full list at <<http://livability.com/top-10/top-10-libraries-children>>.

"Once upon a time," Friends of Tennessee Libraries who attended the 2011 annual meeting in the Brentwood Library last May walked through the beautiful children's library on their way to one of their sessions.



Through this entry the children of Brentwood Library enter "a vital starting point for intellectual, academic and social inspirations . . ."

## Compensation cont. from page 3

Naturally we were all intrigued. Peg said that when she was 13, Amelia Earhart came to visit the State House up in Montpelier, Vermont. Since the area "had a real skunk problem," the governor enlisted help from the state police to eradicate the skunks because if there were any carcasses on the road, they would offend Ms. Earhart. Young Peg worked her way through the crowd, ultimately getting on to the same step as Amelia. She was awestruck and eventually just put her hand out to touch the world-famous aviatrix. As soon as she made contact, Amelia Earhart grabbed onto her hand and held on to it all the while she was there. Newspaper records indicate that this particular event took place on March 7, 1935.

By the way, I should warn readers never to play Scrabble with the remarkable Peg Moore unless they think their complexions are improved by massive doses of egg on the face.

Driving home from that particular session, I was struck again by Emerson's astute observation. For the little that our team gives, we come away with so much more. Indeed, it is good not only being a Friend of the Library, but also being part of the team known as Friends from the Library.

## News from the Metros



Writer Marianne Wiggins, fourth from left, charmed a standing-room-only crowd in Knoxville on January 24. Among her many published works, the novel *Evidence of Things Unseen*, is set in East Tennessee and was a finalist for the National Book Award in 2003. The Friends of the Knox County Public Library sponsored her appearance in celebration of the library system's 125th birthday. Standing behind the author are Knox County Friends Ginna Mashburn, Martha Gill, Julie Webb, Bonny Naugher, President Elnora Williams, Mary Pom Claiborne, and Flossie McNabb.

## Chattanooga Friends Appreciate Volunteers

More than 250 volunteers donated over 10,000 hours of service to the Chattanooga Public Library in 2011, according to *Volumes* (January/February 2012), the newsletter published by the Chattanooga Friends. The publication honors volunteers by service levels depending on the number of hours given to the library. A total of 133 volunteers donated as many as 10 hours (Sentence); 70 devoted 11-50 hours (Paragraph); 29 gave 51-100 hours (Page); 14 committed 101-200 hours (Chapter). A total of 11 worked 200+ hours (Book). Once again the volunteer with over 1,500 hours to her credit (Encyclopedia) is the extraordinary Polly Stratton.

The Friends' book sale to benefit the library ran from February 25-March 5 at Eastgate Town Center, 5600 Brainerd Road, Chattanooga.

## 2012 Light the Way Grant Goes to Memphis Library

The Memphis Public Library & Information Center is the recipient of the 2012 Light the Way: Library Outreach to the Underserved Grant awarded by the Association for Library Service for Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). With the \$3,000 grant, the library will partner with the Deaf Family Literacy Academy of Memphis to provide services and materials to increase the literacy of children who are deaf or hard of hearing through workshops, expansion of existing storytimes, and outreach programs.

# News from the Regions

**Editor's note: In Tennessee, libraries in Chattanooga, Knoxville, Nashville, and Memphis are classified as metros. See page 6. All other public libraries in the state are part of the regional system.**



photo from "Friends and Library News" (Winter 2012)  
In the Fort Loudoun Region the Friends of the Tellico Village Library and its board have participated in the long-awaited ground-breaking ceremony. From left are Becky Haile, library manager; David Seiler, former board president; 2011 President David Damm; Lee Walter, immediate past president; and Dough Christman and Cap Purvis, former presidents

## Forked Deer by Sylvia Palmer Crockett County Friends

sponsored a book circle where *White Doves at Morning* by James Lee Burke was discussed. The Circle was well attended with 21 people participating.

**Brownsville Friends** continue to support the Elma Ross Library and are working on increasing membership.

**Lauderdale Friends** hosted a book signing for Volume III of *A Pictorial History of Lauderdale County* authored by Billie Morris. They also provided refreshments and a performance by violinist Angel Smith.

**Mclver's Grant Public Library Friends** offered Christmas ornaments for sale as a fundraiser for the new library under construction. They hope to be in the new building by August 2012. Friends received a grant from Friends of Tennessee Libraries to defray the cost of a membership drive.

**Newbern Friends** continued supporting the library and are making plans for a fundraiser.

**Somerville Friends** continue to support the library in several venues.

The Somerville Reads 2012 theme this year is food, and the library is asking patrons to submit recipes and stories for the project.

**Tiptonville Friends** continue to support the library and are working on plans for spring activities.

## Nolichucky by Dwight Shepherd

Friends of Kodak Library surprised Co-President Emma Ruth Catlett by presenting a book to the Kodak Heritage Handcrafted Collection at the Kodak Branch of the Sevier County Public Library System in observance of her 90th Birthday.

Catlett, a charter member of FOKL, served on the initial board of directors and as president from 2008-2010. Her current term as co-president expires at the end of March. Catlett is also actively involved in planning and carrying out the annual Kodak Heritage Day.

The book, *Appalachian Tales & Heartland Adventures* by Bill Landry, tells the behind-the-scenes story of the popular Heartland Series television program that Landry hosted for 25 years. The complete series is included in the Heritage Handcrafted Collection. The collection was started by FOKL, which has donated over 200 items for it.

The book was presented at the group's January meeting, which was closest to her February 10 birthday.



Dwight Shepherd with Emma Ruth Catlett



photo by Linda Lubke  
Kodak Branch Library Manager John Alexander

John Alexander, Kodak branch manager since last September, spoke to the Kodak Friends at the January meeting about the books that he has written.

*Ghosts: Washington Revisited* deals with supposed hauntings in historic buildings, sometimes by historic figures, in the nation's capital. It grew out of a radio program that Alexander put together while working at a station in Washington, D.C. The program won a Peabody Award.

*Firestorm at Gettysburg: Civilian Voices* deals with the experiences of the citizens of Gettysburg during the Civil War battle. It uses first-hand accounts and original photos to tell their story.

At the Sevier County Health Fair February 18, Friends from all three Sevier County libraries sold books related to pet care and distributed information about membership.

Kodak Friends were invited to showcase and sell the Kodak Historical Cookbook at the Rose Glen Literary Festival on February 25.

## Upper Cumberland by Wanda Jared

**The Friends of the Monterey Branch Library** purchased computer-monitoring software enabling the staff to have better control of computer usage and websites visited by patrons.

**Putnam County Library Friends** began the annual "Coffee with an Author" series with local writer Bill Halderson on January 21. Victoria Williams-Fisher appeared February 25.

**Friends of Tennessee Libraries**  
**7208 Scottsville Road**  
**Lafayette, TN 37083**

Online at Facebook and at  
<[www.friendstnlibraries.org](http://www.friendstnlibraries.org)>

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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Friends of Tennessee Libraries is a volunteer organization of individuals and groups 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 a communication network and clearinghouse for information
- **Advocating** for library funding and legislative support on a local, state, and national basis

TEL: Reaching Your Library at Home Is Easier Than Ever!  
Go to <[www.tntel.info](http://www.tntel.info)>

### Membership Application

## Become a Friend of Tennessee Libraries

(Membership year is January to December.)

#### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual          | \$15/yr  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Silver   | \$50/yr  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Gold     | \$100/yr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Platinum | \$500/yr |

#### FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family          | \$25/yr  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Silver   | \$50/yr  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Gold     | \$100/yr |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Platinum | \$500/yr |

#### ORGANIZATIONS

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-49 Members    | \$25/yr  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 50-99 Members   | \$55/yr  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 100-499 Members | \$75/yr  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 500 Members     | \$100/yr |

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Make checks payable to Friends of Tennessee Libraries. Send to FOTL Membership Chair Connie Albrecht, 1560 Country Club Place, Cookeville, TN 38501-2062.**