



Friends of Tennessee Libraries *newsletter*

September-October 2012

Volume 19, Number 5

A Friends' Calendar

**Month of September
Library Card Sign Up**

**September 12
Deadline for Nominations
I Love My Librarian
<<http://www.atyourlibrary.org/ilovemylibrarian>>**

**September 30-October 6
Banned Book Week**

**October 14-20
Teen Read Week**

**October 21-27
National Friends of
Libraries Week**

**November 3
International Games Day**

**November 15
Grant Applications Due
Friend of Year Nomination
Due**

**December 2012-January 2013
Renewal Period for FOTL
Membership**

**April 24-26, 2013
TLA Conference
Chattanooga**

**May 4, 2013
FOTL Annual Meeting
Dover, TN**

**May 7-8, 2013
National Library Legislative
Day in Washington, DC**

FOTL Heads to Dover in 2013

Tennessee Friends need to know lots of things about Dover, TN.

The first thing is that Dover will be the setting for the 2013 annual meeting of the Friends of Tennessee Libraries on Saturday, May 4. Delegates from the Dover Friends extended the invitation to FOTL President Susie Webb Ries at the annual meeting in Cookeville this year, and the board accepted.

The second thing is that Dover, a part of Stewart County, is situated on the Cumberland River 67 miles west-northwest from Nashville and almost 256 miles from Knoxville. Though past annual meetings have occurred on Friday, the 2013 event has been set for Saturday to give travelers more time to make the trip and to explore the area.



Map data courtesy of:
<http://www.dovertn.com/map_to_us/index.htm>

The third thing is that members of the Friends of the Dover Public Library are lively and enterprising. They publish an electronic newsletter, visible on FOTL's website at "In the News" (www.friendstnlibraries.org). And their major fundraiser, the salad luncheon, is an annual event in September that Dover residents anticipate.

Mary Lou Easter of the Dover Friends recalls the history of the salad luncheon: "It started in the back room of the previous, rather small library about 20 years ago. The library staff made 10 salads, and a few people came to enjoy! The next year a few more came, and the next year a few more . . . Now it is a great social event. Many people come, eat, and stay to visit. The tables are decorated according to a theme, and you cannot imagine the variety of salads that grace the full and running-over buffet! Our Friends make two or three large salads each, and the library staff prepares HUGE taco and chicken salads. Then others in the community contribute by bringing salads. . . . It is hard work for a few hours, but it is also a fun way to raise the money we need to assist our library in various small ways."



Dover residents turn out for the salad luncheon.

Some Good News about Tennessee Libraries

If you follow news about libraries in the Volunteer state and beyond, you may be on the brink of despair. But this issue brings some good news about libraries in Tennessee. In LaFollette a new full-service library opened in August. In Tellico Village the finishing touches are being put on a new library. Friends have played important roles in both of these facilities. They have much to teach all of us about being miracle workers.

And in Benton County on August 20, commissioners voted to keep the library in the state

system and to extend the life of the library board for six months, after which the commission will once again consider the board's effectiveness. Both the Friends and residents of the community at large stepped up to defend a beleaguered system, and so far their efforts have paid off. We have much to learn from the Friends of the Benton County Library.

Source: "Resolution to dissolve library board tabled; Commission approves budget," *Camden Chronicle* (August 20, 2012), 1.

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FOTL and New State Structure

FOTL’s mission includes “Communicating with libraries and trustees about the value of Friends” and “Serving members as a communication network and clearinghouse for information” (see page 8). Thus changes in the regional library system made at the state level pose a critical question: Should the structure of the FOTL board be revised to enhance communication with libraries, trustees, and members, and, if so, how should it be revised?

Members may also need help in understanding the reorganization of the state’s libraries: 9 regional libraries, down from 12, under the umbrella of the Department of State. In addition, four metro systems—Chattanooga, Knoxville, Nashville, and Memphis—function fairly independently. Directors and their contact information appear below. (School libraries fall under the aegis of the Tennessee Department of Education.)

New Name	Director	Contact Information
Buffalo River	Marion Bryant	Marion.Bryant@tn.gov
Clinch River	Susan Simmons Byrne	susan.simmons@tn.gov
Falling Water	Faith A. Holdredge	Faith.Holdredge@tn.gov
Hatchie River	Carla Jacobs	Carla.jacobs@tn.gov
Holston River	Nancy Renfro	nrenfro@wrlibrary.org
Obion River	Mary Carpenter	mary.carpenter@tn.gov
Ocoee River	Beth Mercer	Beth.Mercer@tn.gov
Red River	Becky Bailey	becky.bailey@tn.gov
Stones River	Betty Jo Jarvis	BettyJo.Jarvis@tn.gov
Eliminated	Nolichucky	
Eliminated	Forked Deer	
Eliminated	Reelfoot	
Knoxville-Knox County	Myretta Black	director@knoxlib.org
Metro Chattanooga	Corinne Hill	hill_corinne@lib.chattanooga.gov
Nashville-Davidson County	Kent Oliver	kent.oliver@nashville.gov
Memphis-Shelby County	Keenon McCloy	mccloyk@memphislibrary.org

Libraries Essential To Democracy

By Michael Hale
 Assistant Director
 White County Public Library

The Fourth of July has just passed, and I spent a lot of time thinking about how wonderful it is to live in a free society. There are a number of telltale signs of such a community, but I can think of none better than a public library.

At the height of World War II when the future of democracy was uncertain, Franklin D. Roosevelt called libraries “the great symbols of the freedom of the mind” and noted that they are “essential to the functioning of a democratic society.” He was absolutely right. After all, without free access to knowledge, how can a democracy expect to function?

Claudia Alta “Lady Bird” Taylor Johnson, wife of President Lyndon B. Johnson, is quoted as saying, “Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.” She, too, was correct. Even if you owe hundreds of dollars in library fines, we allow the public to borrow donated print materials on an honor system. We have no desire to keep books out of your hands.

If you happen to need a reminder of what makes America great after all the fireworks have exploded in the sky [on July 4], look no further than your local public library. And then take a moment to remember how lucky we are to have it.

Reprinted with permission from White County Public Library Newsletter (July 2012)



Tellico Village Library Nears Completion

Eight years in the making, the new library on Irene Lane in Tellico Village is nearly finished.

According to the Friends of the Tellico Village Public Library newsletter (Summer 2012), "All structural details are in place: the concrete patio between the two building wings is complete; plumbing and wiring are close to completion, as are interior finishing and detailing; site grading is complete; access road paving and driveway/parking area paver block installations are well underway. The final touch will be landscaping. And then comes 'move-in'!"

The new building offers expanded shelving, social-network training, access to other new technologies, additional seating, increased parking, improved security, and a meeting place for community events.

According to Doug Christman, Janet Trimboth, and Librarian Becky Haile, the "first stirring of interest in things literary" began in 1987 with the formation of a book club. A small lending library equipped with 500 donated books from the Loudon County Library Board Regional Bookmobile opened in the Yacht Club. When a survey indicated that there was support for a library, a committee was formed to plan for the future,

and three residents, all professional librarians, volunteered to manage the first small library.

At this point the late Maryann Bork, a resident of Tellico Village, helped to establish a Friends' group that by 1994 included 94 charter members. Maryann Bork is well known across the state as an energetic and visionary former president of FOTL.

In 1997 the library, having outgrown its space in the Yacht Club, opened at Lakeside Plaza in May 1997, and in October of that year it became part of the Loudon County system, which funds the salary of a full-time library manager, 20 hours per week toward the salary of a part-time assistant, and a leased-book program for all five county libraries. "All other funds for the Tellico Village branch are provided by the

Friends of the Tellico Village Library fundraising efforts or by donations," reports the Friends' newsletter.

Library Manager Becky Haile foresees that the new library can be the "heart of the Village."

On September 20 from 5-8:30 p.m., Friends of the Tellico Public Library will celebrate their new library and raise funds for it with a silent auction and wine- and beer-tasting event at the Yacht Club.



Maryann Bork, right, Becky Haile, left, and Ginny Strandberg in 1997. The patio of the new library will be named in Maryann Bork's memory. All photos are reprinted with permission from the Friends of the Tellico Village Public Library newsletter (Summer 2012).



LaFollette Opens Library That Friends Helped Build

The new library in LaFollette, which opened officially on August 1, represents the achievement of a community over a period of many decades.

The new facility began as a dream of the Friends of the LaFollette Library which opened a fundraising campaign about five years ago.

The city also supported a note which enabled the library to hire Paul Begley as building-project manager. Using imagination, sheetrock, and new partitions, that gifted manager transformed a block building which was formerly the city's recreation center into today's 4,000-square-foot library. One of its features is a computer lab, equipped with eight computers for the public's use, work-stations that came to the library from the Campbell County Education Board's adult education program.



Library Director Nancy Green

Other features include a children's area, an office for Director Nancy Green, a small kitchen for the staff's use "if we ever have time for a break," says the director, and stacks offering the latest in print and digital resources.



Since the new library opened August 1, 75 brand-new library cards have been issued to patrons attracted to the new full-service library, quite a contrast to its predecessors. In 1941 the Ladies of LaFollette Book Club built a collection from donated books. After Lansden Hill and Guy Easterly promoted the idea of a publicly supported library, the Book Club was instrumental in persuading the city to allocate 1,600 square feet of space in the LaFollette Municipal Building, constructed in 1951, where the library remained until 2012.

Director Green points out that since the resources of the Friends of the Library have gone into the new library, donations are welcome. Friends meet in the library at 5 p.m. on the third Tuesday of alternate months beginning in February. The next meeting will be October 16.

Sources: <http://lafollettepubliclibrary.org/friends-of-the-library/>

A dream comes true in LaFollette: a new library. <http://www.firstpost.com/topic/place/tennessee-the-new-public-library-in-lafollette-tennessee-video-livbX5iSkh4-363-1.html>



Need Funds to Implement Campaigns? Look to FOTL

Does your Friends' group have a great idea for a project but no funds to implement it? Friends of Tennessee Libraries can help you underwrite projects designed to **increase membership, raise funds, or support advocacy.**

FOTL offers three grants of \$200 each, available to members of FOTL in good standing as they design projects of **advocacy, fund raising, or membership drives** for the coming year.

From the Friends' website <www.friendstnlibraries.org> local groups can download instructions and an application form. Applications must be received by November 15.

Applications should be mailed to Dwight Shepherd, P.O. Box 1014, Kodak, TN 37764-7014, or sent by e-mail to <dewhitesheep@hotmail.com>.

The grants are designed to support new projects, not to pay for projects already completed.

Grants will be awarded by January 15, 2013.

Once the grant has been awarded, the winning Friends' group must follow up with an evaluation of the project within 30 days of the project's completion. That form is also available on the FOTL website.

Failure to return the evaluation form could result in the group's having to return the grant money or could diminish the group's chance of receiving another grant.

Friends of Tennessee Libraries GRANT APPLICATION	
Applicant must be a Friends Group that is a member in good standing of Friends of Tennessee Libraries. Applications must be received by November 15 to be considered for a grant to be utilized in the following calendar year. ALL GRANTS WILL BE FOR \$200.	
1. Application Date:	
2. Friends Group Name:	
3. Tax Exempt Status?	
4. Area Served:	
5. Contact Person:	
6. Telephone:	
7. Mailing Address:	
8. City/Zip Code:	
9. Email Address:	
10. TYPE OF GRANT REQUESTED (One grant per application.)	DESCRIPTION
Fund Raising:	To assist with the expense associated with fund raising for your Friends group.
Advocacy:	To assist with expense associated with advocating on behalf of your community library.
Membership:	To assist with expense associated with retaining existing members and securing new members.
11. Project Title:	
12. Project Budget:	
13. Project Starting Date:	
14. Project Ending Date:	
15. Describe how the grant will be used:	
16. Date Application Received:	

This application may be filled out utilizing Excel software or print out copy and print or type responses to questions.

This form may be downloaded from the website: <friendstnlibraries.org>.

Friend of Year Nominations Due Nov. 15

In 2013, the Friends of Tennessee Libraries and the Tennessee Library Association will recognize an individual or a group earning the designation of "Friend of the Year."

The recipient, either an individual or a group, must be a member in good standing of the Friends of Tennessee Libraries and must have made a significant contribution to a Friends' group and to the advancement of libraries in Tennessee. Now you have the opportunity to nominate a group or a person deserving that honor. The deadline for nominations is November 15.

Describe in 200 words or less the nominee's service, achievements, and contributions to a Friends' group and/or to the advancement of libraries or education through libraries. The description and the following information should be sent to Martha Gill, past president of FOTL. It may be e-mailed to <marthagill491@gmail.com> or sent by postal service to Martha Gill, 4109 Forest Glen Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919, by November 15.

Nominee _____

Nominee's mailing address _____

Nominee's telephone _____

Nominee's e-mail address _____

If nominee is an Individual, is that nominee a member of FOTL? _____

If nominee is a group, is that group a member of FOTL? _____

Name of nominator _____

Nominator's mailing address _____

Nominator's e-mail _____

Nominator's telephone _____

Friends from Far and Wide Support Their Libraries

Brownsville Friends of the Elma Ross Library convened a planning meeting in July.

Chattanooga Friends will conduct a used-book sale September 15-24 at Eastgate Town Center, 5600 Brainerd Road.

The Chattanooga Friends' newsletter *Volumes* (May/June 2012) announces the appointment of Nate Hill as assistant director of technology and digital initiatives. Previously with the San Jose Public Library, Mr. Hill has been listed in *Library Journal* as one of the "Movers & Shakers 2012—Innovators." In the newsletter Corinne Hill, executive director of the Chattanooga Library, states that Mr. Hill "will be spearheading initiatives to develop and deliver original content to the public while fostering an environment that allows the public to do the same."

Cleveland Bradley Friends of the Library Association will present Mark Gimenez, author of such popular books as *The Abduction*, *Common Lawyer*, and *Accused*, at the fall luncheon on October 16.

The Friends Book Circle of the Crockett Library met twice in July, and the community looks

forward to occupying its newly renovated building.

King Family Library Friends in Sevierville hosted a meeting on the topic "Our Smokies, Our Future" on August 13 to gather ideas from the community about the future of the mountains. The non-governmental facilitator-led, grassroots process was intended to develop consensus on issues designed to benefit all of Sevier County.

Kodak Friends held the annual Family Picnic in July at Northview Optimist Park.

Lauderdale Friends continue to provide refreshments and supplies for library activities. Dolph Smith, world-renowned sculptor, is designing a donor tree for the Friends.

Friends of Lawrence County are gearing up for the fall book sale. The Friends made a generous donation to the South Cheatham County Library for new children's books to replace those damaged by spring storms.

Mclver's Grant Friends continue to sponsor activities raising funds for their new library. A used-book sale was held in August.

Friends of the Library-McMinn County featured opportunities for volunteers at the summer book sale on the front page of the July issue of the newsletter *Friends Forum*. Nights Out in the Wetlands, fundraising events for the library catered by Athens' restaurants and featuring local bands, have been popular this summer and will continue into the fall. The library's new pergola is described in the newsletter as "a unique structure featuring the finest of Tennessee's natural resources and Athens' talent."

Newbern Friends purchased craft supplies for programs and supported several activities designed to promote children's summer reading.

Putnam County Friends will host well-known Appalachian writer Sharyn McCrumb as the speaker for the annual author dinner on September 28 at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Cookeville.

Somerville Friends provided refreshments for a fashion show and assisted the library with other projects this summer.

Tiptonville Friends contributed operation funds for the library when county funds were delayed.

White County Public Library Friends have scheduled the fall book sale from September 20-22. All proceeds go to the Library Fund.

Share Your News

Want to see news about your Friends in this space? Contact your FOTL representative (page 2) or send items and photos directly to <marthagill491@gmail.com>. Some Friends' groups have designated a specific member as an FOTL liaison.



Promoting a spirit of community, Seymour Library Friends sponsored a guided tour of the Sevier County antebellum house Wheatlands in July.



When Knox County Friends participated in East Tennessee History Day on August 19, the Lincolns dropped by to look over books about the Civil War. Friend Jean Idell was on hand to help.

Friends of Tennessee Libraries
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Online at Facebook and at
<www.friendstnlibraries.org>

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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>

Membership Application
Become a Friend of Tennessee Libraries
(Membership year is January to December.)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- Individual \$15/yr
- Individual Silver \$50/yr
- Individual Gold \$100/yr
- Individual Platinum \$500/yr

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

- Family \$25/yr
- Family Silver \$50/yr
- Family Gold \$100/yr
- Family Platinum \$500/yr

ORGANIZATIONS

- 1-49 Members \$25/yr
- 50-99 Members \$55/yr
- 100-499 Members \$75/yr
- 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.