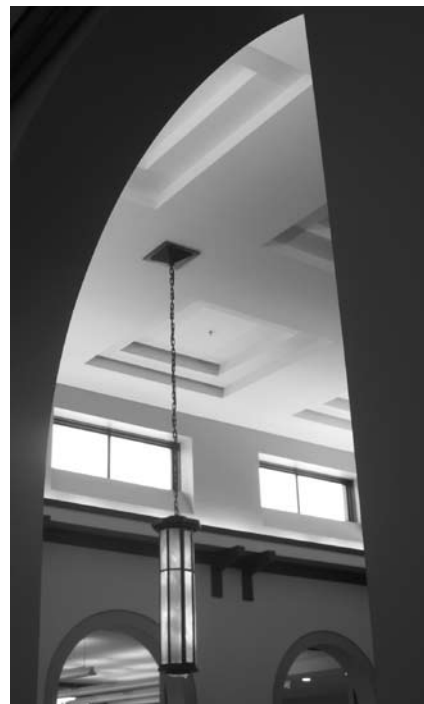




Friends of Tennessee Libraries *newsletter*

Spring 2010

Volume 17, Number 2



**Light, Form, and Function Come Together as
a Community and Its Friends Build a Library
Crossville's Art Circle Public Library
May 14**

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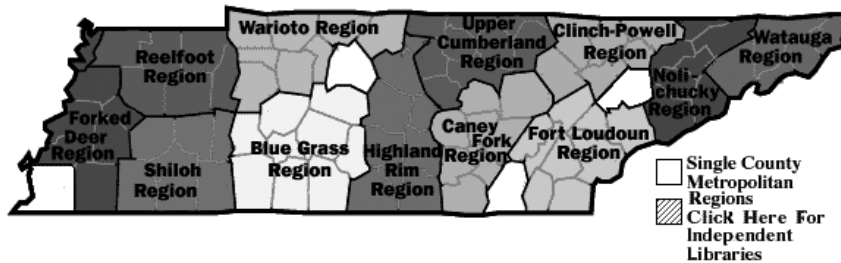
Board Adds Watauga Representative



Filling an FOTL board position that has been vacant for several years, Theresa McMahan was welcomed as the Watauga Regional Representative at the March 12 board meeting.

Theresa is director of the Sullivan County Public Library in Blountville. She and her husband live on a farm well stocked with dogs and horses.

The board continues to need representatives from the Highland Rim and Shiloh regions.



The Many Voices of Friends

- When I was four, I could hold conversations about *tyrannosaurus rex* because of books that my mom and I picked out at the public library. Now my children go to the library with me. I am a Friend of the Library.
- Nearing retirement, I cast about for a non-partisan association that would enable me to give back to my community. I am a Friend of the Library.
- When my job became the victim of downsizing, I prepared to take the test for certification in another field of work by studying at the public library. I am a Friend of the Library.
- I learned about Imagination Library when I took my two-year-old to Story Hour. Now she gets a new book every month. I am a Friend of the Library.
- My grandfather wept when he talked about his long-lost brother who left home in 1914. I am searching for records of that brother in the Genealogy Department. I am a Friend of the Library.
- A graduate of the state university in early childhood education, I am home schooling my children. Every week we make a pilgrimage to the public library. I am a Friend of the Library.
- I am a writer who does a great deal of research for my novels. Whenever I need an authentic detail, I telephone the Reference Department of my public library. I am a Friend of the Library.
- When I inherited my great-aunt's extensive library, I hardly knew what to do with her collection. When I learned about the used book sale at my library, I donated her library for others' use. I am a Friend of the Library.
- When I was unemployed, I looked for work and applied for jobs on the public library's computers. A member of the library staff even helped me to update my resume. I am a Friend of the Library.
- A gracious lady invited me to join her local group that advocates for the library. I found fellowship there. I am a Friend of the Library.
- A recent widow and newcomer to East Tennessee, I met people and made a new life by joining the Friends of the Library.
- I can no longer drive a car or hold a book. I was, however, raised on poetry. Friends from the library's Ex Libris team come to our facility twice a month and reunite me with words from my past. I continue to be a friend of the library as I have been all my life.

Thunderstruck But Grateful

By Martha Gill
FOTL President

So stunned was I when Kevin Reynolds, president of the Tennessee Library Association, presented an award to me "For Outstanding Service" at the TLA conference on March 19 that I was speechless. I'm not even sure that I said "Thank you." If I had had presence of mind, however, I might have said something like this:

Kevin, what I know about service and about Friends of Tennessee Libraries, I know because of tutors like Julie Webb, Maryann Bork, Bob and Jeanne Gibson, Frances Darnell, Connie Albrecht, Suzanne Freeman, and John Nye.

Perhaps this story about T. S. Eliot is apocryphal, but it is fitting. Reacting to Eliot's view that we should know the past, someone challenged him by saying, "Don't we know today so much more than people in the past knew?"

He is supposed to have said, "Yes, madam, we do, and they are exactly what we know." My FOTL predecessors are what I know.

I am also grateful for the current FOTL board and Friends across the state who staunchly advocate for their libraries. And I am grateful for the opportunities that FOTL's affiliation with TLA has given FOTL and TLA to stand together.

Thank you, Kevin and TLA.



Tell Us Who Your Benefactors Are

FOTL To Recognize Volunteers for Outstanding Contributions

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 14, 2009, in Crossville.

- 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, fund-raisers, 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 20 2010.

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 30, 2010, to Connie Albrecht, 1560 Country Club Place, Cookeville, TN 38501.

Register Now for FOTL's Annual Meeting

Friday, May 14

At the NEW Art Circle Public Library
3 East Street, Crossville, Tennessee

Hosted by Friends of the Art Circle Public Library

8:30 a.m.- 9 a.m. EST Tours of the new library in two groups

Group 1 led by local library board members
Group 2 led by Brian Pittman, architect of
McCarty, Holsaple and McCarty Architects

Architect
Brian Pittman
of McCarty,
Holsaple
and McCarty
will lead a
tour of the
new library.



9 - 9:30 a.m. EST Registration and continental refreshments

9:30 - 10 a.m. EST Library Challenges in Difficult Economic Times
Mr. Charles Sherrill, State Librarian and Archivist

Charles
Sherrill,
Tennessee's
new state
librarian and
archivist, will
speak.



10:30 - 10:45 a.m. EST Break

10:45 - 11:15 a.m. EST Judy Loest, Poet and Knoxville Friend

11:15 - 12 noon EST Catered lunch

12 noon - 12:15 EST Organization of discussion groups and break

Poet Judy
Loest, who is an
active member
of the Knox
County Friends,
says that she
is passionate
about libraries.



12:15 - 1:15 p.m. Discussion groups, each lasting 30 minutes so
that people can attend two of their choice:

Fund-Raising Ideas
Workshops-Revitalizing Friends' Groups
The Challenges of Building a New Library
Communications

John Nye and
his colleagues
from the Art
Circle Public
Library have
worked on plans
for this meeting
for a year.



1:15 - 2:30 p.m. Awards (drawings for door prizes throughout)

2 - 3 p.m. Announcements, Evaluations, and Tours of Library

3 p.m. Adjournment

Registration fee is \$20. Registration deadline is May 10. Detach on the dotted line and mail with your check, payable to FOTL, to Martha Gill, FOTL president, 4109 Forest Glen Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919. She will acknowledge receipt by e-mail or postal card. FOTL is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Please print.

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ E-Mail _____

Dietary Restrictions? _____

_____ I have an individual FOTL membership. _____ I want an individual FOTL membership (p. 12).

Crossville Has Much To Offer Travelers

Centrally located, Crossville is within fairly easy reach from almost any location in the state, and while Friends and their families are in Crossville for the FOTL annual meeting, they may want to explore other attractions that the area offers.

Golf is a major draw in Cumberland County, advertised as “The Golf Capital of Tennessee.”

Eleven championship courses, among them fairways designed by Jack Nicklaus, Ron Garl, Joe Lee, and Robert Renaud, attract golfers in all seasons. Details are available at

<www.golfcapitaltenn.com> or at 1.877.465.3861.

The brochure “Crossville Golf Guide” features information about each course as well as other

Library Already Busy

The first week in May will celebrate the official opening of the new Art circle Public Library, which Diane Brown, who heads up the library’s foundation, has called “the community’s living room.” Throughout the week, events will spotlight aspects of the culture that the library will nurture like community and history, children, music, writers, and artists.

On May 6, the Friends of the Art Circle Public Library will hold their annual dinner with New York *Times* bestselling author and Tennessee resident Robert Hicks as their featured speaker. The author of *Widow of the South* and *A Separate Country* is actively working for historic preservation in the Volunteer state. On another front, preparations to open the Circle of Friends Book Store in the new library are underway. Volunteers are being recruited for three-hour shifts.

Library Director Sue Randleman has organized her staff into four teams to plan and carry out the move from the old facility, which closed to the public on March 15, to the new 34,288 square-foot building.

information for visitors.

The Cumberland County Playhouse, “Tennessee’s Family Theater,” is also a favorite. One of Broadway’s most popular musicals, *Hello, Dolly*, opens May 13 just in time for the FOTL traveler. Special rates for seniors, groups, and children are available. Details can be found

at <www.ccplayhouse.com> and 1.931.484.5000.

A number of motels, bed-and-breakfast establishments, cabin rentals, campgrounds, RV parks, and restaurants accommodate the traveler as well. Online more information can be seen at <Crossville-chamber.com>.

The new Super 8 Motel (1.800.800.8000; 931.707.7660) offers a block of rooms for FOTL travelers at a very reasonable rate. Mention FOTL when making reservations.



Map from Crossville-chamber.com

How To Find Your Way

Directions from West I-40

Take Exit 322 off I 40.

Bear right for approximately one block to East 1st Street. Turn right onto East 1st Street. Super 8 Motel is on the right

To reach the library, follow East 1st Street until you reach East Street (one block past Webb Avenue).

Turn right onto East Street. The library is one block ahead on the right at 3 East Street.

Directions from East I 40

Take Exit 322 off I 40.

Turn left, crossing I 40.

Proceed to East 1st Street, approximately one block.

Turn right on East 1st Street. Super 8 Motel is on the right.

Follow East 1st Street until you reach East Street (one block past Webb Avenue).

Turn right onto East Street. The library is one block ahead on the right at 3 East Street.

FOTL on the Move: In Memphis...



Connie Albrecht, former FOTL president, presided over the Trustees and Friends Luncheon at the Tennessee Library Association's conference on March 19 in Memphis. In photo at left, Connie presents keynote speaker Mike McCloud, CEO of MMA Creative, Cookeville, with mementos of his appearance.



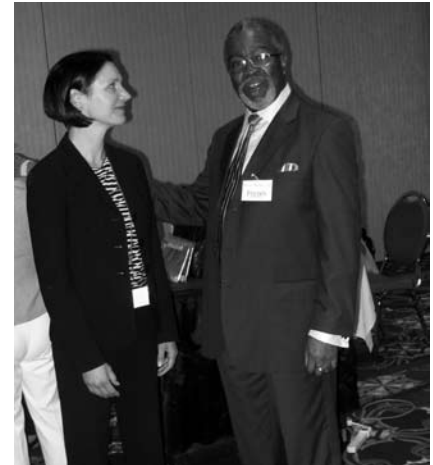
Don Farmer, chair of the Reelfoot Regional Library for 11 years and representative of libraries in Humboldt, Milan, and Trenton, accepts the TLA Trustee Award from Connie Albrecht.



Carol Roberts presents the TLA 2010 Tennessee Book Award to Jack Masters, who with his co-authors Doug Drake and Bill Puryear wrote *Founding of the Cumberland Settlements, The First Atlas 1779-1894*.



Based on extensive research done by Frances Darnell, a panel of FOTL board members also made a presentation at the TLA conference in Memphis. Connie Albrecht, Frances Darnell, Carol Harris, Martha Gill, and Peter McNeal detailed the myriad ways in which Friends' groups add value to their libraries. In the photo on the left, Carol Harris answers questions from a member of the audience. In the photo at the right, Peter McNeal talks with Memphis Library Director Keenon McCloy.



...& Nashville



At Legislative Day February 24, keynote speaker Marci Merola, left, shown here with Martha Gill, energized advocates with facts and wit.



From the FOTL board, Susie Webb Ries and Julie Webb visited with Judy Greeson at lunch.



Friend John Thomas from Paris conferred with his legislator, Rep. Willie "Butch" Borchert.

Secretary Hargett, Representative Weaver Tour Macon County Public Library System

Report based on Press Release from Macon County Public Library

Secretary of State Tre Hargett and State Representative Terri Lynn Weaver toured the Macon County Public Library System on Friday, March 5.

In his capacity as Secretary of State, Mr. Hargett oversees operation of Tennessee's State Library and Archives, which, in turn, assists the majority of the state's public libraries. The Secretary, who assumed office in January 2009, is visiting public libraries to get a first-hand look at their needs and their importance to the communities they serve. He came to the Macon County system in response to Representative Terri Lynn Weaver's invitation.

"I'm delighted Rep. Weaver invited me to examine the critical role Macon County's libraries are playing in the community," Mr. Hargett said. "I am grateful she is demonstrating such a great commitment to these libraries."

Mr. Hargett's visit to Macon County's public library system is much appreciated by library supporters, according to Frances Darnell, who serves on Macon County's Board of Library Trustees, the Tennessee Advisory Council on Libraries, and the Friends of Tennessee Advisory Committee.

"Our libraries in Macon County loaned over 82,000 items and had over 11,000 computer users in the last fiscal year," said Mrs. Darnell,



From left, Secretary of State Tre Hargett, Macon County Library Trustee Frances Darnell, State Representative Terri Lynn Weaver, Macon County Public Library Board Chairman and County Court Clerk James Ralph Howser, Macon County Public Library Director Julia Burrow, and Macon County Public Library Trustee Mike Wells.

past president of the Friends of Tennessee Libraries. "Over 8,900 people are library cardholders here. Secretary Hargett's recognition

of the libraries' importance to our small, rural communities through his personal visit is a real encouragement."

Questions about Sales Tax Linger

Questions continue to arise about the provisions of Tennessee TCA 67-6-102 (9)(B)—Sales Tax Exemption for Libraries.

In layman's terms, "Charitable organizations whose primary purpose is fundraising in support of a county, municipal, or metropolitan library system to elect to make sales on a continuing basis in lieu of the two semi-annual sales periods. These sales will be exempt from tax as long as they do not exceed \$100,000 per calendar year. The election, once made, must remain in effect for at least four years. An election form is available on the Department of Revenue's web site." —<http://tennessee.gov/revenue/taxguides/salesanduse.pdf>, p. 12

Paperwork is required, however. An "Exemption Request" must be filed with the Tennessee Department of State's Division of Charitable Solicitations & Gaming (615.741.2555). Furthermore, an election form must be filed with the Department of Revenue (800.342.1003).

Upper Cumberland: A Friendly Region

By Wanda Jared

Upper Cumberland Regional Representative

The Friends of the Putnam County Library group has hosted two Saturday morning "Coffee with an Author" events. On January 16, the speakers were Dr. Calvin Dickinson, Dr. Kent Dollar, and Dr. Larry Whiteaker, all from the Tennessee Tech History Department. They discussed the book they co-authored, *Sister States, Enemy States: Kentucky and Tennessee in the Civil War*.

On February 20, Jennie Ivey talked about her experiences as a writer, focusing on the essays and stories she has written for the Chicken Soup series. Her first piece published in this series was in *Chicken Soup for the Horse Lover's Soul*. Ms. Ivey also writes a weekly column for the Cookeville *Herald-Citizen* newspaper.

The Friends of the Monterey Library recently helped librarian Dolylene Farley conduct a memorial service in honor of Mary Jo Matheney, who was instrumental in establishing the Monterey Branch library and in forming the Friends' group in Monterey. The Monterey Friends have begun holding a monthly book sale. They have received two grants: one from Volunteer Electric Corporation for \$2,000 and one from Middle Tennessee Gas for \$350.00. Most of this money will help buy rolling book carts. The essay contest the Friends sponsored at Burks Middle School was so successful that they plan to do it annually. The topic for the essay was "What is a Friend?"



From left, Judy Titsworth, program chair, introduced writer Jennie Ivey, shown here with Pat Phillips, president of Putnam County Library Friends.



FOTL board members Ed and Wanda Jared and Connie Albrecht were in Jennie Ivey's audience.

Memphis Friends Mine Online Sales

By Peter McNeal

Regional Representative

Funding support for the overall collection and a variety of projects system-wide, Memphis Friends have donated over \$100,000 so far this year for the library system. Friends also assumed the salaries of two former part-time city employees in order to increase their hours and productivity.

Memphis Friends have sold over 1,200 books online, and another 1,400 are awaiting sale. To date, the most profitable book, a volume on the Civil War, sold for \$800. Current profits exceed \$20,800, which has gone toward enriching the collections of the main library and all branches.

A committee of board members screens and evaluates requests for Memphis branches for materials like bookshelves and display cases. The committee will sort the requests and recommend which of the requests should be honored by the board.

Library advocates can now join the Memphis Friends by investing hours of volunteer service in lieu of paying of membership fees.

Knox Sale Sets Another Record

Knox County Friends' 2010 annual used book sale set another record by grossing over \$49,000 in March. The group continues to sell special items online and to staff its Friends@Rothrock Book Store, which is open daily.



Dolylene Farley, local librarian, spoke to Monterey Friends gathered to remember Mary Jo Matheney, who was instrumental in leading the effort to build a library in Monterey. Mary Jo was the driving force in organizing the Monterey Friends as well.

Ex Libris Team Extends Outreach

By Barbara Zurl

Fort Loudoun Representative

In December 2009, the Ex Libris team added a sixth facility to its interactive outreach to those who can no longer visit the library. Sterling House Assisted Living is now on the team's schedule of 12 presentations a month.

Alice LaFoy of Maryville joined the team in March. She adds a phenomenal musical talent to Ex Libris programs.

Working with Maggie Carini, co-chair of the Knox County Friends' Used Book Sale, Ex Libris acquired several cartons of materials left over from the Knoxville annual sale to use as resources and to give to the facilities Ex Libris visits.

A forthcoming edition of the Blount County Friends of the Library's newsletter will feature an article about Ex Libris and a report about the statewide role of Friends of Tennessee Libraries.

On April 9 FOTL members Martha Gill, Suzanne Freeman, and Barbara Zurl conducted a workshop for Friends, future Friends, trustees, and library staffs at the Fort Loudoun Regional Library office in Athens.

Forked Deer Is Busy

By Carol Harris

Forked Deer Representative

■ In Ripley, sales of a beautiful pictorial history of Lauderdale County will benefit the library.

■ Brownsville has conducted a major fund raiser. A pet show is a popular event in Dyersburg.

■ Friends' groups in both Ridgley and Summerville are confronting a problem common to non-profit organizations, the need to recruit younger members.



Officers continuing the traditions of the Kodak Friends include President Emma Ruth Catlett, Vice-President Glenna Julian, Secretary Dwight Shepherd, Treasurer Rita Marshall, and Directors Ruby Drinner and Linda Lubke.

Kodak Friends Mark 15th Birthday

Fifteen years ago, devoted supporters of the Kodak Branch Library formed a Friends' organization, and on March 23, some of those charter members and others who have since joined the organization celebrated the Kodak Friends' 15th birthday.

Representative of their commitment to carry on the work of the Friends, newly elected officers took the oath of office administered by Martha Gill, FOTL president. The Friends of Tennessee Libraries and Julie Webb provided support in the drafting of FOKL's charter as a not-for-profit organization in 1995. FOKL became a member of FOTL immediately and has remained a member ever since.

In honor of the occasion, the Kodak Friends unveiled a new exhibit case that displays items from the Kodak Heritage Handcrafted

Collection. A plaque memorializing members who have passed away since the group was formed and individuals in whose memory a donation has been made was also displayed.

Looking ahead with customary energy, Kodak Friends will co-sponsor Heritage Day Saturday, June 5, at Northview Optimist Club. Activities will include the observance of the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Dumplin Creek, the agreement that opened up the area to pioneer settlement. The Friends also support activities for a range of patrons from children coming to Story Hour and enrolling in the Summer Reading Program to teens enjoying a special area in the library to adults participating in the Literary Classics book group. A semi-annual book sale and the sale of a cookbook of recipes contributed by great local chefs help to support the group's projects.

That group inspires devotion, as member Marye Rose reveals. Having once lived in the area, she has maintained her ties to the Kodak Friends, whom she serves as a director, even though she is now a resident of Knoxville, where she is also on the board of the Knox County Friends.

**At the request
of your library
director, FOTL can
conduct a workshop
in your region. For
more information,
contact Martha Gill at
<gill333375@bellsouth.
net> or at 865.525.8920.**

Noteworthy Items from Newsletters

Friends of the Cleveland-Bradley County Public Library will sponsor a spring luncheon featuring a Tennessee writer on April 28 at the Cleveland Country Club. Kristen O'Donnell Tubb, born and raised in Athens, TN, and now a resident of Arrington near Nashville, is the author of *Autumn Winifred Oliver Does Things Different*, historical fiction recounting the beginnings of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park as witnessed by 11-year-old Cades Cove resident Autumn Oliver. The book was selected by the Tennessee State Library to represent the state at the 2009 National Book Festival. The patrons of Cleveland and Bradley County officially dedicated their new library February 26, and a February Book Lovers' brunch brought area book clubs together. For a new Book in a Bag summer program, area book clubs will donate six to eight copies of books they have read to share with other book clubs and to help new groups form.

Crossville's Friends of the Art Circle Public Library have placed new Library Director Susie Randleman in the spotlight in the winter issue of the newsletter *Focus on Friends*. In addition to organizing the library's relocation she attracts



Susie Randleman and puppet

children to the library as a puppeteer and posts a regular column in the local newspaper about new books and her search for volunteers to help deliver unique community service and cultural programs. Among the many changes brought about by the relocation of library services to a new facility is that instead of sponsoring two large

weekend sales of used books, Friends will open the Circle of Friends Book Store daily.

Two principal members of the Art Circle Friends are Sandra Purcell, chair of the board of trustees, and her husband Jim, who serves on the board of the foundation. The number of hours that they have invested in the new library is incalculable, says another hard-working colleague, John Nye.

On the cover, Carol Burdett, second from left, leads a crew of master gardeners as they landscape the new Crossville library.



Sandra and Jim Purcell with their youngest granddaughter Avery

Friends of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library have launched both a website and a Facebook page to offer timely information about meetings, volunteer opportunities, and other ways for Friends to support the library. The Friends' newsletter *Volumes* reports that the Friends' executive council is attempting to build a closer relationship with its more than 500 members and other library patrons by holding its monthly meetings at various branches.

Lawrence County's book sale February 20 - March 6 brought in more than \$3,200, which, when added to proceeds of more than \$3,000 from the fall sale, will enable Friends to fund the purchase of a book truck, audio-visual labels, summer reading supplies, and items for Books for Babies, according to the newsletter *The Bookmark*.

Sevierville's new King Family Library holds its official grand opening on Friday, May 14, when staff and library board members will have met the challenge of moving from a one-story building of 5,500 square feet to a three-story structure of 40,000 square feet.

Friends of Tellico Village are a giant step closer to constructing a new library because the organization has qualified for a long-term, fixed-interest-rate loan from the United States Department of Agriculture. The loan puts the Friends in the position to apply for grants that will reduce the amount of funds borrowed from the government, but, as the newsletter *Friends and Library News* points out, "Fundraising activities will become even more important" in the future.

White County's spring book sale from March 25-27 enables Friends to add to the library's book collection and to assist with funding other library needs. The White County Public Library has boosted its communication with patrons by becoming a part of the social networks Twitter, Facebook, and MySpace.

Send your online or printed newsletter to Martha Gill at <gill333375@bellsouth.net> or 4109 Forest Glen Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919, to see your events highlighted here and on Facebook.

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**TN Friends Support
 Summer Reading**
 Friends' groups and FOTL support the 2010 Summer Reading Program. This year's theme for children is "Make a Splash—READ!" and for teens, "Make Waves @ Your Library."

Advocating All Year



Follow the lead of FOTL Board Members Frances Darnell, Suzanne Freeman, and John Nye. Speak up for libraries all year long.

TEL: Your Library at Home
 Go to <<http://access.gale.com/tel2/>>. Then select your county and proceed.

Membership Application

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