The Friends of Tennessee Libraries (FOTL)
is organized to help and support local Friends groups integrate their library thoroughly into the life and work of their community.
Website: http://www.friendstnlibraries.org | Facebook Page http://tinyurl.com/FOTLFacebook

We invite you to visit the local libraries in your district;
Know that libraries are being used more than ever before and are “a place of surprises, a place that preserves the chance for getting caught by surprise.”

| Tennessee ranks as the 47th state in per capita local library funding at $17.39 |
| National average - $34.16 | Highest - $61.80 (Illinois) |
| In Tennessee library funding comes from 93% local funds; 5% state funds; 2% federal funds. |

Public libraries are up to these core purposes:
Encourage and build a love of reading
Provide confidential and neutral access to information, ideas, and recreation
Serve as a place for individual self-education
Serve as the community’s living / meeting room and safe place
Help integrate technology into the lives of customers
Preserve the culture and history of the community
Stimulate the imagination

The INTERNET is the best library in the world, but all its books are strewn all over the floor. What the INTERNET needs is a good librarian, and one can be found at the local public library.
Almost every Library Friends group has one or more **book sales** each year to raise money for library projects.

**Sevier County Public Library System Friends** prepared a tasty dinner to benefit the Seymour Library's expansion fund. The homemade menu included a variety of hearty soups, cornbread muffins, choice of desserts, and tea.

**King Family Library Friends** publishes a "Sevier County Memories" calendar annually to raise funds for materials and services for the library.

**Almost every Friends group raises money for special children’s Summer Reading Program events** like these in Oak Ridge and Collegedale.

**Friends of the Chattanooga Public Library** have opened **Skylib**, an honor bookstore at the Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport. In addition, the Friends have honor book stands at the YMCA Downtown, Eastgate, Northgate, and Downtown.
Friends of the Humboldt Public Library installed a wi fi garden and new landscaping.

Friends of the White County Library have installed fifteen Little Free Libraries at strategic sites around the county.

Friends of the Memphis Library repair or restore books for sale in the Friends' Second Edition Bookstore, at the Friends' book sales, or online.

Friends groups support Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program in every Tennessee county. 11 Friends/Foundation library groups and 4 local libraries are the sponsoring organization for their county's Imagination Library program, which provides free books to children from birth to age 5.

Since 2011, Governor Bill Haslam has proclaimed Friends of Libraries Week during the third week of October. A national celebration, other cities and counties (Brentwood, Knox Co, Putnam Co, Williamson Co) have issued proclamations.

Friends of the Memphis Library have installed a wi fi garden and new landscaping.
Is your library an FOTL member?

2018 Honor Roll of Tennessee Friends Groups

1. Friends of the Art Circle Public Library, Crossville
2. Benton County Friends of the Library, Camden
3. Blount County Friends of the Library, Maryville
4. Friends of the Brentwood Library (Williamson)
5. Friends of the C.E. Weldon Public Library, Martin (Weakley)
6. Friends of the Chattanooga Public Library (Hamilton)
7. Friends of the Cheatham County Public Libraries
8. Friends of the Chester County Library, Henderson
9. Claiborne County Library Friends, Tazewell
10. Friends of Clarksville-Montgomery County Library
11. Friends of the Library Cleveland Public Library (Bradley)
12. Friends of the Clinton Public Library (Anderson)
13. Friends of Colliedale Public Library (Hamilton)
14. Friends of Collierville Burch Library (Shelby)
15. Friends of the Crockett Memorial Library, Alamo
16. Friends of the Dickson County Public Library
17. Friends of the Fairview Library (Williamson)
18. Franklin County Friends of the Library
19. Friends of the Gorham-MacBane Library, Springfield (Roberson)
20. Governor’s Books from Birth Foundation
21. Friends of Greenback Public Library (Loudon)
22. Friends of the Hamilton Parks Trimble Library (Dyer)
23. Friends of the Hardin County Library
24. Hendersonville Library Friends (Sumner County)
25. Friends of the Humboldt Public Library (Gibson)
26. Friends of the Jackson-Madison County Library
27. Friends of the Jefferson City Library (Jefferson)
28. Friends of the Library of Johnson County, Mountain City
29. Friends of the King Family Library, Sevierville (Sevier)
30. Friends of the Knox County Public Library
31. Friends of Kodak Library (Sevier)
32. Friends of the LaFollette Public Library (Campbell)
33. Friends of the Lauderdale County Library, Ripley
34. Friends of the Lawrence County Public Library
35. Friends of Linebaugh Public Library, Murfreesboro (Rutherford)
36. Friends of the Library McMinn County, Athens
37. Friends of Memphis Public Library (Shelby)
38. Friends of the Monterey Branch Library (Putnam)
39. Friends of the Morristown-Hamblen Library
40. Friends of Nashville Public Library (Davidson)
41. Friends of the Oak Ridge Public Library (Anderson)
42. Friends of the Obion County Public Library, Union City
43. Pigeon Forge Public Library Friends (Sevier)
44. Polk County Friends of the Library, Benton
45. Putnam County Library Friends, Cookeville
46. Friends of Scott County Public Libraries
47. Friends of Sequatchie County Public Library, Dunlap
48. Friends of Seymour Library (Sevier)
49. Friends of Signal Mountain Public Library (Hamilton)
50. Friends of Smyrna Library (Rutherford)
51. Somerville-Fayette County Friends of the Library
52. Friends of Spring City Audrey Pack Memorial Library (Rhea)
53. Friends of the Spring Hill Public Library (Maury)
54. Stewart County Friends of the Library, Dover
55. Friends of the Tellico Village Library (Loudon)
56. Tennessee Library Association
57. Friends of Thomas Memorial Branch Library, Bluff City (Sullivan)
58. Friends of the Tipton County Public Library, Covington
59. Friends of the Vonore Public Library (Monroe)
60. Friends of the W G Rhea Public Library, Paris (Henry)
61. Friends of the Washington Co/Jonesborough Library
62. Friends of the White County Library, Sparta
63. Friends of the Williamson County Public Library

How do Friends help their Library?

They

✓ Know their community’s needs and provide valuable feedback.

✓ Plan activities with library’s director and trustees, asking “what can we do,” not announcing “we will do this.”

✓ Raise money for materials, equipment, and projects not able to be covered by the library’s budget.

✓ Sponsor cultural and educational programs to enlighten and entertain.

✓ Volunteer to do special library tasks and projects.

✓ Represent the library to the community - raising public awareness, speaking to civic groups, attending council/commission meetings, and contacting government officials to tell about the library’s financial needs.

✓ Advocate for the library by speaking out on local, state, and national issues that affect libraries.

✓ Recognize exceptional performance of library staff members.

Friends of Tennessee Libraries

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Website: www.friendstnlibraries.org  Facebook Page: http://tinyurl.com/FOTLFacebook
Membership Form: http://www.friendstnlibraries.org/support-us/join/
Newsletter / Facebook Page Editor - Martha Moore Gill: marthagill491@gmail.com

The electronic version of this fact sheet can be found at: http://www.friendstnlibraries.org