



# Friends of Tennessee Libraries *newsletter*

Winter 2016

Volume 23, Number 1

## *It's Time* To Renew

Memberships in FOTL expire in December. Be ready for 2016 by renewing today. What does FOTL offer in return?

- Four issues of our newsletter
- An annual meeting that inspires and instructs
- A place in the network of Friends
- An opportunity to share ideas through FOTL's listserv
- Strong advocacy because your voice is joined to the voices of other advocates who love their libraries
- The possibility of winning one of FOTL's \$300 grants to jump-start your plans for advocacy, fundraising, or membership
- The opportunity to thank someone who in the past two years has benefited your Friends group. See page 12 for membership rates.

## To Apply

Do you have plans for a campaign to raise money for your library, to increase your membership, or to inform your community about the riches of your library? Ask FOTL to launch your plan by funding your project to the tune of \$300. See pages 6-7.

## To Nominate

Groups and individuals have rendered extraordinary service to Tennessee Friends. See page 8 to nominate one of those leaders to be honored at the annual meeting.

## Save the Date for 2016 Annual Meeting **Clarksville Welcomes FOTL To Friends Fair on April 23**



FOTL's annual meeting on April 23, hosted by the Friends of the Clarksville/Montgomery County Public Library, promises to be festive, fun, and informative. FOTL Director Gerald Beavers, Library Director Martha Hendricks, Assistant Director Annie Herlocker, and members of the Friends are working together to welcome FOTL to Clarksville.

Tennessee's fifth largest city, after Memphis, Nashville, Knoxville, and Chattanooga, Clarksville had an estimated population of more than 146,000 in 2014. It is the home of Austin Peay State University and neighbor to Fort Campbell Army Base. Details about lodging available in the area will be published in the spring issue of this newsletter.

True to its nature as a network enabling Friends to share ideas for supporting their local libraries, a Friends Fair theme will highlight program ideas used by local groups. For example, representatives from Friends groups whose activities have been underwritten by grants from FOTL will describe their projects.

Riley Darnell, who served as Tennessee's secretary of state from 1993-2009, will be a featured guest speaker. He is a current member of the Clarksville-Montgomery County Board of Trustees.

FOTL business will also be conducted at the annual meeting. Don Reynolds, who has presided over FOTL for two years of unprecedented outreach and activity, will pass the gavel to William Sundquist, president-elect. William is executive chair of the Chattanooga Friends.

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# The FOTL Outlook

By Donald B. Reynolds, *President*



"Libraries are... essential to the functioning of a democratic society...libraries are the great symbols of the freedom of the mind."

Franklin D. Roosevelt



So said President Roosevelt as he pointed to what continues to be the library's purpose in a free society: free access to ideas and information. Libraries fulfill their purpose by supporting the life and work of the communities they serve.

The Conference of Southern Leaders concluded that "free public library service is an indispensable part of a well-rounded program of community life. [The library] ... diffuses information and ideas necessary to the present welfare and future advancement of a community; [and] it offers to every citizen the means of self-education throughout life."

Now, also in keeping with this purpose, the American Library Association has launched a "Libraries Transform" Campaign because transformation (improvement) is essential to the communities we serve. See the following sites:

<<http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2015/10/advocacy/ala-launches-libraries-transform-campaign/>>

<<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/librariestransform/>>

<<http://www.ala.org/transforminglibraries/libraries-transforming-communities/about-ltc>>.

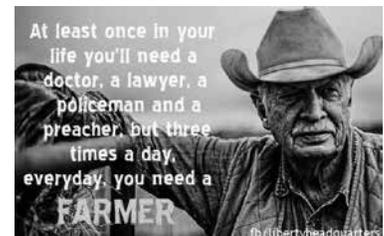
This initiative seeks to strengthen librarians' roles as core community leaders and change-agents. LTC will help libraries become more reflective of and connected to their communities to achieve stronger relationships with local civic agencies, non-profits, funders and corporations, and greater community investment in civility, collaboration, education, health and well-being. ALA also hopes to shift public discourse away from past themes about libraries in crisis and toward talk of libraries as agents of positive community change.

This process of "turning outward" emphasizes changing the orientation of institutions and individuals from internal (institutional) to external (community-facing). It entails taking steps to better understand communities; changing processes and thinking to make conversations more community-focused; being proactive to community issues; and putting community aspirations first.

FOTL has been setting the example for this kind of community involvement.

Recognizing Friends group participation to help their library's literacy efforts to teach children to read, FOTL supported the November celebration of **Picture Book Month** with a series of posts on our Facebook Page and publications. FOTL is one of the six literacy organization partners of the national Picture Book Month program.

FOTL supported the observation of **Ag Literacy Week**, November 15-21, to encourage Friends groups to 1) help their library purchase ag materials for the collection, and 2) invite community farmers to do programs for children and adults about how they produce a safe and affordable food supply, while providing a humane environment for their livestock. It's crucial that children and adults alike recognize and appreciate the vital role agriculture plays in our daily lives.



FOTL also supported the Saturday, November 28, **Shop Small** program to encourage local economic development. This is a unique event designed for communities to keep sales taxes at home to help finance local municipal services, such as the library.

Thank you again for your support, for being a part of FOTL, and for all that you do to improve your local library services. We hope to see all of our members at our April meetings on the 8th in Kingsport (p.5) and the 23rd in Clarksville (p.1). And do have the merriest of holiday seasons, enjoying time with family and friends.



# Display State History in the Living Room, Not the Attic

By Chuck Sherrill, *Tennessee State Librarian and Archivist*

If you want to check out popular books and movies, the Tennessee State Library and Archives isn't the place for you. However, if you want to see Tennessee's original constitution, look at historic photos from your hometown or confirm whether your ancestor really was a Civil War hero, then the State Library and Archives is a must-see stop on your journey to discovery.

Tennessee's State Library and Archives is home to millions of irreplaceable historical records dating back to Tennessee's earliest days as a state - and even before. These include copies of wills, deeds, and other documents stored in county archives throughout the state, which are important in case the originals are lost or destroyed.

Therefore, the State Library and Archives has value not only to people who live in Nashville and surrounding communities, but to everyone who lives in the Volunteer State. Yet the State Library and Archives building is outdated and needs to be replaced.

For several years, state officials have discussed plans for a new building to replace the current one, which opened in 1952. More than \$10 million has already been spent to complete design plans and acquire land needed for a new building on the Bicentennial Mall in downtown Nashville.

The State Library and Archives is required by law to keep the official records of the Tennessee General Assembly's meetings, the papers of former governors and all manner of other documents produced by various state agencies. And, simply put, the existing building has no more room to keep them all.

The space crunch has already reached a point where renting temporary storage will be necessary to keep the records created when the General Assembly returns to work next year.

Some might suggest the temporary solution could also be a permanent one: Why not just rent warehouse space to hold the overflow documents? There are several problems with that idea.

The cost is certainly an issue. While it might seem less expensive to rent warehouse space instead of building a new building, the expense would actually be greater in the long run.

More importantly, though, is the issue of access. If the State Library and Archives is forced to lease off-site storage space, then documents won't be readily available when people request them. Suppose you had one day to visit Nashville for a research project, but it would take at least a day or two for a warehouse vendor to find what you needed, retrieve it and deliver it to the State Library and Archives?

The need for a new building isn't just a question of space, though. The existing building has other limitations that create obstacles for people who want to visit the facility.

There are only about a dozen unreserved parking spaces around the building. Other parking is available at garages and lots scattered around downtown Nashville, but it isn't free and it isn't particularly close to the building.

The building wasn't designed to meet handicapped-accessibility standards, so people with wheelchairs have to be routed through the loading dock area rather than using the main entrance. And the building is too small and poorly configured to accommodate large groups, including schoolchildren who frequently travel from other parts of the state to tour points of interest in the state capital.

Also, the existing building's age has created challenges in protecting the documents already housed there from mildew and moisture damage.

In a sense, choosing to store the state's historical records in a warehouse rather than a new building is like deciding whether to stuff family heirlooms into an attic or prominently display them in the living room. That choice says a lot about how much we value our own history.



## Watch the video "Held in Trust"



<http://sos.tn.gov/news/video-held-trust-tennessees-library-and-archives>

We're now living in a digital age and some will ask why the records can't just be stored online. The State Library and Archives can and does have thousands of digital images online where they can be easily accessed by people who can't view the originals in Nashville. But scanning the entire collection to the Internet will take decades and many millions of dollars. And if you've ever seen the originals, you understand why they can't just be scanned and destroyed. There's something very moving and powerful about seeing the writings of our state's founders in their own hands.

Yes, \$90 million is a lot of money. And yes, the state has many other financial needs and pressures. But what if Tennessee decides not to make this investment and priceless records are lost or damaged as a result? History won't look kindly on us.



## FOTL, Holston River Region Friends Work Together

FOTL President Don Reynolds and Newsletter/Facebook Page Editor & former President Martha Gill conducted the first FOTL Friends Workshop and In-Service for library directors and Friends members in the Holston River Region on Wednesday, November 4. The day-long event, held at the Greeneville/Greene County Public Library, covered these topics:

- What Is a Friends Group?
- Creating a New Friends Group
- Revitalizing a Friends Group
- Tips and Tricks for Good Fundraisers
- What FOTL Offers Members

Future trainings will be held in each region for local library directors and Friends members. On April 12 FOTL Board Director Gerald Beavers will lead the Red River Regional in-service in Clarksville.



FOTL and Friends from the Holston River Region exchanged ideas at the November 4 workshop in the Greeneville/Greene County Public Library. The occasion also meant a reunion for Don Reynolds with Cocke County Friends from the former Nolichucky Region, which he directed. Nancy Roark, right, is regional director of the recently organized Holston River Region.

## Visit Your Friends Online:[www.friendstnlibraries.org](http://www.friendstnlibraries.org)

You wouldn't let months go by without visiting with a friend. Stay in touch with your Friends of Tennessee Libraries as well—online. There you will find many of the resources created by Don Reynolds during his tenure as president of FOTL. These include the Tool Kit that has been distributed across the state to encourage local Friends to affiliate with our statewide network: <http://tinyurl.com/BuildingLibraryFriendsGroupToolKit>.

You will also be able to keep up with FOTL's activities in support of such important library-related events as Picture Book Month in November. Jinx Watson's excellent essay "The Power of Picture Books" is relevant throughout the year: <http://tinyurl.com/WatsonPowerofPictureBooks>.

"We have no toys or games on the market that do what beautifully designed picture books do," writes Jinx. Her appreciation of picture books is based on her personal and professional knowledge of the genre. Retired associate professor at the College of Communication and Information at the University of Tennessee, she is also a member of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Selection Committee and the Kingston, TN, Public Library Board of Trustees.



Jinx Watson with another friend



## Beyond Tennessee

Friends of Tennessee Libraries' "Tool Kit for Building a Library Friends Group" and "Ethical Dozen for Friends of the Library" have been posted on the Utah Library Association Trustees and Friends Round Table website; the ethics statement has been recommended as a model for local Friends groups by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the New York Library Association Friends of Libraries Section.

Furthermore, FOTL President Don Reynolds reported on FOTL's adoption of "The Ethical Dozen" in the October 12, 2015, issue of *Library Hotline*, "the premiere sources about library innovations and management trends, including breaking news and current issues."

The September 28 issue of *Library Hotline* reported on the proclamation issued by Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam in recognition of Friends of Libraries Week in Tennessee October 18-24. Tennessee is the only state that has a Governor's Proclamation.

Interest in FOTL's Facebook page continues to grow as well. Please visit it, like it when you can, and share it. Items that our members send to us often find their way on Facebook, too. Direct them to <info@friendstnlibraries.org>.

## FOTL, TLA Plan for April 8 Lunch At TLA Conference in Kingsport

Friends of Tennessee Libraries is looking forward to the annual conference of the Tennessee Library Association in Kingsport April 5-8. One event is particularly meaningful to FOTL: The TLA Trustees/Friends lunch on April 8.

Susan J. Schmidt, president-elect of the ALA United for Libraries, will be the featured speaker at that event and will lead an afternoon session as well. Currently a media assistant at the Montgomery County Public Schools, she brings extensive experience as a Friend of the Library to TLA Trustees and Friends. She is a former Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA) and longtime board member. She served as president of the Friends of the Little Falls chapter of the Friends of the Library, Montgomery County, MD, from 1992-2012, and is a governor's appointed member of the Maryland Advisory Council on Libraries since 1998. President of the Friends of the Library in Montgomery County, MD, from 2004-2006, Schmidt has been an active participant in and speaker at ALA's Advocacy Institute since its inception and helps to coordinate United for Libraries' popular Nuts & Bolts program for Friends, Trustees, and Foundations held at both the ALA Midwinter Meeting and ALA Annual Conference each year. Source: [www.ala.org/united/](http://www.ala.org/united/)



Susan J. Schmidt

The 2015 Friend of the Year, jointly sponsored by TLA and FOTL, will also be honored at the April 8 luncheon. The FOTL Board chose the recipient at its quarterly meeting in December.

In the fall issue of *The TLA Newsletter*, FOTL President Don Reynolds provides an update about the Trustee and Friends section of TLA.



On November 24 members of the FOTL Board met with Susan Jennings, president of TLA, in Chattanooga to discuss shared ventures. Seated from left are Martha Gill, FOTL editor; William Sundquist, FOTL president-elect; Don Reynolds, FOTL president, and Susan Jennings, TLA president. Topics included the TLA conference in Kingsport, ongoing conversations about Tennessee Library Legislative Day, and FOTL's relationship to TLA and its Trustees/Friends Section.

Applicants can also apply online:

# Friends of Tennessee Libraries

## Grant Application

Applicants can also apply online:

[www.friendstnlibraries.org/awards-grants/grant-application/](http://www.friendstnlibraries.org/awards-grants/grant-application/)

[www.friendstnlibraries.org/awards-grants/grant-application/](http://www.friendstnlibraries.org/awards-grants/grant-application/)

### GROUP INFORMATION

Friends Group name: \_\_\_\_\_ Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Does group have 501(c)3 status from IRS: \_\_\_\_\_ If No, what is group's tax status: \_\_\_\_\_

Is group a chartered, not-for-profit corporation: \_\_\_\_\_ If No, how is group organized: \_\_\_\_\_

When was group formed: \_\_\_\_\_ Website/Facebook page: \_\_\_\_\_

Library, geographic area and population served: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Budget: \_\_\_\_\_

List programs and activities fund and/or carried out by group: \_\_\_\_\_

### GRANT INFORMATION

Type of Grant requested: \_\_\_\_\_ Advocacy \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_ Membership

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Budget: \_\_\_\_\_

Starting Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Date: \_\_\_\_\_

How would Grant be used: \_\_\_\_\_

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### FOTL USE ONLY

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Grant Disposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Check Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_ Evaluation Received/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Friends of Tennessee Libraries Grant Application Guidelines

Friends of Tennessee Libraries has established a Grant Program to aid member Friends groups in paying expenses for programs that would benefit the group, that they might not have the funds to implement.

**Grant Amounts:** Grants are for \$300 each.

**Grant Categories:** Groups may submit one application in each category. Submissions can be made in multiple categories.

**Advocacy:** To assist with expenses associated with advocating on behalf of your community library. These expenses could include production or purchase of materials, purchase of advertisements, etc.

**Fundraising:** To assist with the expense associated with fundraising for your Friends group. These expenses could include rental expenses, advertising, fees for speakers or entertainers, purchase of items for resale, or for use in producing items for sale, etc.

**Membership:** To assist with expenses associated with securing new members and/or retaining existing members. These expenses could include mailings, membership brochures, program expenses including speaker's fees, advertising, etc.

**Grant Cycle:** The Application Deadline for all Grants is March 1. Winners will be announced at the Friends of Tennessee Libraries Annual Meeting. Grant Evaluations are due 30 days after the end date of the project, but no later than March 1 of the following year.

**Minimum Qualifications:** Applicants must be Friends of the Library groups that are in good standing (current on dues) in Friends of Tennessee Libraries. Grants are to fund new projects, not projects already completed.

### **Additional Guidelines:**

- ☐ Winning Friends groups must follow up with an evaluation of the project within 30 days of the project's completion, but no later than end of the year of that Grant Cycle. Failure to do so could result in having to return the award and/or not being awarded Grants in the future.
- ☐ Copies of any materials produced from the Grant funds or related to the project should be included with the Evaluation Form. Copies of media articles related to the project should also be included.
- ☐ Whenever possible, materials produced from the Grant funds should include the notice, "Funded in part by a grant from Friends of Tennessee Libraries." The same notice should be included with any media release from the winning group.
- ☐ The winning Friends group should provide Friends of Tennessee Libraries a list of local media and government officials (i.e. City Mayor, County Mayor, State Representative, State Senator, Library Director, Library Board Chair) that are to be included in Friends of Tennessee Libraries media releases and notifications about the Grants.

**Submissions and Questions:** Completed Grant Applications should be submitted to Dwight Shepherd, 10405 Alex Bales Rd., Kodak, TN 37764 or [DeWhiteSheep@hotmail.com](mailto:DeWhiteSheep@hotmail.com). Questions can be submitted to the same or to [info@friendstnlibraries.org](mailto:info@friendstnlibraries.org).

## Best Practices for Friends

# Is Your Group Registered To Ask For Donations?

By Dwight Shepherd

FOTL Secretary

Does your Friends group ask people for money or let the public know in some way that you will accept donations? Do you ask businesses for merchandise or food to use with events you sponsor? Do you hold an event that the public pays to attend? There will be a short pause while you say, "Are you joking? Of course we do!"

Did you realize that you have to register with the State of Tennessee to legally do that? Charitable organizations that solicit contributions directly from, or within, the State of Tennessee, must register with the Division of Charitable Solicitation and Gaming. The State defines "contribution" as the promise or grant of any money or property of any kind or value, including the payment or promise to pay in consideration of a sale, performance or show of any kind which is advertised or offered in conjunction with the name of any charity." The State also defines "solicit" or "solicitation" to mean any oral or written request, however communicated, whether directly or indirectly for a contribution." That pretty much covers anything a group can do in anyway to raise money for anything, except for membership dues.

As with any sort of government registration, there are forms to fill out and, possibly, fees to be paid. What form

you have to file, and if you have to pay a fee, depends on how much you are soliciting from the public. If your group does not raise or receive gross contributions in excess of \$30,000 during a fiscal year, it can apply for an exemption to this registration. There is no cost for filing the exemption request. There has been a change in state law relating to exemption requests. For many years, groups could make a one time exemption request that covered them until they exceeded the \$30,000 mark. Now, this exemption request must be filed every year. If your group is one of the lucky ones to raise or receive more than \$30,000, there is another form that must be filed. There is also a separate form if you use the services of a professional fundraiser. These forms do come with a fee. The fee is on a sliding scale from \$80 to \$240, depending on how much you raise or receive. There are also fines and penalties for not filing,

The Secretary of State's Division of Charitable Solicitation and Gaming has a very user friendly website that can provide more information about this, and other fundraising regulations; such a raffles. It has a Frequently Asked Questions section with useful information. You can also sign up for a monthly newsletter to stay updated on solicitation and gaming information. That website is <[www.sos.tn.gov/charitable](http://www.sos.tn.gov/charitable)>.

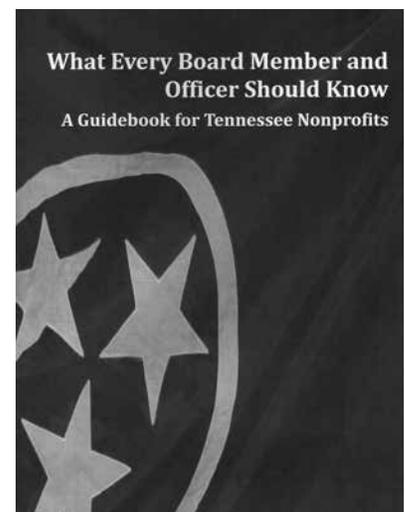
## DO YOU KNOW

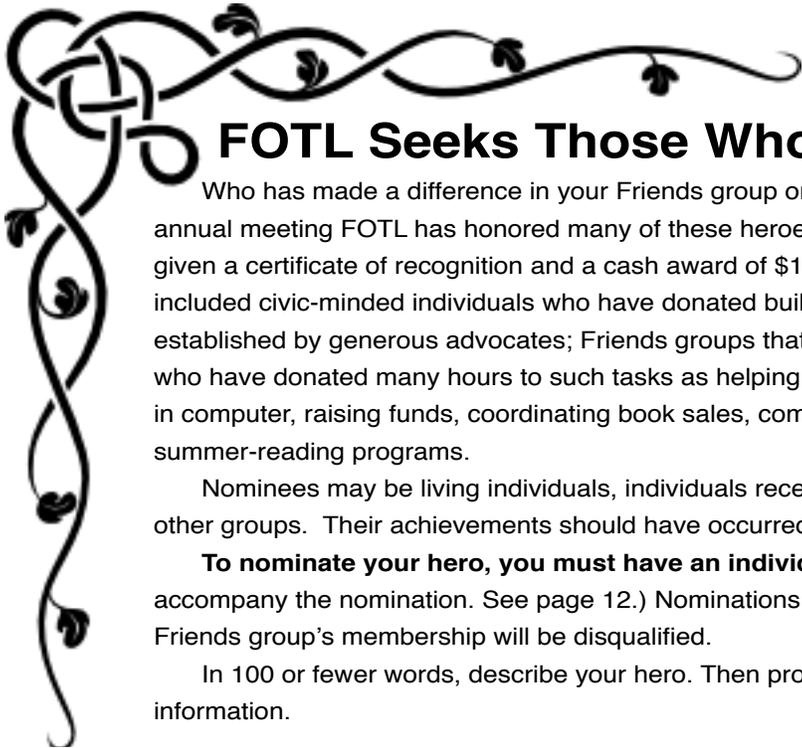
### 'What Every Board Member and Officer Should Know'?

Every board member and officer of a Tennessee Friends group should be familiar with "What Every Board Member and Officer Should Know: A Guidebook for Tennessee Nonprofits." From the offices of the Tennessee Secretary of State, Attorney General, and the Center for Nonprofit Management.

the booklet is downloadable from the Internet: <<http://attorneygeneral.tn.gov/nonprofit/nonprofitguidebook.pdf>>. Its contents address these questions:

- What are the responsibilities of an officer of a nonprofit organization?
- What does "being engaged" mean for board members and officers of nonprofits?
- What are best practices for engaged board members and officers?
- What constitutes conflict of interest within a nonprofit organization?
- How do board members and officers protect the assets of their nonprofit?
- What Tennessee laws affect nonprofits?
- How are nonprofits related to the Tennessee Office of the Attorney General and the Tennessee Department of State?
- What resources from the state and from nonprofit groups are available to Friends?





## FOTL Seeks Those Whom You Appreciate

Who has made a difference in your Friends group or your library in the past two years? At its annual meeting FOTL has honored many of these heroes with Recognition Awards. A recipient is given a certificate of recognition and a cash award of \$100. In the past, such outstanding people have included civic-minded individuals who have donated buildings to be used as libraries; library foundations established by generous advocates; Friends groups that have renovated buildings; and individuals who have donated many hours to such tasks as helping libraries extend their hours, teaching classes in computer, raising funds, coordinating book sales, composing brochures or websites, or organizing summer-reading programs.

Nominees may be living individuals, individuals recently deceased, a Friends group, a business, or other groups. Their achievements should have occurred in the past two years.

**To nominate your hero, you must have an individual membership in FOTL.** (Enrollment may accompany the nomination. See page 12.) Nominations by individuals who belong to FOTL through their Friends group's membership will be disqualified.

In 100 or fewer words, describe your hero. Then provide FOTL with the appropriate contact information.

**If your nominee is an individual, provide FOTL with the the following information:**

Nominee's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominee's Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Category (Individual? Librarian? Friend? Benefactor?) \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of the Library Which the Nominee Has Benefited \_\_\_\_\_  
Library's Address \_\_\_\_\_ Library's phone number \_\_\_\_\_,  
Library's Email \_\_\_\_\_

**If your nominee is a local Friends' group, business, or other, provide FOTL with the following:**

Name of the Group \_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Organization, \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization's Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Category \_\_\_\_\_  
Library \_\_\_\_\_ Library's Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Library's Email \_\_\_\_\_

**To the above information, add**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to Dot Childs, 1435 Mobile Drive, Kingston, TN 37763 or <dotchilds@gmail.com> by March 1.**

# Tennesseans Know How to Celebrate Friends of Libraries Week October 18-24

What a week it was! Governor Bill Haslam 's proclamation designated October 18-24 as Friends of Libraries Week in Tennessee and encouraged all Tennesseans to join him "in this worthy observance." Across the state Friends did just that, and in so doing, called attention to their activities that support, improve, and promote their public libraries as essential to democracy.



Brentwood Mayor Regina Smithson (center) presents her proclamation to Debbie Heibert, Brentwood Friends president (left), and Wanda Graham, vice president.



At the Collegedale reception, patron Dylan Flynn enjoyed refreshments.



The Fairview Library in Williamson County thanked its Friends big time.

## Angie Cooper Library

(Shelbyville) Director Rita Allen, in her newspaper column, lauded local Friends for their tireless advocacy in the community and support of the library. She cited the Friends' sell-out author luncheon and hailed members for doing "everything from helping with bookmobile trips to baking cookies for receptions."

**Friends of Crossville's Art Circle Public Library** held a Book & Bling Sale to mark the week. In addition to print and audiovisual materials to entertain children and grown ups, the event also offered first editions and parent-teacher resources.

**Friends of the Elma Ross Public Library** (Brownsville) observed the week with Facebook postings, one of which quoted Don Reynolds: "As libraries meet citizen demands for new technologies and formats, Friends of

Libraries are crucial to the success of the library. This support helps expand the library's effectiveness in the community. Being a library Friend also provides an opportunity for folks to make a positive contribution to their community' . . ."— *Standard Banner*, October 15, 2015

**Friends of the Gibson County Memorial Library** offered refreshments and goodie bags to their members at a reception. The local newspaper, *Trenton Gazette*, carried a photo of members, library staff, and Mayor Ricky Jackson to document the Friends' celebration.

**Jefferson County's Standard Banner** recognized Friends in Dandridge, Jefferson City, Strawberry Plans, and White Pine as "crucial to the [libraries'] success."

**Knox County Friends** threw a big party in honor of the group's volunteers on October 20. Prominently displayed was County Mayor Tim Burchett's proclamation paying tribute to the group's work. In addition, Martha Gill's letter in the *Knoxville News Sentinel* highlighted the library system's many services like books on many different platforms, audiovisual materials, helpful reference librarians, service to the homebound, story time for little ones, and programs for all.

**See Friends Week, page 11**



At the Gibson County Memorial Library reception (left), goodie bags thanked "Friends like you."



Knox County Friends President Claire Serrell admires the library staff's thank you note delivered in Scrabble style at the Volunteer Appreciation Party.



Williamson County Friends celebrating the 10th anniversary of Friends of Libraries Week included Beth Seaman, vice president and communications chair; LaVerne Sweeney treasurer; Lori Scarborough, past president; Cheryl Petty, event chair; and Debbie Eads, president.

## Friends Week: More Fellowship, More Fun **cont. from page 10**

### **Friends of the Linebaugh**

**Public Library** (Murfreesboro) were spotlighted in a *Daily News Journal* article in which Friends President Sandra Pineault explained, "The library has always played such an important role in my life and my family's life. . . . I truly enjoy being able to give something back—and being an active member of this group is fun."

### **Obion County Public Library**

featured Governor Haslam's proclamation on Facebook: "I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the October 18-24, 2015 as Friends of Libraries Week in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance."

Putnam County Executive Randy Porter's proclamation praised the Friends for "hard work and dedication in helping our library in changing lives and contributing to our community with a positive impact." He said that he was proud to honor the Friends, who contribute money and the gift of time and commitment to county libraries.

### **The Rocky Top Public Library**

served lunch to members of the Friends at the library on Thursday, October 22, and the *Rocky Top News*, sponsored by the Rocky Top Chamber of Commerce, declared October "Become a Friend of the Library month." (Rocky Top was

founded as Coal Creek and renamed Lake City before officially becoming Rocky Top in June 2014.)

### **The Sevier County Library**

**System** devoted the entire week to celebrating its Friends at the King Family, Kodak, and Seymour libraries. An exhibit in the foyer of the King Family Library touted the generous help that each group has extended to the system, and on November 3 all three groups were feted at a Dessert First Thank You Tea in honor of their accomplishments. A headline in *The Mountain Press* on October 18 read, "Friends groups help support libraries." In that article Rhonda Tippitt, director of the Sevier County system, said, "The biggest thing the Friends do is advocacy, out there in the community talking up the library." She observed that "the Sevier County Public Library is so popular in the Kodak community that Friends of the Kodak Branch existed before the library existed."

Seymour Friends President Lucy Henighan, in a letter to the editor entitled "Friends help make local libraries go," paid tribute to the knowledge and cultural enrichment offered by the library. She encouraged Sevier County citizens "to make good use of the many resources our libraries offer and which are, by and large, free."

### **Smyrna Friends**

continued the tradition of scheduling their general annual meeting during October "as a way to celebrate National Friends of the Library Week and we are thankful for each and everyone of you who are part of the Friends of Smyrna Library membership!"

### **Washington County Public**

**Library** published a thank-you note on Facebook "to brag about our Friends group." Because of the funds raised by Friends "through book sales, bake sales, food sales, bocce tournaments and more," the library can offer programming and purchase furniture and supplies not covered by its official budget. "So if you see a Friend this week," the post continued, "please give them a big smile and a thank you!"

### **The Wayne County News**

published the governor's proclamation.

### **The C. E. Weldon Library**

in Martin posted Governor Haslam's Proclamation on Facebook.

### **Williamson County Friends**

welcomed approximately 50 members to a beautifully decorated library setting on October 22. Puffy Muffin catered refreshments, Roger Parker provided music on the piano, and library staff led library tours. President Debbie Eads reports, "It was one of the best public-relations events we've ever done."

**Friends of Tennessee Libraries**  
**1560 Country Club Place**  
**Cookeville, TN 38501-2062**

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Website: [www.friendstnlibraries.org](http://www.friendstnlibraries.org)

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 or FAMILY		ORGANIZATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$15/yr	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-49 Members	\$25/yr
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$25/yr	<input type="checkbox"/> 50-99 Members	\$55/yr
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver	\$50/yr	<input type="checkbox"/> 100-499 Members	\$75/yr
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold	\$100/yr	<input type="checkbox"/> 500 Members	\$100/yr
<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum	\$500/yr		

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

TN County \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Check here if you want to receive your newsletter electronically.**  
**Make checks payable to Friends of Tennessee Libraries.**  
**Send to FOTL Membership Chair Connie Albrecht,**  
**1560 Country Club Place, Cookeville, TN 38501-2062.**