Members responded enthusiastically to sale pricing on 2GB drives and USB flash drives. CLC sold 1,451 custom-imprinted Tumblebooks in FY 2014-15. By helping them strengthen their ability to serve their users, we achieve our mission by initiating and facilitating cost-effective services, creating and supporting educational and professional development, and fostering innovation.

Beginning January 1, Gaylord, one of CLC’s contracted library supplies vendors, exited the library supplies business, and Demco became the exclusive provider of many popular Gaylord products. CLC worked with Demco to honor contract pricing on Gaylord’s bid items, and to offer substitutes for discontinued Gaylord items for the term of our contract. A new supplies price list went into effect Jan. 1. CLC worked with CREC put together a list of library furniture discounts available to CLC members through CREC bids, and researched State Library furniture contracts to determine which would afford members best pricing and service, making this information available to members receiving construction grants.

As we wrap up FY 14-15, we are thankful and proud of our accomplishments. While this was a challenging year in some ways, it was also an exciting and inspiring one. We are grateful to our members and partners for the feedback, ideas, and especially the outpouring of support we received.

We invite you to explore these pages and share in our collective successes from 2014-15. We look forward to continuing to help our members save, learn, and collaborate in 2015-16 and for many years to come!
CLC EDUCATION

Technologies of the Maker Movement Lab. In the third in a series of three hands-on, in-depth “maker” labs, 20 attendees tried out the latest maker tools. Participants left with their own FLORA wearable device (see CLC’s Jennifer Keohane modeling hers, right) as well as concrete plans to develop 1-2 maker projects in their communities.

The Savvy Librarian’s Guide to Children’s & Teen Publishing Trends. 44 public and school librarians gained valuable collection development, readers’ advisory, and programming ideas from this Baker and Taylor “TitleTalk” on forthcoming titles and trends in youth publishing.

Adult & Children’s Programming Showcases. These popular annual events gave attendees the opportunity to preview a dozen new program topics and presenters for adults or children. Each performer offered a “show special” just for attendees.

CLC’s 12th Annual Meeting. The Connecticut Historical Society provided our venue as well as a dynamic speaker, Executive Director Jody Blankenship.

CLC’s 32 roundtables, run by over 60 volunteer chairs, connected more than 700 librarians to their peers through 112 regional and statewide meetings. New roundtables for 2014-15 included Readers Advisory North, Readers Advisory South, and School Librarians Greater Danbury Grades K-5.

CLC COLLABORATION

Take Your Child to the Library Day. CLC worked with the TYCLD chairs to promote a major expansion of this program, resulting in 95% participation by Connecticut public libraries. The group launched a major email and social media campaign featuring a “fill in the map” theme to drive participation, and designed a new logo, bookmark, and brochure. The Association for Library Service to Children became an official TYCLD collaborator.

Grassroots Advocacy. CLC, CLA, library staff and patrons mounted a strong advocacy campaign throughout the spring, and made the case to restore critical funding in order to ensure that important library services continue across the state. CLC developed an online advocacy toolkit and promoted the campaign through email, Facebook and Twitter. Staff worked with the CLA legislative committee to hire advocacy consultant Libby Post, develop advocacy tools and training, collect and present budget testimony, and organize a successful rally at the capitol.

Connecticut Small Business Development Centers. In concert with the Ferguson Library/Stamford, CLC worked with the CTSBDC to place computers in 27 public libraries across the state, allowing libraries to offer virtual business counseling. CLC helped hone the program, identify potential libraries, coordinate training, and market the initiative.

Connecticut Library Association (CLA). At the CLA Annual Conference in April, CLC offered a booth in the vendor hall, where members picked up “checks” showing how much their library saved with CLC discounts. CLC also brought in ACT Group to demo 3D printers, oversaw attendee registration, and sponsored two programs: Librarians as Economic Gardeners, and Navigating the Alphabet Soup of Connecticut Library Groups. Jennifer Keohane served as a panelist for both programs.