

# TLA Newsletter

Fall 2003

A publication of the Tennessee Library Association

Vol. 10, No. 4

## Spring 2004 Elections

### Vice-President/President-Elect

#### Cathy McCord Taylor



Library Director  
White County Public Library  
Sparta, TN

**Education:**

M.A. in Library Science  
Tennessee Technological University  
Current Student - completion date -  
December 2004

Certified Public Library Manager  
Tennessee Dept. of State /UT, May 2000

B.S. in Secondary Education  
Tennessee Technological University  
August 1994

**Experience:**

Director, White County Public Library,  
Oct 1997 - Present

**TLA Activities:**

Conference Planning Committee 2005  
Conference Planning Committee 2002  
Staff Development  
Children's/Young Adults Roundtable,  
Chair, 2002-2004

**Other Activities:**

Member TLA since 1998  
Member ALA since 2000

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#### Carolyn Head



Area Branch Manager-  
Edmondson Pike Branch  
Nashville Public Library

**Education:**

M.S. Urban Anthropology -  
University of Memphis, 1982

M.L.S. Urban Library Services,  
Case-Western Reserve University, 1974

B.S.-Sociology Tennessee State University, 1972

**Experience:**

Branch Team Leader – Douglass Truth and  
Madrona Sally-Goldmark Branches (Seattle  
Public Library) 1999-2001

Assistant Managing Librarian - Edmonds Public  
Library (Sno-Isle Regional Library System -WA)  
1997-1999

Library Director, Shelby State Community College  
Memphis, TN 1993-1997

Manager/Administrator, Private Industry Council  
Memphis, TN 1990-1993

Coordinator of Branch Services/Branch Manager  
Memphis Public Library 1982-1990

Instructor of Library Use and Study Skills, Shelby State  
Community College –Memphis, TN 1979-1982

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# Recording Secretary

## Nathalie Hristov



Catalog Librarian  
University of Tennessee,  
Knoxville

**Education:**

M.L.S. - L.S.U., Baton Rouge  
05/2000

Bachelors of Music - L.S.U., Baton Rouge 05/1998

**Experience:**

Supervisor of Cataloging - Knox County Public  
Library System 10/01-08/03

Supervisor of Circulation - Knox County Public  
Library System 03/01-10/01

Circulation Librarian - Oak Ridge Public Library  
06/00-02/01

**TLA Activities:**

Local Arrangements Subcommittee 2003-2004

East Tennessee Library Association (TLA Affiliate)  
Secretary 2003-2004

**Other Activities:**

Knox Co. Public Libraries Staff Association  
President 07/03-08/03

Vice President 09/02-06/03

Gift & Flowers Committee Chair 07/02-09/02

American Library Association (NMRT) - Membership  
Meeting and Program Committee 2003-2004

American Library Association (NMRT) - Local Arrange-  
ments Committee 2003-2004

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## Frances Adams-O'Brien



Information Resources Admin-  
istrator  
UT Municipal Technical  
Advisory Service Library

**Education:**

M.S.L.S., U.N.C. Chapel Hill  
1990

B.A., Warren Wilson College  
1986

**Experience:**

Technical Services Librarian  
Ringling School of Art & Design  
Sarasota, Florida  
1993-1998

Assistant Dept. Head/Cataloger  
Sarasota County Public Library System  
Sarasota, Florida  
1991-1993

**TLA Activities:**

Local Arrangements Committee, 2004  
TLA Annual Conference

East Tennessee Library Association  
Newsletter Editor 2000-2002

**Other Activities:**

Special Libraries Association, member 1999-present

Florida Library Association, 1995-1998

Ringling School of Art & Design,  
Faculty Government, Recording Secretary,  
1996-1998

St. James Episcopal Church, Knoxville, TN,  
Finance and Administration Committee,  
Recording Secretary, 2001-present

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### Statement of Concern:

My goals as President of the Tennessee Library Association would be:

- Teaching library advocacy through public relations
- Equal access to information for all library users
- Ensure intellectual freedom across all mediums, including technology access
- Promotion of literacy across all socio-economic barriers
- Promotion of children and youth services the future of the library
- Implementation of these goals will take a team effort. I anticipate the full support of the membership in achieving these goals.

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Carolyn Head, continued from page 1

### Statement of Concern:

As a seasoned librarian I have a growing concern regarding the relationships between librarians new to the field and those of us who have been working in the profession for some time. As Vice President/President elect I would like to lead TLA toward a more active role in nurturing and establishing the process that would most aptly address this issue.

To this end I am interested in exploring and establishing ways in which we (TLA) can better dialogue with, mentor (as well as learn from) those new to the field so that there is a win-win situation for all involved (including the public we serve). The importance of this has become quite evident, as I have taken the challenge to develop healthy alliances and working relationships with those librarians within my own branch who represent diverse work experiences and ideologies relevant to their respective length of time in the profession.

### TLA Activities:

Vice Chair – Public Libraries Section 2003-2004

Chair-Grievance Committee

Nathalie Hristov, continued from page 2

American Library Association 01/99-present  
Association for Library Collections &  
Technical Services (Division)  
New Members Round Table  
Social Responsibilities Round Table  
Staff Organizations Round Table

### Statement of Concern:

The question of whether or not to work in a library has always been - and always will be - a no-brainer. I can't think of another place to work where you are literally surrounded by a body of knowledge that has been amassed over thousands of years. Librarians have worked tirelessly to come up with new, creative ways of not only preserving this knowledge – but also to support the scholars who endeavor to expand this knowledge, making a greater understanding of our world possible. We realize the value and significance of our collections, as well as the pressing need to disseminate information to the communities we serve. Librarians dedicate their lives to ensuring that the valuable lessons history has taught, some of which include breakthroughs in technology, politics, and world affairs - are recorded, preserved, and organized so that future generations may learn from our experiences...from our failures...and grow to overcome many of the challenges we face today. Unfortunately, librarians often face what seems like insurmountable obstacles that impede our efforts to fulfill our mission.

One of the greatest challenges we face as librarians is the lack of public support for our endeavors. During difficult economic times, libraries will often be at the top of the list when budget cuts are deemed necessary. Many governing bodies charged with the responsibility of divvying up public monies, fail to recognize the importance of the services that only libraries can provide to our communities. In the state of Florida, government officials decided that maintaining a State Library was a superfluous expense and literally disembodied hundreds of years' worth of the collective knowledge of that state. While I do not expect that situation to repeat itself in Tennessee, librarians need to work proactively against such forces with the most powerful weapon in our arsenal – knowledge.

Ignorance often stands in the way of progress, and as librarians, we are among the most well-equipped to fight this enemy. There is no shame in ignorance. It is a natural, human condition. Each and every one of us harbors a certain amount of ignorance that we are compelled to eliminate. The insatiable curiosity that most humans possess serves as proof that we are programmed to learn. However, a mechanism must be in place for humans to satisfy their need to learn.

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*Nathalie Hristov, continued from page 3*

That is where libraries come in. In the same way educators are charged with the responsibility of infusing information and knowledge into our society, librarians are charged with the responsibility of disseminating information to satisfy the intellectual needs of the population we serve. We provide a resource as precious to the mind as food and water are to the body. Our greatest challenge may actually lie in helping the population realize that they even have that need.

Many of the concepts I have addressed may appear idealistic, even abstract. Knowledge, ignorance, and education are not tangible items we can easily measure and evaluate. However, the resources necessary to achieve such idealistic objectives are within our grasp. Libraries need money, qualified professionals, and public policies to support our missions in order to service our communities in a meaningful way. The only way to secure these assets is to talk to the people who are running the show – our legislators.

During the Knox County Libraries crisis last year, I relentlessly lobbied our government officials to “do the right thing” in support of our library system. It was at this time that I came to realize that my efforts, even though persistent, were reactive rather than proactive. Had I established a relationship with the legislators in my community before the crisis situation, I would have been in a much better position to defend our library system. I would urge all librarians to get involved with the government, at the local, state, and federal level – make your presence known.

After fighting numerous battles for libraries in general, I have learned never to be complacent when defending your ideals, particularly, the ideals of your profession. With this in mind, and if elected, I will use my energy and experience to serve the Tennessee Library Association to the fullest of my abilities.

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### **TRACES Award Presented**

At its annual Holiday Luncheon held on Dec. 16th, 2003, the University of Memphis Association of Retirees (UMAR) presented the first TRACES Award to Dr. Les Pourciau, retired Director of Libraries at the U of M and an active UMAR member. This award will hereafter be presented at the Holiday Luncheon in December of each year to a University of Memphis retiree “...to recognize...a life of outstanding service and scholarship, and...continuing effort to provide service and scholarship.”

*Frances Adams-O'Brien, continued from page 2*

### **Statement of Concern:**

Service to others is the most relevant of my personal and professional goals to my interest in performing the duties of the TLA Recording Secretary. Service was first a large part of my education and is now a guiding principle of my professional career.

In serving as secretary for two different organizations, I have gained the necessary skills required to be an efficient recording secretary such as agenda creation, minute-taking and distribution, record-keeping, and a familiarity with Robert's Rules of Order. I have access to all of the relevant technology that will enable me to perform the duties of TLA Recording Secretary efficiently.

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### **Tennessee State Board of Examiners for Teacher Examination**

Recently the Tennessee State Department of Education requested that TLA President Kathy Pagles nominate appropriate TLA members to be considered for a 3-year appointment to the Tennessee State Board of Examiners for Teacher Education. This Board, through five-year cycle of visits to the 39 institutions of higher education which have teacher education programs, conducts reviews for all state program approvals and, when appropriate, works with NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) for national accreditation. (18 of the 39 programs in Tennessee have NCATE accreditation.)

Forty-three organizations and institutions nominated over 225 persons to be considered for these 3-year appointments. One chosen was our own, Annelle R. Huggins, Associate Dean of University Libraries at the University of Memphis, and TLA Executive Director. Annelle attended a week-long training session led by NCATE an TN Department of Education officials in Nashville in late September. This training is a prelude to making 1-3 site visitations per year, over the next three years.

TLA is proud to be represented on this Board and to play a small part in assuring the production of excellent teachers and resource personnel (including librarians) for the State of Tennessee. If you should have an interest in a possible nomination to this Board in the future, please send your name to Kathy Pagles or Annelle Huggins for contacting when TLA is asked again to make such nominations.



## From the Executive Director

Each year on October 1<sup>st</sup>, TLA declares the membership total for that calendar year. On October 1, 2003 TLA had 709 members, with the following breakdown by Section:

College / University Libraries	234
Friends / Trustees	145
Public Libraries	250
School Libraries	51
Special Libraries	29

Of those numbers, we are very excited to have 39 who registered as Student Chapter members. These are the future of our profession and of TLA!

Each one of you knows at least one person who probably should be a member of TLA but isn't. I challenge you to ask that person to join you in some TLA activities and, perhaps, he/she will see the benefits and the fun of being a TLA member!

At the recommendation of the TLA Board of Directors and with the approval of the TLA Executive Committee, your TLA Webmaster and I have been working to open a members-only site on the TLA webpage ([www.tnla.org](http://www.tnla.org)). Among other possibilities, this site will contain a membership listing. During this membership year, all members received a membership card which contains a membership number. This number will play a major part in your access to the "members-only site." This site should be ready for viewing in December 2003. Please NOTE: Only those members who responded "yes" to the listing of their personal information (a blank line was considered a "no") will be listed at this site. Members will be given a chance to respond "yes or no" each year on the membership renewal form. Be sure to respond when you renew your membership in December!

The revised TLA ByLaws, approved by the membership in March 2003, are now posted on the TLA website ([www.tnla.org](http://www.tnla.org)) and the revised TLA Manual of Procedures should be posted in December 2003. The revised Manual will reflect changes made by recent ByLaws revisions and current practices.

The TLA Board of Directors' quarterly meetings continue to change locations with each meeting. Mt. Juliet Public Library was our host for the August 2003 meeting. We appreciate their hospitality, as we do Brentwood Library which has hosted the meeting for the last two years in June.

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The November 2003 Board meeting was a teleconference with sites in East, Middle, and West Tennessee.

Coming Soon in your mail:

- Membership renewal notices
- Ballots for officer elections

We look forward to a full mailbox at the post office in Memphis!!

Annelle R. Huggins  
Executive Director

## Student Chapter Presents Goals

The student chapter of TLA is excited about the up-coming year at UT School of Information Sciences. We are planning to have an active year and are working to extend our outreach to other students in Information Sciences. To coincide with the strategic plan of TLA, the student chapter's goals for 2003-04 include:

### *Increase Student Chapter membership & communicate benefits of TLA participation to students*

With the approval of the Executive Board of TLA, the Student Chapter has restructured its membership and dues. Now any student in an Information Science program may join the Tennessee Library Association at the same time as joining the Student Chapter. TLA membership forms will be used and the cost is \$15. Student members may elect to have their information sent to the Student Chapter. There is no longer a separate charge to join the Student Chapter rather it is automatic unless the individual requests not to be a member of the Student Chapter.

Trevecca Nazarene University (TNU) Information Science program students have agreed to become affiliated with the TLA Student Chapter. With this new affiliation, we will be able to host activities in the Nashville area in order to better accommodate our Distance Education students and create a lasting relationship with the TNU students.

### *Increase communication with SIS faculty and DE students*

With TLA financial support, we expect to have an exciting year of activities including social hours, held at the School of Information Sciences on UT's Knoxville campus; "Town Hall" meetings discussing library issues in Tennessee to be webcast via Centra; and a career and job search workshop including such topics as resume writing, selecting good reference people, job interview do's and don't's, and salary negotiation.

### *Encourage student participation at annual conference*

Since the TLA conference is in Knoxville this year, we are hoping to stir up more student participation at the conference in a variety of forms. We are planning to work

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diligently to get the word out to students about participation opportunities and encourage students to showcase their research through participation in the poster session, a student panel on library issues, a student chapter sponsored social event, and joint presentation with SIS faculty.

#### *Host more public venue activities this year*

All of our activities will be open to area librarians and information professionals, but we would like to extend our reach into middle Tennessee through our alliance with Trevecca and other possible hosting agencies. We will be posting a calendar of events to the TLA Student Chapter website ([www.sis.utk.edu/~tla](http://www.sis.utk.edu/~tla)) so please check there to see what we are up to this academic year.

#### *Redesign website to provide more student oriented information*

Our webmaster, Yan Zhang, has the go-ahead to spice up the TLA Student Chapter webpage. We are going to have the usual photographs of officers and contact information, but also let you get to know us a little better through brief bio's and links of interest to us. Also, we want to provide information that is useful to students and their concerns, thus from our activities throughout the year we expect to upload relevant, helpful information and provide links to help students in their careers as information scientists.

We hope that this year will be filled with exciting activities and are going to work hard to represent the student voice in library and information sciences in Tennessee.

**Lexington Community College  
and SOLINET  
Join Forces to Certify  
Library Paraprofessionals**

SOLINET is pleased to announce a partnership with Lexington Community College (Kentucky) to bring a paraprofessional certification program to library staff across the Southeast. Designed for individuals currently in or preparing for paraprofessional positions in libraries, the program grants an Academic Certificate in Library Information Technology. The LCC program uses distance technologies to deliver the training; through the agreement with SOLINET, the training is available to individuals from SOLINET member libraries at Kentucky in-state tuition regardless of location.

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"Paraprofessionals are playing increasingly responsive roles in library operations," said SOLINET Executive Director Kate Nevins. "It is imperative that we train these paraprofessionals to be effective and knowledgeable. Lexington Community College offers an excellent program, and we are very happy to be able to make it available to our member libraries."

The program was developed for paraprofessionals in public libraries, and many of the courses address public library topics. The courses, however, are veneficial for staff at libraries of all types and sizes. Much of the assigned work during the courses involves performing activities and doing assignments in the students' own libraries, and the training is adaptable to most situations.

The online program is administered by Martha Birchfield, Professor at Lexington Community College ([marthab@uky.edu](mailto:marthab@uky.edu) or toll free at 866-774-4872, ext. 4159). Erica Waller at SOLINET (1-800-999-8558 or [ewaller@solinet.net](mailto:ewaller@solinet.net)) is available for additional information and assistance.

Founded in 1973, SOLINET is a non-profit membership organization serving more than 2300 libraries of all types and sizes in ten Southeastern states and the Caribbean. Primary programs are Member Services, OCLC Services, Preservation & Access, Electronic Databases, Library Products, Workshops, and Consulting.

### **WeTALC on Distance Education**

On October 10, 2003 the quarterly meeting of the West Tennessee Academic Library Consortium (WeTALC) Reference Librarians was held at Jackson State Community College. Coordinated by Mary Ellen Pozzebon, Reference & Instruction Librarian at JSCC, attendees participated in a round table discussion about "Providing Reference Services to Distance Education Students." The discussion covered aspects of Reference, Access, Electronic Resources, and Electronic Reserves. Participants shared information on services and resources available at their respective institutions and asked questions of each other on best practices in relation to these issues. Mrs. Pozzebon disseminated some information from the recent ACRL Online Seminar that she participated in, "All Users Are Local: Bringing the Library Next Door to the Campus Worldwide" in order to facilitate discussion.

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## In Memoriam

**Mary Frances Crawford** died on Thursday, Dec. 25, 2003.

Miss Crawford was retired from the University of Tennessee where she was a professor/reference librarian and active as a member of numerous university committees. Prior to her work at UT she had been a librarian at Drexel Institute of Technology in Philadelphia, Penn., and the public library in Cincinnati, Ohio. As a member of the American Association of University Women she served in many capacities within the Knoxville Branch and Tennessee Division. She was also a member of professional library and education organizations in Tennessee and the Southeast.

Miss Crawford was an alumna of Tennessee Technological University with a B.A. in English, the University of Kentucky with a M.S. in Library Science, and the University of Tennessee with a M.S. in Human Ecology.

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**Mary Alice England Little** died on Friday, Dec. 5, 2003.

She was born June 22, 1916, in White County to the late Dallas Carmichael England and Althea Alcorn England. Mrs. Little was a retired regional librarian for the Caney Fork Region and a former teacher in White and Stewart county schools, and Murfreesboro and Sparta city schools. She was a former president of the Tennessee Technological University Alumni Association and an officer of the Tennessee State PTA.

Funeral services were held in the Hunter Funeral Home Chapel, followed by a private burial in the O'Connor Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the White County Public Library at 144 S. Main St., Sparta, TN 38583.

**See you in Knoxville!!**

**TLA Annual Conference  
March 17-19, 2004**

## Richard Wallace Named SC-MLA Academic Librarian of the Year

Richard Wallace from ETSU's Quillen College of Medicine has received the Academic Librarian of the Year from the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association. This Award recognizes excellence in research, instruction, and service in health librarianship. His career achievements have clearly demonstrated creativity, resourcefulness, service and exceptional commitment to the educational values of the profession. The SC/MLA Academic Librarian of the Year Award was established in 1998, and the first award was presented in 1999. Congratulations, Rick!!

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### *WeTALC, continued from page 6*

Jeanine Akers also gave an update to the group on the results from the WeTALC Tutorial Questionnaire. At the August meeting, Mrs. Akers and Mrs. Pozzebon had proposed developing a shared information literacy tutorial that would be created by and for the WeTALC libraries. The proposal received an enthusiastic response, and so a survey was conducted to provide some specific feedback. The next step will be to form a committee to spearhead the development of this project. We hope to have more news soon. For more information on this and other WeTALC activities, visit <http://faculty.jsc.edu/scohen/wtalc/>

**Remember  
to vote!**

**Ballots arriving  
in your mail box.**

**Deadline:  
March 15**