Membership Renewal Time

The membership renewal notices for 2007 were mailed in early December. However, for those of you who wish to register using the online form and pay by credit card, just go to the TLA website (www.tnla.org) and click on "join" or "renew" then click on 'online form.' (Credit card payments cannot be accepted through the mail.)

Even if you still want to pay by check you can register using the online form and then print an "invoice" and mail that invoice with your check to TLA's address.

Whether you send your dues renewal in the mail or pay by credit card online, you will still receive a printed receipt from TLA in the mail.

Looking forward to having a full mailbox (both at the post office and online) soon!

— Annette R. Huggins, Executive Director
Tennessee Library Association

Don’t Forget to Nominate!

The TLA Nomination Committee wants and NEEDS your nominations for the several annual awards handed out by TLA to deserving library workers and employees. To find out which awards are being given, as well as details on the criteria for nominees, and who to contact to nominate deserving colleagues, go to TLA’s homepage — www.TNLA.org — and click on the link on the front page that reads “Request for Nominations.” There are 12 different awards to be awarded. Make sure that you do your part to make sure that these committees and sub-committees receive lots of high-quality nominations! Deadlines differ, so make sure to check those deadline dates carefully!

— Chrissie Anderson Peters, TLAN Editor

About two months ago now, I asked to be relieved of my Editorship responsibilities with this issue of TLAN. The Publications Advisory Board was kind enough to grant me this leave while still issuing kind words about the work that has been done over the past 2 1/2 years. Which, of course, made it even more difficult to finish up and say good-bye.

But now, as 2006 creeps to a close, I am finally finishing up the tasks at-hand. I thank each of you who have been so diligent about sending news to me for the newsletter for these many past issues — and I have every confidence that you will continue to do so as Amy Arnold steps forth as the new TLAN Editor. I am immensely blessed to have worked with the current and past two TLA Boards, as well as all of those involved with the PAB during this same timeframe.

I leave this post with every confidence that your new TLAN Editor, Amy Arnold, will impress you with her intellect, will wow you with her wisdom and wit, and will serve you with a spirit of sweetness and sophistication. I wish each of you the absolute best as 2007 approaches — and thank you for the opportunities you bestowed upon me as Editor. Never forget, TLA’ers — no endeavor was kind enough to grant me this leave while still issuing kind words about the work that has been done over the past 2 1/2 years. Which, of course, made it even more difficult to finish up and say good-bye.

— Chrissie Anderson Peters, TLAN Editor
The President’s Point of View

Time is relative. One minute may be defined in terms of how many it takes to compose one hour, or it could stretch endlessly to define how long it takes to answer a 911 call. In one minute, you may find thousands of relevant articles on approved treatments for catastrophic illness, or you could peruse your favorite cooking magazine leisurely for new ways to dress your Thanksgiving turkey. It’s your time. Spend it wisely.

We serve library users daily with various information needs. Our library public has come to rely on our ability to give them what they need and to expect that we find it as quickly as possible. Our job grows daily, given the expanding store of information and a burgeoning population. But we are often placed in the uneasy situation of deciding where to focus limited resources of both time and money. We must account for both, and these choices are never easy.

To respond to these needs, libraries erect buildings to serve as meeting places for programming and personal information service. More and more, libraries serve as online portals for electronic information and librarians as navigators for the deluge raining down from a plethora of information sources. We build online collections to expand our print holdings so that our users can search for reliable information from office or home. Through all these changes, libraries continue to provide books to feed a love for the written word and to serve as a foundation for lifelong learning.

These tasks take time and money. Training library staff to respond to these tasks takes a good deal of both. But Tennessee library workers have learned that affiliation with TLA, your professional library organization, offers a wise use of professional development time and money.

Make plans to attend the 2007 Tennessee Library Association Conference in Chattanooga in April. Not only will you come away with fresh ideas and practical solutions, but you will have ample opportunity to mingle with your cohorts in the field. Not only will you learn methods to provide better service, but you will also serve your profession by sharing your ideas to the ongoing conversation. Make the time. We need your wisdom.

— Pat Thompson, Head of Reference, Blount County Public Library
Maryville, TN 37804
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EMAIL: tlathompat@yahoo.com
pthompson@blounttn.org

From the Executive Director’s Desk

“You better mind your parents and your teachers fond and dear, and cherish them that loves ya, and dry the orphans tears and help the poor and needy ones that cluster all about, or the goblins will get ya if ya don’t watch out!!!” (James Whitcomb Riley, Little Orphan Annie)

I still recall my elementary school librarian reading this poem to us in the third grade at Burton Elementary School in Nashville. She may have been a librarian, but when she read this poem she was a true actress…making goblins a paramount concern for all of us in that third grade class! I still believe in goblins, what about you?? I may not remember that librarian’s name, but she made her mark on me and at 59 years of age, I still think of her as each Halloween approaches. Maybe we need to take a closer look at each library user that we help, we just might be a memory to that user for the next 50+ years!

Watch out for those goblins… they just might get ya if you don’t renew your TLA membership for 2007

— Annelle Huggins, TLA Executive Director

ALA Councilor’s Corner

In less than a month, I will be in Seattle, WA, officially representing TLA and all of you who hold membership in this organization at the American Library Association’s Midwinter Conference. Although I have been to several ALA Conferences since first representing UT’s School of Information Sciences as its Student-to-Staff representative in June 2001 (San Francisco, for those of you who try to keep up with which cities the conferences are held in), I find myself anxious, but also nervous about the January conference. After all, this isn’t just me attending a conference for my own personal/professional interests — this is me stepping out to represent each of you and I take that sense of responsibility very seriously. If you have concerns or opinions about anything that is going on in ALA as an organization, I hope that you will find (or make) an opportunity to contact me prior to mid-January. Otherwise, you’ll receive a report from me in the next couple of months and will have opportunities to discuss anything addressed in that report prior to the 2007 Annual Conference, to be held in Washington, DC, in June. I thank you again for your votes to put me in this position and continue to request your input as I attend my first of six conferences in this elected position. And if you’re planning to be in Seattle, I’ll hope to run into you there!

— Chrissie Anderson Peters, TLA’s ALA Councilor
**Linebaugh Public Offers Health Series**

Need help with those New Year’s Resolutions to get healthy? Linebaugh Public Library, in conjunction with the Rutherford County Health Department, will present “Search Your Heart,” a four-part health series developed by the American Heart Association that encourages the participants to take an active role in improving their lifestyle! On the second Mondays of January, February, March and April at 6pm, health care professionals will present the classes in the Reading Room on the second floor of the library.

These classes will explore the causes of some of the leading health issues affecting residents of Rutherford County. Also some preventative tips for avoiding health issues such as diabetes, high cholesterol, stroke, high blood pressure and cardiovascular disease will be shared.

Classes will involve special activities like “The Biggest Loser” contest, healthy snack preparation and easy exercises for everyone. Each participant will complete a report card regarding their health at the beginning of the series and learn how to follow their progress with blood pressure, weight and Body Mass Index.

“Search Your Heart” is free and open to the public, but space is limited. We can accommodate the first 50 people, so please make a reservation before Jan. 5, by calling Heather Lanier at 615.893.4131, ext. 116.

Also, the Linebaugh PL Board recently gave approval for LPL to proceed with their expansion project! We look forward to more shared news related to this expansion in coming months.

— Heather Lanier, Linebaugh Public Library
hlanier@linebaugh.org

**Chattanooga-Hamilton County PL News**

Noted author and attorney Leroy Phillips, Jr., was the featured speaker at the Friends of the Library Annual Meeting Fri., Nov. 10, 2006. The meeting was held at the North River Civic Center at 11:30 a.m. Mr. Phillips, along with Mark Curriden, is a co-author of the book *Contempt of Court: the turn-of-the-century lynching that launched 100 years of federalism*. In this profound and fascinating book, the authors revisit an overlooked Supreme Court decision that changed forever how justice is carried out in the United States.

In 1906, Ed Johnson was the innocent black man found guilty of the brutal rape of Nevada Taylor, a white woman, and sentenced to die in Chattanooga. Two black lawyers, not even part of the original defense, appealed to the Supreme Court for a stay of execution, and the stay, incredibly, was granted. Frenzied with rage at the decision, locals responded by lynching Johnson. What ensued was a breathtaking whirlwind of ground-breaking legal action whose import, Thurgood Marshall would claim, "has never been fully explained." Provocative, thorough, and gripping, *Contempt of Court* is a long-overdue look at events that clearly depict the peculiar and tenuous relationship between justice and the law.

Researching Your Scottish Ancestors was presented by Mary Helms, Head Librarian, Local History & Genealogy. In the presentation, attendees could learn about Scottish Emigration, Civil Registration, General Register Office Census Records, Internet Portals for Scottish Archives, Church Records, Testamentary Records. The program was held on Sat., Nov. 18, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library, Downtown Branch. A $3.00 fee was charged to cover cost of the handouts.

— Andria Davis, Community Relations Coordinator, Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library, (423) 757-5030

**Knox County PL Circulation Thriving**

(Knoxville, TN) More people are checking out books than ever before, and proof is in the year-end statistics. Knox County Public Library charted a 12.2% gain in circulation over this time last year, which was 6.5% higher than the year before. Over 2.66 million items were checked out by 91,500 library card holders in the last year. By contrast, data from 2001-2003 showed only minimal increases in check out rates of less than 1.5%.

Compared to similarly sized library systems, Knox County Public Library is well out-pacing the national average. According to data published in Public Library Association’s Statistical Report, the national trend in circulation is up, but not nearly as high as it is in Knox County. Looking back to 2001, KCPL has had an overall increase in circulation of 29% compared to a 17% national average in comparably sized library systems.*

“This increase is the result of a lot of hard work by an excellent staff,” said Larry Frank, director of the Knox County Public Library System. “We have spent a lot of time re-examining the way we define a library, and it’s paying off. I’m extremely pleased to see such great results.”

The Library has increased its programming efforts across the board. In the last fiscal year, the Library offered 500 special programs for adults and children in addition to the regular weekly story hours at most library facilities. This year, the library offered an adult reading challenge for the first time ever. Over 2,700 adults earned coffee mugs for reaching their reading goals. The introduction of Imagination Library in 2005 has been extremely well received. Over 11,000 children under the age of five are registered in the program to receive free books in the mail every month. The program, which is administered by the KCPL, is one of the largest in the country, second only to Davidson County in enrollment numbers.

The large increase can be attributed to these programming efforts and increased publicity as well as improvements in technology, which allow patrons online access to download audio-books, access reference databases, and transfer materials from anywhere in the system.

“Larry Frank has brought in some wonderful innovations that have been very well received,” commented Knox County Mayor Mike Ragsdale. “I’m extremely pleased with the direction of the Library and am looking forward to its continued growth.”

*2006 statistics for national usage rates are not yet available.

— Submitted by Mary Pom Claiborne, Communications Administrator
Knox County Public Library
(865) 215-8767 office
(865) 640-4146 cell

**Newcomers and Names to Know**

The New York Times recently named Knoxville Public Library Director Larry Frank as one of its top 21 Librarians of 2006 in the United States. Selected from approximately 13,000 nominations, the 21 winners of the award (now in its sixth year), were slated to meet in New York in mid-December to receive their awards. Congratulations to Mr. Frank on this honor… TLA President Pat Thompson is a very busy woman! In addition to her work with TLA, Pat has recently been named as the new Special Projects Coordinator for the Tennessee State Library & Archives (TSLA). Pat will join the department in mid-January 2007, leaving her position at Blount County Public Library as Head of Reference.
January 2007 Programs at Blount County Public Library

Local author and re-enactor, Wayne Zurl, will discuss “Fort Loudoun and the Seven Years War,” detailing some of the background of that historic site, located just down 411 South at Vonore, in neighboring Monroe County, and the impact for Blount County. “Cancer: A Word of Many Words” will be a creative presentation about experiences with cancer by artist, Kim Nixon, and author, RaRa Schlitt. Blount County Master Gardener, Nancy Robinson, will discuss, “Selecting and Growing Native Trees and Shrubs.” If you are a recent immigrant to Blount County, you will find the program by the Tennessee Taxpayer Project of Legal Aid Society very helpful as Paula Trujillo explains how to “Know Your Rights and Duties as a Taxpayer.”

To help chase away the boredom blues, you can find some great bargains at the Used Book Sale sponsored by the Friends of the Blount County Public Library, where more than 40,000 books are available for sale, most at costs of only $1 or $2.

Teens are invited to explore creative talent at a two-session sculpting workshop presented by the award-winning clay artist, Annamaria Gundlach. This workshop will be hands-on, and each high school and middle school participant will create at least one sculpture.

For a relaxing lunch break at the library, order some hot soup and cappuccino or hot chocolate at the Bookmark Café and then curl up in a comfy chair in the Reading Rotunda to read or enjoy a relaxing view of the Greenway and lake.

EVENTS/SPEAKERS:
- Thurs., Jan. 11, 7:00 pm, “Cancer: A Word of Many Words” program by Kim Nixon, artist, and RaRa Schlitt, author, in Sharon Lawson Room.
- Tues., Jan. 16, 6:00 p.m., “Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting,” in the Board Room.
- Thurs., Jan. 18, 7:00 pm, “Fort Loudoun and the Seven Years War” by author and re-enactor, Wayne Zurl, in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- Thurs., Jan. 18, 12:00 noon to 6:00 pm, “Used Book Sale — Members Only” by Friends of the Blount County Public Library, in the lower level of the library.
- Fri. and Sat., Jan. 19 & 20, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, “Used Book Sale” by Friends of the Blount County PL, in the lower level of the library.
- Thurs., Jan. 25, 7:00 pm, “Know Your Rights and Duties as a Taxpayer,” by the Tennessee Taxpayer Project of the Legal Aid Society, with Paula Trujillo, in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- Tues., Jan. 30, 7:00 pm, “Selecting and Growing Native Trees and Shrubs” by Nancy Robinson, Blount County Master Gardener, in the Sharon Lawson Room.

TEEN PROGRAMS:
- Saturdays, Jan. 20 & 27, 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm, “Teen Sculpting Workshops I and II with professional sculptor / artist, Annamaria Gundlach. Pre-registration Required” by signing up at the Library Reference Desk or calling 273-1436 or 982-0981, X4. Light refreshments will be served. High school and middle school students are invited. Class size is limited to first 20 registrants. Workshop is free, but please notify Reference Department if not able to attend after you register. Workshop will be in the Dorothy Herron Room A.

EXHIBITS:
- “Cancer: A Word of Many Words” Art Exhibit by Kim Nixon, artist, and RaRa Schlitt, author, on freestanding exhibit panels in the Main Gallery near the Children’s Library.
- “William Blount High School Student Art Exhibit” by Carrell Ray, William Blount HS Art Department, on Art Panels near the Reading Rotunda.
- “Retro Toys Exhibit” by Blount County Public Library staff, in two display cases in the Main Gallery.
- “Blount County Beekeepers Association Exhibit” by Dennis Barry in three cubes in the Entry Rotunda.
- “Blount County Home Education Association Exhibit” by Lori Wade, in two vertical cases in the Entry Rotunda.
- “Sister Cities International Young Artists Exhibit” by Blount County Sister City Organization in one Reference Department Office (Exhibit on display from Dec. 20, 2006-Jan. 7, 2007).
- “Blount County Arts & Crafts Guild Member Artwork on two easels in Sitting Areas of the Main Gallery.
- “Genealogy Exhibit” by Reference Department in Genealogy Display Case at the Reference Desk.
- “Display” by Circulation Department on Circulation Desk Cabinets and New Books Shelves in the Main Gallery.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP:
- January Book: The City of Falling Angels: A Venice Story, by John Berendt; Library Board Room; Date: Jan. 10 (2nd Wednesday of each month); Time: 10:30 am

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS (in Children’s Library):

- Foreign Language Story Hours: Community volunteers will present bilingual stories and crafts for all interested children.
  - Wed., Jan. 3, 5:00 pm, Japanese Story Hour
  - Sat., Jan. 27, 3:00 pm, Amigos Spanish Story Hour

Elementary Age Activities:
  - Mondays, 6:00 pm, Funtabulous Family Game Night. Families with children of all ages can enjoy a fun-filled evening of board games, puzzles, hopscotch, toddler bowling, play huts, and more, in the children’s library.
  - Tuesdays, 4:00 pm, Serendipity Activities, Grades K-6, in Children’s Library. Sign up in Children’s Library to participate.
  - Tues., Jan. 30, 6:30 pm, Chess Club, Elementary grade levels, in the Children’s Library.
  - Wed., Jan. 24, 4:00 pm, Reading Zone Elementary Story Hour, Grades K-2, in the Children’s Library. Story hour meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month.
  - Wednesdays at 4:00 pm, Library Skills Workshops. MUST BE A READER and sign up in Children’s Library to participate. Learn Dewey Decimal System and Computer Catalog Skills, in the Children’s Library.
  - Colorful Thursdays offer fun and education for kids who love to color. Coloring pages with crayons, markers, and colored pencils are available at the children’s activity tables in the Children’s Library all day (9:00 am to 9:00 pm) each Thursday.
  - Thursdays, Jan. 11 & 18, 4:00 pm, “Survivor” Book Search for Grades 4-6, in the Children’s Library. Please sign-up at the Children’s Circulation Desk.
  - Thurs., Jan. 25, 4:00 pm, “Survivor” Book Search for 3rd Grade, in the Children’s Library. Please sign-up at the Children’s Circulation Desk.
  - Fri., Jan. 19, 4:30 pm, Stamp Club for elementary aged children meets in the Children’s Library.
  — Joan VanSickle Sloan, Community Outreach Coordinator, Blount County Public Library
Collierville’s Burch Library Fall Events

Government Day
The Library, along with The Town of Collierville, hosted Government Day on Tues., Oct. 3 from 6-7. The Library closed at 5:00 to prepare for this event. Government Day is an informal opportunity to meet local elected officials.

Meet the Author, Robert Dalby
The Collierville Burch Library welcomed Mr. Robert Dalby, author of *Waltzing at the Piggly Wiggly*, on Mon., Oct. 9 from 2-4.

This irresistible Southern charmer is about small-town gossip, second-chance romance, strange weather, and ballroom dancing in the most unlikely places. Laurie Lepanto is on the horns of a dilemma. Her favorite market, the Piggly Wiggly, of Second Creek, Mississippi, is on the verge of closing its doors, nearly done-in by a new Mega-Mart across town. Over the years, the Piggly Wiggly has been more than a supermarket—it’s been a community center and town hall, and it’s even seen a little romance blossom in its aisles. Laurie—who has never met a problem she can’t solve—is determined to help Mr. Choppy, the Piggly Wiggly manager, keep his business afloat. She enlists a formidable array of the town’s most influential widows, and the town’s most eligible silver fox, Powell Hampton, a 60-something widower and former ballroom dance instructor. For two hours a week, Powell will waltz—or fox-trot or tango—at the Piggly Wiggly with the town’s ladies while the sales clerks do their shopping for them. In a town like Second Creek, where everyone knows everyone, waltzing at the Piggly Wiggly soon becomes the town’s most festive event. And after a few turns around the floor with the handsome and charming Powell, Laurie soon begins to make plans not only for civic renewal, but for romance.

Robert Dalby is a native of Mississippi and lifelong patron of the Piggly Wiggly. He lives in Oxford, MS. Waltzing at the Piggly Wiggly is his first novel.

Teen Advisory Board News
The 2nd Annual Teen Haunted Library happened on Mon., Oct. 9 from 2-4. In the Halle Room. Students in grades 6-12 attended and were encouraged to bring a canned food item for the Collierville Food Pantry. The 2006-2007 TAB is comprised of 20 students in grades 6-12. Serving this year are: Clark Benedetti, Ashley Crockett, Devon Everett, Leah Ferrell, Elizabeth Frazier, Catherine Gluszek, Cole Houseveldt, Kelsey Kennel, Matthew Ohlwein, Summer Reives, Amy Schumacher, Lexie Shauneck, Darryl Smith, Chelsea Sokol, Alyson Stewart, Katie Sullivan, Lane Tillner, Troy Todd, Lauren Turner and Katy Williams.

Home School Program
On Fri., Nov. 10. The library offered library skills classes. From 11:00 - 12 noon, they held a program for children in grades 3-5. Starting at 12 noon, there was a program for grades 6-8. Children in grades k-2 were offered a worksheet that could be completed while the other programs were in session.

Magazine Reading Room
The Library recently completed a renovation of the Magazine Reading Room. The Collierville Rotary Club donated funds to purchase new shelving units for the periodical collection. Current issues are now displayed on a flat surface, with back issues stored behind the movable shelf.

Meet the Artist
Artist Lee L. Smith visited the library on Sun., Oct. 22 from 2-4 in the Halle Room. Smith’s watercolors of landscapes and architecture were displayed during October.

Collierville graphic artist Kai A. Matta presented 3-D designs and scenes full of fantasy and fun during November. This artist, poet and writer was at the library on Sat., Nov. 4 from 2-4 in the Halle Room.

Peter Holvis, a Collierville student photographer displayed his work during December.

Book Sale in January
Due to the generous book donations from the community, the Friends are holding a mini book sale on Fri., Jan. 26 and Sat., Jan. 27 from 10:00 am-5:00 pm in the Halle Room. Adult fiction, hardback and paperback, as well as children's books will be sold.

Greenville-Greene County PL Fall Events
The Greenville-Greene County Library’s Friends of the Library held their annual Tea on Sun., Oct. 22 at 4:00 p.m. Matilda Greene was there to autograph her book *Glimpses of Greene*.

The Library also had a book signing by Larry Buttram on Fri., Oct. 27, from 12-2 pm. His books include *False Witness*, *Honor Thy Sister*, and *The Greatest Gift*.

“Halloween Happenings” Tues., Oct 31, 3 to 6 p.m. We gave away age-appropriate books to children in costume until 1,500 books were given away.

Christmas stories for preschoolers were provided on Tues., Dec. 14 and Tues., Dec. 21, at 10:30 a.m. each day

Christmas In Olde Greene
Dec. 1, 2006 This annual ceremony began at 6 p.m., with the singing of carols and lighting of the community’s Christmas Tree by Father Christmas on the Courthouse Lawn. Attendees were invited to bring blankets and folding chairs for Christmas stories told from the front porch of the Library, 6 to 8 p.m.

— Madge B. Walker
Greenville-Greene County Library

Jackson-Madison County PL Privatized
Many of you are aware that there has been an ongoing battle between the Jackson/Madison County Public Library and its Board of Directors concerning privatization. Against the will of the people, the Board voted to sign with LSSI who assumed complete control on November 1.

In early October, library board members informed the library director, Tom Aud, that he would not be allowed to return to the library as of Mon., Oct. 9, because his presence is too “upsetting” to the staff. Mr. Aud is retiring effective Oct. 31, and, although he was scheduled to take unused leave during a portion of October, he still planned to be in the library some of that time. Please keep our public library in your thoughts as its staff plan their futures and our town deals with the loss of one of its treasured places.

Sincerely,

— Dr. Pam Dennis, Director
Luther L. Gobbel Library
Lambuth University
TLA Board Report Summaries

The Children’s and Young Adult Round Table met on Fri., Oct. 27 at the Putnam County Library. Topics discussed included the 2007 Children and Teen Summer Reading Programs. The artwork is in the creative process for both programs. The artwork will be displayed on posters, bookmarks, and prizes. T-shirts for the Children’s Summer Reading Program will be on sale at the TLA conference. A committee of the roundtable created a brochure which represents the Children’s and Young Adult Roundtable. The brochures have been printed and will be available at the Children’s Librarians Workshops and at the TLA conference. The next meeting will be held on January 26, 2007 at the Decatur County Public Library at 1:00 p.m. (cld).

Tennessee Association of School Librarians (TASL) — Nov. 2 - 4, 2006 - Get on Board The Reading Railroad @ your library will be the 2006 TASL Conference theme (to be held in Chattanooga). The keynote speaker at the Friday business meeting is Stephen Krashen, the author of The Power of Reading. Other featured presenters include Walter Mayes, Janet Stevens, Ann Martin, Lurlene McDaniel, Alan Gratz, Audrey Church, & Pat Miller. New officers will be installed at the business meeting. Included 2007 slate of officers.

The Public Library Section of TLA has been very busy working toward the goals established for 2006-07. Public Library Section Chair Dinah Harris is scheduled to speak at two Regional Libraries about TLA membership. She has been in contact with all Regional Directors asking them to allow her to speak or to promote membership themselves among the libraries they serve.

The West Tennessee Academic Library Consortium (WeTALC) met at Freed-Hardeman University in Henderson on Oct. 7, for its Fall meeting. Hosts were Hope Shull, Library Director, and staff. Sara Tarpley from Gale provided a 2-hour training session on the use of Powersearch. The presentation was well-done and everyone gained quite a bit of knowledge of the new interface for TEL databases.

Boone Tree Library Association (BTLA) held its Fall meeting at Bristol PL on Oct. 5, with 25 in attendance and two guests. The evening’s program was provided by Kim Lyons, a singer and songwriter, who tied her work to literary titles and content. Elections were held and an amendment passed to the Bylaws establishing an annual Elise Draper Barrette Award. Named new officers.

The TLA 2007 Conference Committee met in Chattanooga on Oct. 20. Conference will be held at the Chattanooga Convention Center Apr. 18-20. Some highlights: Program Chairs Bill Black and Laurel Best have been going through program proposals; Beth Reardon of McCallie School has joined as Local Arrangements Co-Chair, a logo was selected to go along with the theme: Info-Locomotion: Ticket to Ride at TLA 2007; General Session speaker will be Lorienie Ray, ALA President-Elect, from the other UT (Austin); the All-Conference Reception will be held in the new Ocean’s Journey wing of the Chattanooga Aquarium; 16 exhibitors met the early registration deadline.

This year, the nomination deadline for the Tennessee History Book Award has moved up to Nov. 15, 2006. The Tennessee History Book Award description and nomination form are on the TLA website. Seven titles have been submitted so far.

TLA Legislation Committee members were announced. past meetings were documented, and future events were outlined. Some highlights: Tennessee Library Legislative Day (TLLD) — The date for the TN Lib Leg Day has been set for Tues., Feb. 27, 2007. The sub-committee is formed and has 12 members. Arrangements with the Sheraton and Nashville PL are solidified. The subcommittee meets on a monthly basis. Details on the printed pieces and the program agenda items are being finalized. Information on TLLD 07 has been posted on the TLA web page — National Library Legislation Day (NLLD) — National Library Legislative Day 2007 will be Tues., Wed. (May 1, 2). The briefing day will be held at the Holiday Inn on the Hill. This sub-committee has begun planning/organizing our participation in this event.

School Libraries Section sent surveys to 51 members, 39 via email, the rest by postal mail. Only received 5 responses to date — 8 emails returned undeliverable. Survey questions aimed to get members’ responses about purpose of section, as well as to ascertain if members were also TASL members, and an opinion regarding the possible merge with TASL.

Technical Services Round Table reported that SOLINET was asked to present a program at the 2007 conference. TSRT submitted several ideas, but no specific program request was made. If the SOLINET program is not in place by the time of the Nov. 11 meeting, we will put together a proposal to be submitted no later than Friday, Nov. 17.

At the previous TLA Board meeting, Joan and Lisa of the Public Relations Committee met with Jeanne Sugg, who offered to pay for a statewide Business Wire news release for TEL promotion if the PR committee would draft the release and get it to her by September 5; Joan prepared a release and sent it to Jeanne by the prescribed date. The press release is currently being edited by numerous persons. All plan for it to be released after the Christmas holidays.

The Intellectual Freedom Committee worked with TASL to arrange the presentation of “Up for the Challenge: Be Prepared at Your School Library/Media Center” at the 2006 TASL Conference. The committee is currently planning the pre-conference for Annual Conference. This presentation, “Intellectual Freedom in Your Library: Knowing the Law is Your Best Protection,” will include discussions on First Amendment fundamentals, the Library as a public forum, privacy and confidentiality, challenges to library resources, and Internet, CIPA, and sexual harassment. Concerns of public, school, and academic libraries will be addressed. The committee is in discussion with potential speakers for the Intellectual Freedom Breakfast to be held during Annual Conference.

Strategic Planning Committee listed the committees that have submitted strategic goals. In other areas: Web Site: Thanks to some timely assistance by Valerie, the Strategic Plan is on TLA’s web site, along with links to help you in your Strategic Planning. Be sure to check it out. Proposal: In reviewing plans and planning for future growth of the Association, the Strategic Planning committee has noted that while we employ two persons, we have no personnel committee or personnel policies. It is our recommendation that the TLA President appoint an Ad-Hoc Personnel Committee to address this deficiency.

Membership Committee reported final membership numbers for 2006 were 734 total, a significant decrease from the 2005 total of 814. Other recent years:.. 2004=757, 2003=710, 2002=634. In an attempt to increase membership, the committee’s primary objective for the year is to develop a Member-Recruit-Member campaign. We have begun researching and discussing campaign ideas.

Tennessee Health Sciences Library Association (THeSLA) reported new officers, discussed Fall meeting. An update on the Tennessee GoLocal project was given by planning committee members. Also reported on a live, real-time MLA CE class in the computer lab of Nashville PL. This session was the first of a new CE delivery option from the Medical Library Association to utilize distance education programming for sponsored continuing education workshops.

SEE MORE REPORT SUMMARIES ON PAGE 11.
Memphis Public Library Happenings and News

Memphis Public Library And The Southern Festival Of Books

An expert panel presented “So Many Authors, So Little Time!” at the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library. The panel discussion was a precursor to the Southern Festival of Books held at the Cook Convention Center Oct. 15. Panelists Tina Barr, poet and Associate Professor of English at Rhodes College; Barbara Ching, Director, Marcus W. Orr Center for the Humanities, University of Memphis; Shirlene D. Cosby, Friends of the Library Member; Fredric Koeppel, Book Columnist, The Commercial Appeal; and Nathan Tipton, Humanities Librarian, Memphis Public Library & Information Center gave booklovers tips on the authors to see at the festival.

“Smartest Company in Memphis” Emerges at Corporate Knowledge Bowl

Buckeye has earned bragging rights for the next year as the “Smartest Company in Memphis,” after competing in Corporate Knowledge Bowl 2006. Corporate Knowledge Bowl, the MPLIC trivia challenge fundraiser, was held at the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library in September over the lunch hour.

A total of 19 teams competed in 30-minute, lightning round matches; answering questions on topics such as history, current events, arts, popular culture, local interest and more. Some participating companies had so much fun, they had more than one team compete.

The theme for the competition was “Brain Game.” Backyard Burger and the Memphis Business Journal were Corporate Knowledge Bowl sponsors.

Memphis Public Library Celebrates Library Card Sign-Up Month

Memphis Mayor Willie W. Herenton visited the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library on Sept. 20 for a special program officially recognizing September as “Library Card Sign-Up Month” in Memphis.

Also, to encourage youngsters to use the library and obtain a card during September, the MPLIC partnered with schools in the system’s service area. A “Why I Love My Library Card” contest enabled third graders to complete library activities and tell why they love their library card for a chance to win their favorite book and a copy for their school.

Cordova Branch Library Celebrates 50 Years of Serving the Community

The Cordova Branch of the MPLIC has served the community for 50 years and celebrated its anniversary in October. The library started in one room of the old train depot on Macon Road and grew to fill the whole depot. In 1986, the branch moved to the Cordova Community Center. That building is the original site of the 1913 community school. The library occupied a 1,000-square foot room from 1986 until the completion of the new 28,000-square foot branch in 2004. Today the branch serves more than 56,000 residents. The new branch also includes a number of enhancements for customers, such as meeting and study rooms, public art, a children’s activities room and public computers with Internet access.

Memphis Public Library To Have Party “After Hours”

Jonathan Alter, Senior Newsweek Editor and Columnist, visited the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library on Sat., Nov. 4, 2006. Alter was the guest speaker at a gala fundraiser called After Hours, celebrating the Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library’s 5th Anniversary. Alter, in addition to writing an acclaimed column, recently released a new book. The book, The Defining Moment: FDR’s Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope, and current events were among the topics Alter discussed. Audience members had an opportunity to ask questions following Alter’s address and there was a book signing too.

The program started at 7 p.m. and featured a wine and specialty-beer tasting, elegant dinner, and great live music.

Those who may have missed any of the books recently published by MPLIC employees (Historic Photos of Memphis or Mayor Crump Don’t Like It: Machine Politics in Memphis), had a chance to purchase the book and get the authors/librarians to sign personal copies.

The event was $100/person; tables of eight could be purchased for $700. Proceeds benefited the MPLIC collection.

— Devin Misko, Communications Specialist, Memphis PL
Lambuth U Gets Traveling Portraits

Living On: Portraits of Tennessee Survivors and Liberators - November 7-December 9

The touring portrait collection of 60+ liberators and survivors of the Holocaust from The Tennessee Holocaust Commission was on display at Lambuth University in Varnell-Jones Hall (administration building), from November 7 — December 9.

A month-long series of events related to the meaning of life will ran concurrently. Special related programs included the following:

Thurs., Nov. 9 - Lecture: Mankind's Search for Meaning (Russell M. McIntire, Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, Vanderbilt University) - 7:00 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center

Mon., Nov. 13 - Book Review and Discussion of Night by Elie Wiesel (Patsy Turner, Communicant, St. Mary's Catholic Church) - noon, The Eagle's Nest, Wilder College Union

Tues., Nov. 14 - Lecture: Art and the Holocaust (Larry Ray, Professor of Art, Head of the School of Arts and Communication, Lambuth University) - 7:00 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center

Thurs., Nov. 16 - Interfaith Service for Peace and Understanding, led by members of the local Christian, Jewish, and Muslim Communities - 7:00 p.m., R.E. Womack Memorial Chapel

Sat., Nov. 18 - Movie: Showing of Paper Clips, winner of numerous national and international awards, followed by a discussion with representatives from Whitwell Middle School, the subject of the film - 2:30 p.m., Jackson-Madison County Library

Mon., Nov. 27 - Presentation and Discussion: Fascism (Steven Patterson, Assistant Professor of History, Lambuth University) - noon, The Eagle's Nest, Wilder College Union

Tues., Nov. 28 - Teachers Workshop on Incorporating Teaching on the Holocaust into the regular curriculum of the Senior and Middle High classroom (prior registration required) - 1:00-5:00 p.m., Varnell-Jones Hall

Tues., Nov. 28 - Lecture: Reflections on the Exhibition (Susan Knowles, Curator of the Exhibit, Nashville, Tennessee) - 7:00 p.m., Wisdom Parlor, Varnell-Jones Hall

Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1-2 - Play: I Never Saw Another Butterfly - 8:00 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center

Tues., Dec. 5 - Film: Emmy award winning film Living On: Tennesseans Remembering the Holocaust, followed by a conversation with Will Pedigo of WNPT, producer of the film, and Prof. Robert Heller, exhibition photographer - 7:00 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center

All events were sponsored by the Lambuth-B’Nai Center for Jewish Studies, located in the Luther L. Gobbel Library of the university.

— Dr. Pam Dennis, Director
Luther L. Gobbel Library
Lambuth University

Reference Round Table Announces Blog

The Reference Round Table has a new blog! Check it out at: http://tlatrrt.wordpress.com. We hope that this will increase resource sharing among reference librarians across Tennessee. If you would like to be added as a contributor please send me an email. We’d love to hear from you!

— Jenny Rushing, Chair, Reference Round Table Reference Librarian,
Belmont University, rushingj@mail.belmont.edu

Lee U’s Library Creates Display of Honor

Lee University’s Squires Library and Dixon Pentecostal Research Center created an exhibit to celebrate the two decades of Dr. Paul Conn’s presidential leadership. Entitled Achieving Excellence: 20 Years at Lee, the display documented the changes to the campus (18 new buildings and increased campus from 22 to 110 acres), in the academic programs (from college to university structure), in the student experience (e.g., cross-cultural and service requirements) and with the school’s involvement with the Cleveland community (e.g., United Way, Habitat for Humanity). The exhibit contained both photos and artifacts. It also offered opportunities for visitors to leave their written comments or remembrances of Lee. The exhibit remained on the upper level of the library until the end of the October when it was moved to the Museum at Five Points in Cleveland, for a month-long show for Cleveland/Bradley County residents.

White County Public Library’s New Facility Opening

White County Public Library’s new facility was completed by the end of Summer 2006. Below are pictures from the new facility’s opening day. The grand opening was Sunday, August 27. The crowd was huge and over 640 signed the guest book.

— Cathy Farley, Director
White County Public Library

Sevier County PL Fall Events

Fall at the Sevier County was bustling! Among the many opportunities to engage in special activities were the following:

• Teen Read Week – Seymour Branch Library hosted a game and pizza after-school program for teens on Thurs., Oct. 19, 4-6 pm
• Teen Read Week – Kodak Branch Library (KBL) hosted a week of after-school movies from Mon., Oct. 16 – Fri., Oct 20 at 4 pm featuring October Sky, The Legend of Bagger Vance, Holes, The Princess Bride, and Friday Night Lights.
• Oct. 6 – Beginning of 4th Annual SCPLS Children’s Book Week Contest for children from kindergarten through 8th grade. The contest this year featured the child’s favorite character from a book designed as a baseball card. First, second and third place winners in two categories (k-4th grade & 5th-8th grade) were announced during National Children’s Book Week, Nov. 13-19, 2006. Winning entries were professionally printed as baseball cards. The child and their classrooms received copies; all libraries in the SCPLS had copies at the front desk for the general public. All entries were showcased at each of the library buildings during the month of November 2006.
• Nov. 6 – KBL Adult Literature-into-Movie Series featuring Memoirs of a Geisha at 7 pm.
• Nov. 9 – Meet & Greet Town Hall Meeting with Sen. Raymond Finney at KBL on Nov. 9 at 5:30 pm
• KBL Family Holiday Movie Matinee on Saturdays during December (Dec. 2, Miracle on 34th Street at 2 pm; Dec. 9, It’s a Wonderful Life at 2 pm; Dec. 16, A Christmas Carol at 2 pm.)

— Robin Cogdill, Branch Manager / Public Relations Coordinator
Kodak Branch Library SCPLS
**SIS News, Events, and Happenings**

**Major SIS Events Available as Webcasts**

Two major events of UT’s School of Information Sciences’ Intercultural Leadership Toolkit Symposium will be webcast for those unable to attend in person.

Links to the webcasts are on the conference website - www.sis.utk.edu/programs/toolkit/agenda.

Jose Aponte's Monday morning keynote talk was at 9:00 a.m. in the University Center Shiloh Room. Aponte will discuss new leadership paradigms in the Information Age and how leadership must evolve to keep pace with a dynamic information environment in a more multicultural world. For more information, see http://www.sis.utk.edu/aponte.

The UT School of Information Science has created Memorandum of Understanding with University of Puerto Rico and its SIS program. For details, go to http://www.sis.utk.edu/programs/puertorico.

— Joel Southern, Communications Specialist, School of Information Sciences, UTK

**SIS Ranked Nationally in Several Data Categories**

Researchers from the University of Missouri-Columbia have announced that the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee is ranked number one in the nation for per capita journal articles published by its faculty.

Based on data collected from 1999-2004, the researchers report in an article just published in Library and Information Science Research (www.sciencedirect.com) entitled “Scholarly Productivity of U.S. LIS Faculty” that SIS is additionally ranked 2nd among all U.S. LIS programs with respect to the number of journal articles published and 3rd in the researchers’ cumulative program rankings. Notably, SIS Professor Carol Tenopir, who joined the faculty in 1994, is ranked as the most research-productive LIS faculty member in the United States.

“The per capita ranking is an important and solid metric of a program’s research productivity, since it takes into account the significant variability of faculty sizes in LIS programs throughout the United States,” said Dr. Ed Cortez, Director and Professor of SIS.

“The School of Information Sciences currently has 13 faculty members, but at the time of the study only 11 faculty lines were occupied. Just as per capita income is considered as a true measure of a nation’s wealth, a program’s per capita journal articles attests to its true measure of value and productivity. I am very proud of our faculty and congratulate them for their achievements.”

The School of Information Sciences is ranked 16th out of 56 graduate programs in library and information sciences accredited by the American Library Association, according to a survey by U.S. News & World Report released in April of this year.

— Joel Southern, Communications Specialist, School of Information Sciences, UTK

**Pemberton Heads Up Special Career Aids for SIS Students Available Online**

Here is a great resource that Dr. Pemberton has put together with the aid of the SIS staff and others on the SIS Career Services page (http://www.sis.utk.edu/careers). Look at the two videos on: Job Hunting 1 (The Cover Letter) and Career Planning 1 (Thinking Strategically) on the SIS site — www.sis.utk.edu/careers/resources/videos — and please provide your candid thoughts and responses to Dr. Pemberton: he is waiting eagerly for student feedback.

— Bharat Mehra, Assistant Professor, SIS

**SIS Alumni and Friends Day Date Announced for March 3, 2007**

Mark your calendars now for the next SIS Alumni & Friends Day: March 3, 2007. The SIS Alumni Board has chosen a new direction for next spring’s event. SIS faculty will gather with alumni and friends to talk about their current research projects and emerging trends in libraries and information sciences. Many faculty will discuss their research posters from the recent ASIS&T conference in November. More details coming soon!

—Joel Southern, Communications Specialist, School of Information Sciences, UTK

**Nominations Sought for SIS Distinguished Alumni Award**

The UT School of Information Sciences Alumni Board encourages you to consider nominating a qualified colleague for the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Award.

This award honors graduates who have demonstrated professional achievement or leadership attributable to their education at SIS. The next award will be announced at the 2007 Alumni & Friends Day, which will be on March 3. (See http://www.sis.utk.edu/alumni/ for more.) For award criteria, visit www.sis.utk.edu/alumni/distinguished.

Send or e-mail your nominations to:
Roger Myers
roger.myers@maryvillecollege.edu
Maryville College
502 East Lamar Alexander Pkwy Maryville, TN 37804

Nomination Deadline: January 31, 2007

— Joel Southern, Communications Specialist, School of Information Sciences, UTK

**TLA Staff Development Workshops Dates**

Mark your calendars now for the 2007 “Learning Across the State” TLA Staff Development Workshops coming up in late Spring 2007!

May 15 - Nashville Public Library, Nashville (coordinated by Tricia Racke Bengel)

May 16 - University of Tennessee, Knoxville (coordinated by Thura Mack)

May 17 - Jackson State Community College, Jackson (coordinated by Caroline Bennett)

More details to follow, along with registration and workshop topics.

We need you to make this program a success!
Letters Requested By TENN-SHARE for TEL Resource Support

Dear TLA members,

At the request of the TENN-SHARE committee and to help facilitate effective communication with state officials by as many TLA members as possible, the TLA Public Relations Chairs are re-sending this as a reminder to contact Governor Bredeson, Secretary Darnell and Commissioner Goetz. The goal at this point is to keep the $1 million in Secretary Darnell’s budget to fund additional resources for TEL.

Please feel free to use the sample letter found on TENN-SHARE’s homepage (www.tenn-share.org), drafted by the TENN-SHARE Committee, or use your own wording and add “testimonials” of how helpful TEL is to you and your patrons. The PR firm consultants recommend sending letters with your letterhead and by U.S. mail so that they can be placed in a “folder” of support for TEL by each of the following officials:

The Honorable Phil Bredesen
Governor of Tennessee
Tennessee State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243-0001
(Dear Governor Bredesen)

Dave Goetz, Commissioner
Department of Finance & Administration
Governor’s Office
Tennessee State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243-0001

The Honorable Riley Darnell
Secretary of State
Tennessee State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243

So that the TENN-SHARE Committee can know your support efforts, please send Penny Frere (PennyFrere@bellsouth.net or pfre@hotmail.com) an email of your letter.

We hope that this sample letter assists you, as we all endorse the efforts for state funding for TEL, an efficient and economical tool for all of us in Tennessee.

Tennessee Library Legislation Day Registration Now Available Online

With our 2007 theme being “Resources for the Future @ Your Library,” isn’t this a great year to have online registration and online payment via credit card available?!

Here are the 2 options for registering for TLA’s 2007 Tennessee Library Legislative Day, being held on February 27, 2007 in Nashville. By going to the TLA homepage (www.TNLA.org), you can

1. complete the online registration form and use a credit or debit card to submit payment, taking care of all of your registration details electronically; or
2. request an invoice from the same page used in the first option; this option allows you to register online, print an invoice and then mail the invoice and a check to:
   Tennessee Library Association
   P.O. Box 241074
   Memphis, TN 38124-1074

There are now two links — one to information about Tennessee Library Legislative Day and another to the online registration page — on the Tennessee Library Association home page (www.TNLA.org). Now, if you want to take a 5-minute break from your regular routine and register to join us in Nashville on February 27, 2007, you won’t have to spend any of that time looking for the 12/18 listserv e-mail with the long URL. After you register, you might even have a spare minute left out of the 5 to take a few deep breaths—something we can all benefit from at this hectic time of year.

We’re looking forward to seeing your name on the list of Tennessee Library Legislative Day registrants soon!

— Ron Reid, (reidr@memphislibrary.org) and Julie Julian, (jjulian@boultcummings.com),
TLA TN Library Legislative Day 2007 Subcommittee Co-Chairs
Government Documents Round Table (GODORT) discussed some highlights of Fall Conference. Business Meeting highlights included alerting members to TLA’s proposal to restructure dues, interest in proposing bylaw to eliminate the 25-member floor for TLA roundtable groups, resolution on Preservation of Tennessee Electronic Government Information passed by TLA Board this past summer, and TLA Annual conference program for April 2007 submitted by Tricia Bengel on Archive-IT.

The Electronic Resources Management (ERM) Round Table held a luncheon meeting during the Tenn-Share Fall Conference to discuss possible presentations Annual Conference in Chattanooga. Several intriguing ideas were put forward, one of which is being followed up.

The officers of the Staff Development Committee submitted a proposal for the 2007 TLA conference. Also discussed ideas for the annual state-wide staff development workshops. Have communicated via conference calls once or twice per month to discuss ongoing planning, program themes, and other logistics for the 2007 state-wide programs. To this end, we have collaborated with SOLINET, Scott Cohen from WeTALC, and other facilitators to ensure the success of these workshops.

Trustees/Friends Section reported that Jeanne Ray, well known writer/popular speaker, will be the Luncheon Speaker for TLA Conference.

Friends of Tennessee Libraries (FOTL) reported that a series of workshops is being held across the state entitled “Gaining New Library Advocates” by John Nye, Art Circle Library Friends, the objective of which is to increase the value of libraries in the minds of persons, whether they use the library or not. Factors such as literacy, employment/unemployment, individual and community health, and cost of imprisonment of prison inmates are considered when evaluating the value of the community library. Local funding bodies are targeted to inform them of the savings of tax payers’ dollars when citizens use the library.

The Reference Round Table reported that they have created a new blog to improve archiving. All posts were transferred from the old blog to the new blog at http://tlatrts.wordpress.com. The new blog has been developed with the hope of increasing resource sharing. A Reference Round Table webpage was added to the TLA website. Programming and Nominating committees were formed. Programming committee submitted three proposals and one table talk for annual conference.

Finance Committee reported that, in accordance with a previous recommendation of the Committee, and with the approval of the Executive Committee, steps have been taken to begin the process necessary to change the secondary signature on all TLA financial accounts. The new secondary signature will be that of the incumbent Tennessee State Library and Archivist. At this time, that is Jeanne Sugg. Once the signatures on all accounts at Regions Bank have been updated, the Finance Committee will review the signatures on the two CDs held by TLA, to update those in like manner.

Steps have been taken to consolidate the Frances Neal Cheney Award account with the TLA Scholarship Account. Once the appropriate secondary signature has been established, the TLA Scholarship Account will be moved to a money market account, hopefully providing an increase in the interest and also giving easier access for the appropriate distribution of funds. This fund will henceforth be known as the TLA Scholarship and Awards Account and will hold not only the scholarship funds, but also those funds that are given to support any TLA awards for which money is donated (i.e., Cheney and Taylor Awards, at this time).

Chattanooga Area Library Association (CALA)’s report recapped their Fall meeting and Potluck Picnic, as well as announcing a move to host their own web site, www.calaweb.org. A representative to the TLA Board, a right of all affiliate groups, has been selected for the current Board. The two meetings’ activities were described at length.

The TLA Student Chapter report (UT SIS) included the organization’s officers, their faculty advisor, and some of their planned activities. Activities include, but aren’t limited to Career Night, to be held on-campus in the Spring; the career videos project headed by Dr. Pemberton (see page 9 for more details); Résumé Blitz Day, the first to be held in Spring 2007; Brown Bag Lunches; and a Grant-Writing Workshop. Plans are being made for a group of students to attend TLA’s Conference together in order to save on costs.

The Nominating Committee presented its slate of candidates for the upcoming 2007 TLA Elections. Nominees for VP/President-elect are Pam Dennis and Sue Szostak; nominees for Recording Secretary are Virgina Cairns and Tiffani Conner.

Tennessee Library Instruction Round Table’s report included an update on the Strategic Plan and web site revisions. Inquiries are being made into obtaining an up-to-date TLIRT membership list and contact information. A new list should be available within the next few weeks.

TENN-SHARE’s report contained much information, including details on the letter-writing requests to help raise TEL funding efforts, activities at the November TASL Conference, the naming of a new Treasurer for TENN-SHARE, the latest membership statistics (which continues to grow), and a link for follow-up information from DataFest and the TENN-SHARE Fall Conference.

TLA Honors and Awards Committee reported that information on its four awards on the TLA website has been updated using the TLA website content management system. Nominations can be submitted electronically to the responsible committee member. Information on past winners of each of the four awards has also been posted on the Honors and Awards page. Currently working with 2007 Conference planners to ensure that award information will be published on the conference schedule. At this time no nominations have been received for the awards: TLA Honor Award, Frances Neal Cheney Award, TLA Honorary Membership Award and the TLA Trustees Award. The deadline for nominations is January 19, 2007. Notices continue to be submitted to appropriate lists.

The College/University Libraries Section (CULS) noted that its Fall conference had taken place and that it was considered a success. Also mentioned were that the CULS web page is being updated on TLA’s site, and a program proposal was submitted to Annual Conference.

The ad-hoc Scholarship Committee’s report included a copy of the form to be used for the Gleaves Scholarship, the inaugural award to be presented in Chattanooga at Annual Conference. Deadline for applications to be submitted is February 1. A sub-committee will be appointed to aid in the selection process. Factors to be considered will be academic excellence, potential for leadership and/or commitment to service, and potential for evidence of commitment to a career in Tennessee librarianship. Financial need will not be a factor. Items for the Consignment Table will soon be selected for the Conference. Also, applications will soon be available for the positions of Conference Interns for the conference in Chattanooga.

FOR MORE BOARD REPORT SUMMARIES, SEE PAGE 12.
TLA Board Report Summaries (Continued)

With the help of Survey Monkey, the P & D staff of the Tennessee State Library & Archives have recently conducted four web-based surveys about statewide library services offered by TSLA. In each case, we had an excellent response rate. Local library staff completed surveys related to the overall Regional Library program and to the Interlibrary Loan program. Patrons and library staff alike completed surveys about the use of the statewide Tennessee Electronic Library and the READS E-book and downloadable audio program (available only to public library members of the regional library system.) Survey responses revealed a high level of satisfaction with each program. However, we also discovered areas which need improvement. The results will help shape the future of TSLA library programs in Tennessee.

Former Special Projects Coordinator Tricia Bengel has accepted the position of Technical Services Director at the State Library and Archives. As a result, the Planning and Development Division is currently seeking a replacement for her. The major duty of the Special Projects Coordinator is to administer the Tennessee Electronic Library and coordinate TEL training statewide.

The State has recently purchased Bibliostat Collect, a web-based program that allows statewide collection of public library statistics. The State Library is required by federal law to collect extensive data from public libraries, and this tool provides a faster, more accurate means to do so. Training in the use of Bibliostat will be coordinated by Shelley Fugitt, Library Statistics Coordinator, and will begin in January.

On Oct. 25-27, 86 archivists, librarians, and records professionals attended the Society of Tennessee Archivists’ (STA) Annual Meeting. The Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives hosted the 2 1/2- day event. The theme of the conference was “Face the Future: Archives, Technology, and the New Millennium.” Sessions included topics such as encoded archival description, managing audio visual collections, meeting researcher needs in the 21st century, teaching with primary documents, and collaborative approaches for digital collections projects.

At the annual banquet, held the second evening of the meeting, Reda Bilbrey (Overton County Archivist), Jill Hastings-Johnson (Montgomery County Archivist), and Tom Leatherwood (Shelby County Register’s Office) each received the John H. Thweatt Archival Advancement Award for their individual contributions to the advancement of archives and archival issues within Tennessee.

This year, the 7th Annual Tennessee Archives Institute was held in conjunction with the STA annual meeting. The Tennessee Archives Institute (TAI) is a training program on archives and records management conducted by the Archives Development Program of the Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA). This 2 1/2- day series of workshops provides participants with an opportunity to interact and exchange ideas with archival staff from around the state. Institute programs are offered on a three-year cycle of instruction. Participants who complete the three-year cycle of courses receive the certification of Archives Manager from TSLA.

In addition to sessions offered by the STA program, topics for the 7th Annual TAI focused on hands-on techniques for processing, preserving, and indexing historical records. Workshops included information on basic conservation principles and techniques, database design for indexing collections, disaster planning, and an introduction to early Tennessee court records.

This year, 226 people (including six librarians) attended the Tennessee Archives Institute. Five (5) individuals received certification. To date, 106 people, representing 53 counties, have attended the Tennessee Archives Institute. Thirty-nine (39) people have received certification as Archives Managers. (— The Tennessee State Library & Archives Representative’s Report)