

# The TLA Newsletter

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## Highlights from the TLA Leadership Retreat, Held May 21 at Montgomery Bell State Park



*Left:* Attendees enjoy humor during Leadership Training. *Right:* Past President Susan Earl speaks on the power of Tennessee Libraries. Photos by James Staub.



*Left:* New officers, Christi Underdown-DuBois, Wendy Cornelisen, and Dinah Harris pose with Susan Earl. *Right:* Sue Alexander leads a panel discussion. Photos by James Staub.

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## President's Point of View

TLA Membership gives you tangible things, like a discount on the conference, and intangible things—like that sense of belonging being surrounded by people who know what MARC records are. I'm working with the TLA Board to produce more of both experiences.

Planning continues for the 2012 Conference in Knoxville, with the theme Libraries Transform. We all have examples of how the library has changed our own lives, the lives of our patrons, and our communities.

Libraries themselves are undergoing a transforms, with new technologies and challenges.

If approved, the New Members Round Table will foster more community, and give new members a place to learn more about TLA and how to get more involved.

I hope that Library Legislative Day can include a greater voice for library advocates around the state. There's been a loss of library services around the state, from cuts in hours to the removal of librarians from schools.

I'll be working with TLA's partners to make sure students of all ages have access to library services at every step in their educational journey.

Budgets are tight, and paying for travel costs is tough. This year, TLA will be developing online staff development webinars that are free for TLA members. The goal is to have them archived and available to TLA members to watch anytime.

—Wendy Cornelisen  
TLA President

## Tenn-Share DataFest and Conference Coming October 27-28 to the Nashville Public Library

Join your colleagues for a learning adventure! The Tenn-Share DataFest is a day-long vendor fair and conference held each October at the Nashville Public Library. The 2011 DataFest will be Thursday, October 27, followed by the Tenn-Share Conference on Friday, October 28.

Each year's DataFest Committee meets in the late spring and summer to determine the "hot" areas in electronic resources. A number of themes are developed, and vendors are invited to present certain products in 25-minute sessions. Because of space limitations, DataFest vendors do not have exhibit space, although they are welcome to meet with interested librarians in the hospitality room.

This year, the DataFest (on Thursday) will focus on the burgeoning eBook market, featuring vendors of all types and levels of eBooks. Plus, a number of e-readers and other gadgets will be made available for hands-on testing.

The Conference, "Tenn-Share Delivers" (on Friday), will feature Eric Forte, OCLC, speaking on *Perceptions of Libraries, 2010: Context and Community* ([www.oclc.org/](http://www.oclc.org/)

[reports/2010perceptions.htm](http://reports/2010perceptions.htm)), followed by a panel for questions and discussion. The General Session will include what's new in "Share Your Stuff," a Tenn-Share initiative to increase the availability and efficiency of interlibrary loan. A state-wide courier delivery service has been the emphasis of the Share Your Stuff initiative this year. Looking towards that service, Tenn-Share gets back to basics and offers two informative sessions on the modern methods of interlibrary loan, for newbies and for seasoned practitioners. Additional breakout sessions include licensing and DRM issues with eBooks, implementing WorldCat Local Quick

Start, and teaching primary resources using the Volunteer Voices website. Registration and more details will be posted at [www.tenn-share.org/](http://www.tenn-share.org/).

And don't forget the School Library Collection Fair, running concurrently both Thursday and Friday.

The DataFest Committee strives to offer our members several resources in the same category or subject area for comparison purposes. We also attempt to appeal to all our membership types: academic, public, school, and special. Comments and questions about the DataFest may be addressed to DeAnne Luck.

—DeAnne Luck  
DataFest Committee



Tenn-Share seeks to provide leadership and support in all areas of resource sharing among the libraries and information agencies of all types and sizes in Tennessee.

## ALA Councilor's Report: ALA News

In this issue of the *TLA Newsletter*, I would like to draw your attention to two new and significant resources from ALA. First, you may recall reading or hearing me talk about the fact that transforming libraries is one of the new goal areas in the new ALA 2015 strategic plan (<http://tinyurl.com/3pjwt6n>). Initiatives toward all the goal areas in the plan are beginning to be planned and implemented now, and that is no exception for the area of transforming libraries. During the ALA Annual conference, ALA introduced the Transforming Libraries Portal (<http://transforming.ala.org>). This is a place that draws together information and resources from across our field, with the common thread of having transformative value to our libraries. The portal will certainly be vibrant and growing, and



most definitely something to monitor.

Another noteworthy new resource is the recently released guide, *Keeping Public Libraries Public* (see: <http://tinyurl.com/6a19ehk>). This is a detailed guide designed to help library staff, boards, local governments and others be sure that when privatization of a library or library services is considered, all the right questions have been asked when making the decisions. After outlining some of the major factors concerning

privatization, the guide offers checklists to consider about privatization of services and negotiation of contracts. It also offers advice to library advocates. As privatization is increasingly being eyed as what is thought to be a simple way to save money, *Keeping Public Libraries Public* illustrates that it is not such a simple, straightforward undertaking, nor does privatization typically realize significant economic benefit. This resource is recommended not only for those now engaged in privatization discussions in their communities, but also for anyone involved with a public library in order to be prepared in advance for dialogue concerning privatization.

—Kevin Reynolds  
*ALA Councilor, Tennessee Chapter*

## Nominate the Future Leaders of TLA

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for TLA Vice-President/President-Elect and Recording Secretary. Duties and responsibilities may be found in the TLA Manual of Procedures found on TLA's web site at [www.tnla.org](http://www.tnla.org) under the heading "About TLA."

Please send your nominations (and yes, you may nominate yourself), to one of the Committee members listed below:

**Cynthia Carmack**  
[overtoncolib@comcast.net](mailto:overtoncolib@comcast.net)

**Philenese Slaughter**  
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Thank you for your help. All nominations must be received by October 14, 2011, so the Nominating Committee can finalize the ballot by November 30, 2011.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please contact me.

—Philenese Slaughter  
*TLA Nominating Committee Chair*



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*Christi Underdown-DuBois,  
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*Annelle R. Huggins,  
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## Call for Conference Proposals for 2012 TLA Conference

“Libraries Transform” is the theme of the 2012 Tennessee Library Association Conference, to be held March 21-23 in Knoxville. The 2012 TLA Conference Program Committee is now accepting program proposals. If you are interested in presenting a program, pre-conference, or other special event, please use the online form ([www.tnla.org](http://www.tnla.org)) to submit your ideas

for the 2012 TLA Conference. **Deadline for submission is October 1, 2011.** If you have any questions, please contact Program Committee Co-chairs:

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