

THE TLA NEWSLETTER

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Introducing...Your New TLA President!

Hello from Chattanooga, Tennessee. I am Richard Groves, your new President of the Tennessee Library Association. I am very honored that you, the members of the association, selected me to serve as your President for this year. I've been a member of TLA since 2010. During the last six years, I've co-chaired the bylaws, membership, career services, and strategic planning committees. In addition, I served as the Secretary of TLA 2013-2014. Prior to moving back to Tennessee in 2010, I worked in a public library outside Austin, TX for three years and for the Association of Research Libraries in Washington, DC for four years before, during, and after library school.

The first thing I would like to do in this space is thank a few people. The first is Past-President Susan Jennings who graciously served a second term as President when my predecessor moved out the state and resigned her position. Susan has spent the last two years finding those who didn't feel like they had a place within TLA, and then bringing them into the association. The result has

been a lot of new faces at both of the last two annual conferences, as well as many new people in leadership positions within TLA. I also want to thank Ruth Kinnersley who served two years as Past-President. Over the last year Ruth has spearheaded the restructuring task-force whose work is still ongoing. I would also like to thank Anthony Prince who recently stepped down as Newsletter editor after three years of doing a wonderful job to keep us all informed about what's happening in TLA. Finally I would like to thank all of you who volunteered—or agreed when asked—to serve as leaders within TLA. It takes a lot of people to do the important work of the many committees, roundtables, and sections within the association. Without you, none of the great things TLA does would be possible.

Finally, I would like to share with you that the theme for the coming year is “Celebrate Tennessee Libraries!” I want TLA to help you celebrate all of your wonderful collections, the amazing programs your libraries host every week, and



to celebrate every single one of you. To celebrate what's happening in your library tag the social media posts about your libraries, programs, and staff with #LoveMyTNLibrary. I would encourage everyone to regularly check the posts with this hashtag to learn about the amazing things happening in Tennessee's libraries.

—Richard Groves

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TLA's New Assistant Webmaster

The Publications Advisory Board is pleased to announce that Jodie Gambill is now serving as TLA's Assistant Webmaster. "Jodie's knowledge and experience with website administration makes her a perfect fit for this position," TLA Webmaster Jeanine Akers, said. "I look forward to working with her to improve the value, usability, and aesthetic of the site." Jodie is

a Systems Librarian at Vanderbilt University, has served as a Tenn-Share co-webmistress, and was a 2012 ALA Emerging Leader. To reach Jodie or Jeanine with questions or comments about the website, please use the new email address webmaster@tnla.org.

Potential TLA Board Restructure

The TLA Board is looking at a re-structure of the Board and the Executive Board. Opportunities for feedback on "what works, and what doesn't work" have been posted, and currently the proposed new TLA Board and Executive Board structures are on the TLA website. Thank you very much to all who have provided input into this process! You are TLA, and we want to know what you think.

At the recent TLA Board retreat, where outgoing and incoming Board members meet to work, plan, and provide for a smooth transition, quite a bit of time was spent discussing the proposed structure. Some of the points of discussion:

- Instead of 3 At-Large representatives to the Board and the Executive Board, there should be 5 At-Large representatives, representing the 5 former sections (Public, Academic, School, Special, and Friends/Trustees). This helps ensure representation from all types of libraries on the Board.
- The affiliates, while valued, do not need to be as involved in the policy and administration of TLA, and don't need to be voting members of the Board.

- There was general agreement that the Round Tables should have more representation and voting power on the Board. It was proposed that the every 5 Round Tables should have 1 voting Representative on the Board. There was also much discussion about making sure that Round Tables don't go the way that the sections have—difficulty in finding leadership and maintaining initiatives. As the number of Round Tables fluctuates—due to new ones coming and old ones going—the number of representatives to the Board can change over time.

- There was much discussion over whether it was appropriate to combine Diversity and Advocacy into one Division, because their purposes are different. It was decided to drop Diversity from the name of the Division, but to definitely maintain a Diversity Committee as a separate group. The discussion did not finalize exactly what that would look like in the Board restructure, but that is a planned topic for discussion for the next TLA Board meeting.

We still welcome input from the general membership! Feel free to talk to your friends and neighbors who are on the TLA Board (that information

is on the TLA website) or contact the Restructure Ad-Hoc Committee Co-Chairs: Richard Groves (richardpgroves@gmail.com), Ruth Kinnersley (rkinneresley@trevecca.edu) or Heather Lanier (heather.lanier@brentwoodtn.gov).

—Ruth Kinnersley

Have a few moments? Google this...

Southern Festival of Books
Nashville

Library Cards of the
Rich and Famous
Fine Books Blog

9-year-old prison books

Friends of Tennessee Libraries
Annual Report 2015-2016

Silent reading parties

Pokemon go libraries

New Editor on the Block

I'm honored to be chosen as the new editor for this newsletter! Many thanks to Anthony Prince for his previous years of hard work generating a wonderful newsletter. I have been the Coordinator of Public Services at Tennessee Tech University since 2012. Prior to that I worked at a branch of The Ohio State University after graduating from library school at Kent State University in 2007. I've always worked in higher education in student services or libraries and love helping people. Some of you may recognize me or my name from my work on the TLA Career Services

committee and resume reviews at the past three annual conferences. My hobbies depend on when you ask, but have recently included running, crochet, movies, triathlons, beach volleyball, gardening, and beekeeping.

I look forward to keeping the newsletter interesting and relevant to all the wonderful TLA members, so please do not hesitate to contact me with feedback or content at sholderman@tntech.edu. This newsletter is your newsletter....I'm just here to help put it together!

—Sharon Holderman



TASL's 25th Annual Conference

The Tennessee Association of School Librarians would like to invite you all to join us for our 25th Annual Conference in Murfreesboro November 3-5, 2016. We have an exciting line-up this year including librarians Elissa Malespina, Shannon Miller, Mr. Schu, and Tiffany Whitehead as well as many authors as well.

Registration for non-members of TASL is \$140, and information about registering can be found at <http://www.tasltm.org/conference>. If you are interested in joining TASL and coming to Conference for the member rate of \$120, information about membership can be found at <http://www.tasltm.org/membership>.

We think all librarians, not just school librarians, could benefit from coming to this conference. We sincerely hope to see some of you there!

—Misti Jenkins
*Conference Chair/President-Elect for 2016
Tennessee Association of School Librarians
(TASL)*

SKYLIB: The New Airport Bookstore on the Honor System

The Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport now offers travelers used and donated books to buy for three to five dollars each. It will be available 24 hours a day since it is unstaffed, and travelers will pay via a secure cash box, a credit card on the Friends of

the Library website, or by mailing in a check. The bookstore's proceeds go toward the Chattanooga Public Library. See the Friends' website for more information: <http://www.friendsofthelibrary-chattanooga.com/>.

Save the Date! 2017 TLA Annual Conference

TLA's annual conference will be held April 5-7, 2017, at the Knoxville Convention Center/Downtown Holiday Inn. Be thinking about program

proposals, which will be due around mid-September. Watch the listserv and website for proposal forms and more conference updates!

Committee/Board Updates

Remember that committees, roundtables, sections, affiliates, and task forces submit a report prior to each board meeting.

These are available on the TLA website under "About TLA," "Board Reports." The Board Minutes are also under "About TLA," which contain the latest actions and discussions.



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