Friends of the Tennessee Libraries

The 2016-2017 Welcome to the Friends of Tennessee Libraries publication is now online: http://tinyurl.com/WelcomeToFOTL2016-17. It includes a work plan calendar with important dates including:

**November:**
- Picture Book Month
- **November 13-19:** Tennessee Ag Literacy Week
- **November 15:** Nominations for TLA/FOTL Friend of the Year Award are due

**February 14:**
- Applications for Grants and Recognition Awards are due

**March 25:**
- FOTL Annual Meeting at King Family Library, Sevierville

**April 7:**
- TLA Trustees/Friends Lunch during TLA Annual Meeting
- Knoxville

See their website (http://www.friendstnlibraries.org) and Facebook page for more information.

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**We Need Champions, We Need You: 2017 National Library Legislative Day**

Every year a few good men (and women, too) gather in Washington, DC to share the experience of meeting our federal representatives and reminding them how essential libraries are and how legislation impacts libraries in our state. The next National Library Legislation Days (NLLD) are Monday, May 1, and Tuesday, May 2, 2017.

So what really happens? First, you spend a day being briefed on the legislation that affects libraries. At the end of the day, the Tennessee team huddles to create a game plan. We decide who will be responsible for key points. Each person volunteers for the legislation that has significance to them and will see the representatives they have a connection with or are interested in meeting.

The next day, Tennessee Tuesday, the team starts their day with donuts and coffee with our senators. Then we put our strategy in action to fit in as many of our legislators as possible. We travel through the historic halls of the federal buildings with other library advocates while vying for the elected officials’ attention. With our carefully-prepared plans, we meet each official with targeted information and the strengths of our best advocates: you.

So join our Tennessee Team and be a part of history. Every elected official we reach with our message is a victory in itself. For more information about the National Library Legislation Day, contact Vivian Wynn at vwynn91@bellsouth.net or Susan Earl at susan.earl@brentwoodtn.gov

—Vivian Wynn and Susan Earl
Autumn has come once again to the beautiful State of Tennessee. As I sit in early October writing this column the leaves in Chattanooga have begun to show the first signs of change, the temperatures are getting slightly cooler each day, and sunrise comes a little later each morning. Fall always makes me pause and think about the yearly cycles that we all have in our lives. In our professional lives those cycles include the school year if you work in a school or academic library, public librarians know the seemingly never ending stages of summer reading, and all of us must keep track of our library’s annual budget.

The Tennessee Library Association has a similar yearly cycle that begins with the installation of the new officers and board in the summer, then the many committees get down to work for the year, we seek nominations for the next round of officers, we hold our elections, and we celebrate the year at our annual conference each spring.

Throughout the year your library, most likely, has its own traditions and annual events that help make your library special. I’ve been excited to see libraries all over the state participate one of these annual events by photos of their Banned Books Week displays online with the entire world. I would like to invite you all to continue to share pictures using the hashtag #LoveMyTNLibrary so we can all join in celebrating all the amazing things happening at your libraries.

One of the most important annual events for TLA is the membership renewal period each December. I hope that you will join us for another year as a member of the Tennessee Library Association, and that you’ll continue to help us Celebrate Tennessee Libraries!

—Richard Groves
TLA President
TLA New Members Roundtable is sponsoring a bookmark exchange, and all TLA members are invited to participate and connect with librarians across the state! You’ll send a bookmark to a TLA member, and a TLA member will send one to you! Bookmarks can be store-bought or handmade—be as creative as you want.

Sign up to participate on Elfster by November 30, 2016, and on December 1 you’ll be matched with another Tennessee Library Association member. Mail a bookmark to your match by December 31, 2016, and look for your gift in the mail! Be sure to include a note about who you are and what library you work with. If you have any questions, please contact Kate Lewallen at klewalle@gmail.com.

To sign up, visit http://bit.ly/TLAbookmark.

TLA Legislative Committee

Looking to have a positive impact on Tennessee libraries? Why not consider joining the TLA Legislative Committee? With members across the state charged with advocating for Tennessee libraries, you can be a part of a group that is passionate about the important role libraries play in communities across the state. Since our members hail from every corner of Tennessee, most of our meetings are conducted via conference call which means there is no need to worry about long distance commutes to meetings. And now is the perfect time to join as we gear up for our annual Legislative Day where we will meet with our state legislators to talk about, you guessed it, libraries! If you would like to join the TLA Legislative Committee or just have a question or suggestion, please contact Adam Clemons at aclemon5@utm.edu.

Tenn-Share Seeking Board of Directors Nominations

Tenn-Share is seeking nominations for six upcoming vacancies on its Board of Directors. The Tenn-Share Board is an active governing board, not just an advisory board, and meets three times a year. Terms of office are two years and will run from January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2018. Nominations may be submitted anytime now through November 18 online: http://tinyurl.com/TennShare.

We try to maintain a geographic balance of representation across the three grand divisions of Tennessee; however, nominations for any good candidates are welcome and will be given due consideration. Positions to be filled include:
• Board Secretary
• Academic Library Representative from East Tennessee
• Public Library Representative from East Tennessee
• Academic Library Representative from Middle Tennessee
• School Library Representative from East Tennessee
• School Library Representative from Middle Tennessee

Are you interested in serving? Nominate yourself! Self-nominations are welcome and encouraged. If you have someone else in mind, be sure to get that person’s agreement before submitting a nomination. You may submit multiple nominations. The deadline to make nominations is November 18.

Clyde Edgerton to be Keynote Speaker at the 2017 TLA Conference

Psst…Do you wanna know a (not so) secret? Clyde Edgerton is going to be our keynote speaker at the 2017 TLA Conference! Author, storyteller, musician, artist, professor, Guggenheim Fellow…He does it all! Please join us April 6-7, 2017, at the Knoxville Convention Center to hear this incredible, multi-talented man.

In the meantime, check out www.clydeedgerton.com to get your “Clyde fix” of book blurbs, video snippets and various sundries.

Oh yeah, did I forget to mention there is a musical based on his novel Lunch at the Piccadilly? He not only wrote the book, he contributed music and lyrics, too. He’s not just a triple threat, he’s a multi-triple threat.

Don’t be left out of the Monday morning water cooler chatter. You want to be able to say “I was at that hootenanny, and it was awesome.”

—Vandy Owen and Bess Robinson, Conference Co-Chairs
Hello from your Membership Committee! Now’s a great time to join/rejoin TLA. If you’re reading this, you probably have a good idea of how this venerable organization is evolving, including a renewed effort to reach out to under-served librarians across the state. Institutional members may name two representatives, each of whom has the same privileges as individual members including member registration rate at the Annual Conference. Bonus for anyone who joins before the end of 2016: Membership for the remainder of 2016 through 31 December 2017! Check the TLA website for more benefits to members.

—Bess Robinson and Anthony Prince, Co-Chairs, Membership Committee

### TLA Membership News

#### TLA Membership 2016 Snapshot

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*Do not pay dues; some institutions do not declare reps

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*Two members paid for one additional section each.

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