TLA Trustees/Friends Section

JUNE 2015 QUARTERLY REPORT

1. We created a Membership flier for distribution at the TSLA Oct 2014 Trustee Workshops. [http://lgdata.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/docs/1576/1247075/TLA_Welcome_to_TLA_TF_Section_Sept2014_.pdf](http://lgdata.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/docs/1576/1247075/TLA_Welcome_to_TLA_TF_Section_Sept2014_.pdf)

Resources from those training workshops can be found at: [http://tsla.libguides.com/trusteeresources](http://tsla.libguides.com/trusteeresources)

2. Having discovered a Bylaws problem, we created a committee to review our Bylaws and working relationships with other groups (such as the Friends of Tennessee Libraries) to make recommendations in time for action at the April 2015 Annual Meeting. That committee was not able to complete its work in time, so we will continue with this review in order to present revision proposals in time for the TLA 2016 Annual Meeting.

3. We gathered applications to present the Friend of the Year Award at the TLA 2015 Trustees/Friends Luncheon to the Friends of the Williamson County Public Library.

   The Friends of the Williamson County Public Library has been assisting its library for over 50 years. Responding to recent changes in the book publishing industry and the library staff’s request two years ago, the Friends supported creation of a publishing imprint, the Academy Park Press, which resulted in publication of two original books: *Bucky and Bonnie’s Library Adventure* (a children’s book featuring two miniature horses) and *Bullets and Bayonets: A Battle of Franklin Primer* (introducing the Civil War battle to young people). [https://wcpltn.wordpress.com/academy-park-press/](https://wcpltn.wordpress.com/academy-park-press/)

   The first book’s publication brought the library national recognition by winning the *Best in Show* award from the American Library Association, in competition with over 300 other libraries nationwide.

   For “thinking outside of the box” by supporting its library’s transition from a warehouse of books to a maker of books, the Friends of the Williamson County Public Library has achieved something extraordinary, for which they have been named Friend of the Year for 2014.

4. We also recommended that the Friend of the Year Award be split into two: one for smaller communities and one for larger communities. This proposal was approved by the TLA Honors and Awards Committee and sent to the TLA Board for approval.

5. The TLA Trustee of the Year Award was also presented at the lunch by the Honors and Awards Committee to Margaret Neil Fowler.

   Margaret Nell Fowler, a former English teacher, has been a life-long public library advocate. Since moving to Lincoln County several years ago, she has dedicated her time and talent to the service of the public library. First she served as a member of the Friends Group and then as a member of the Regional Board and finally as the Chair of the County Library Board. She was instrumental in the hiring of the new Director, raising significant funding through the Friends for programs and services at the Library, and in revising and updating new policies for the Library. Her most recent contribution has been successfully demonstrating that mobilizing citizens to support the public library truly can make a difference to their elected officials. Margaret Nell Fowler will receive the TLA Trustee Award at the Trustees and Friends Luncheon on Friday.

6. We planned the annual TLA Trustees/Friends April 24th Luncheon in Memphis by engaging Miguel Figueroa, Director of the new ALA Center for the Future of Libraries, as speaker and a small group session. He also was the keynote speaker for the Friends of Tennessee Libraries Annual Meeting at the Memphis Public Library the next day.
He spoke about the Center’s work [http://www.ala.org/libraryofthefuture](http://www.ala.org/libraryofthefuture), he spoke about how libraries can learn from the various trends affecting our culture today, using a S-T-E-E-P-E-D matrix of: Society, Technology, Economics, Education, Politics/government, Environment, and Demographics.

He said that the Center works to:
1) Identify emerging trends relevant to libraries and the communities they serve;
2) Promote futuring and innovation techniques to help librarians and library professionals shape their future;
3) Build connections with experts and innovative thinkers to help libraries address emerging issues


8. The Tennessee State Library & Archives report that they are developing a **Tennessee Trustee Certification Program** to be unveiled July 1st. [http://tsla.libguides.com/trusteecert](http://tsla.libguides.com/trusteecert)