



Friends of Tennessee Libraries newsletter

Sept/Oct 2016

<http://www.friendstnlibraries.org>

Trustee Workshop Special Issue

The Friends of Tennessee Libraries (FOTL)

is organized to help and support local Friends groups integrate their library thoroughly into the life and work of their community.

How do Friends help their Library?

"The days of 'ladies who do nothing but pour tea and hold bake sales' is long past. There still are some, and treasure them if you are lucky enough to know them. But volunteerism is no longer something to fill time until the next bridge game. It is a commitment citizens make for a stronger community, important for our standard of living as we know it today." (Sandy Dolnick)

Folks in local communities join together as Friends of the Library to support, improve, and promote their public libraries as an essential institution of a democratic society.

As libraries meet citizen demands for new technologies and formats, Friends are even more crucial to the success of the library. Their support helps expand the library's effectiveness in the community.

Friends volunteer in a variety of ways to help provide high-quality services by raising funds and promoting library use, existing only to be of service to their library.

In Tennessee, not all libraries have a Friends Group. For those who do, Library Friends are the volunteer champions of the library. Friends

- ✓ **Know their community's needs** and provide valuable feedback.
- ✓ **Plan activities** with the library's director and trustees, asking "what can we do," instead of announcing "we will do this."
- ✓ **Raise money** for materials, equipment, and projects not able to be covered by the library's operating budget.
- ✓ **Sponsor cultural and educational programs** to enlighten and entertain.
- ✓ **Volunteer** to do special library tasks and projects.
- ✓ **Represent the library** to the community - raising public awareness, speaking to civic groups, attending council/ commission meetings, and contacting government officials to communicate the library's financial needs.
- ✓ **Advocate for the library** by speaking out on local, state, and national issues that affect libraries.
- ✓ **Recognize exceptional performance** of library staff members.

2016 Honor Roll of Tennessee Friends Groups

1. **Audrey Pack** Memorial Library Friends of the Library
2. **Benton** County Friends of the Library
3. **Blount** County Friends of the Library
4. **Bluff City** Friends of Thomas Memorial Library
5. Friends of **Clarksville-Montgomery** County Lib
6. Friends of **Collegedale** Library (Hamilton Co)
7. Friends of **Collierville Burch** Library
8. Friends of **Elizabethton Carter** County Library
9. Friends of **Greenback** Public Library (Loudon)
10. Friends of **Kodak** Library (Sevier County)
11. Friends of **Linebaugh** Public Library
12. Friends of **Nashville** Public Library
13. Friends of **Sequatchie** County Public Library
14. Friends of **Seymour** Library (Sevier County)
15. Friends of **Signal Mountain** Public Library
16. Friends of **Smyrna** Library (Linebaugh Library)
17. Friends of the **Art Circle** Public Library, Crossville
18. Friends of the **Brentwood** Library
19. Friends of the **Chattanooga** Public Library
20. Friends of the **Cheatham** County Public Library
21. Friends of the **Clinton** Public Library
22. Friends of the **Fairview** Public Library
23. Friends of the **Gorham-MacBane** Library
24. Friends of the **Greeneville-Greene** County Lib
25. Friends of the **Hamilton Parks Trimble** Library
26. Friends of the **Hardin** County Library
27. Friends of the **Humboldt** Public Library
28. Friends of the **Jefferson City** Library (Jefferson)
29. Friends of the **King Family** Library (Sevier Co)
30. Friends of the **Knox County** Public Library
31. Friends of the **Lafollette** Public Library
32. Friends of the **Lauderdale** County Library
33. Friends of the **Lawrence** County Public Library
34. Friends of the **Lewis** County Public Library
35. Friends of the Library **Cleveland** Public Library
36. Friends of the Library **McMinn** County
37. Friends of the Library of **Johnson** County
38. Friends of the Library of **Perry** County
39. Friends of the **Madisonville** Public Library
40. Friends of the **Memphis** Public Library
41. Friends of the **Monterey** Branch Library (Putnam)
42. Friends of the **Morristown-Hamblen** Library
43. Friends of the **Niota** Public Library (McMinn Co)
44. Friends of the **Oak Ridge** Public Library
45. Friends of the **Obion** County Public Library
46. Friends of the **Pigeon Forge** Pubic Library
47. Friends of the **Richland Park** Branch Library
48. Friends of the **Tellico Village** Public Lib (Loudon)
49. Friends of the **Tipton** County Public Library
50. Friends of the **Vonore** Public Library
51. Friends of the **W G Rhea** Public Library
52. Friends of the **Washington Co/Jonesborough** Lib
53. Friends of the **White** County Library
54. Friends of the **Williamson** County Public Library
55. **Hendersonville** Library Friends
56. **Putnam County** Library Friends
57. **Somerville-Fayette** County Friends of the Library
58. **Stewart** County Friends of the Librar



Friends groups support Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program in every Tennessee county.

11 Friends/Foundation library groups and 4 local libraries are the sponsoring organization for their county's Imagination Library program, providing free books to children from birth to age 5.