



CTLS Newsletter

November 2011 No. 106

BYLAWS! Not Again!

By Pat Tuohy

As hard as it is to contemplate, the CTLS Bylaws are due for another sweeping overhaul. The complete elimination of state funding for CTLS in FY 2013 means that the current requirements for membership, board composition, and organizational structure are irrelevant. The Texas State Library's limitations and mandates on whom CTLS serves and how it delivers services become unnecessary in the absence of contracts or grants. Rules for system membership become unfunded mandates on the Corporation. Our current Bylaws obligate the Corporation to comply with these regulations even as money to accomplish the work described in the rules disappears. Adapting the Bylaws to meet this new reality is essential if CTLS is to continue providing services to libraries well into the future.

Among the many things that tie the hands of the Corporation is adherence to the Texas Library Systems Act and related statutes and rules. This law dictates which libraries are eligible for system services. Currently, all libraries must be accredited for system membership each year to receive services from CTLS. This penalizes libraries that may lose their State accreditation. The rigid application process for accreditation is a deterrent to school & parochial libraries as well as academic libraries. Many of these organizations would like to join CTLS but choose not to because of state regulations or the state's application timetable. Other entities with aligned goals are also excluded from membership altogether. These include museums, privately run history centers, library friends groups, and other nonprofits like AMIGOS.

Recruitment for new Board members has become increasingly difficult because of the need to raise funds outside of government sources. As money from the Texas State Library goes away, the Board of Directors has taken on the role as chief fundraisers for the Corporation. The current Board members are longtime supporters of their local public libraries. They have worked on book sales and covered the front desk so that their library staff could attend training. Their fundraising efforts have been directly linked to their public library. This new role as fundraisers for CTLS is a challenging and daunting one that many supporters and librarians are unprepared to embrace.

To be a successful fundraising board, the CTLS Board will need to attract new members who may not be closely connected to their local public library – *but* - love libraries and the work that you do. Composition of the Board should be a combination of knowledgeable librarians, enthusiastic library supporters, and individuals connected to the philanthropic community. Nonprofits that are successful also recruit prominent individuals who bring prestige and visibility to the Board. Many times these individuals want to help the organization but do not want to become involved in the details of governance. The CTLS Board should have the ability to recruit all types of people who will support the goals of the corporation.

The people charged with finding the right balance and language for our Bylaws are Vice Chair of the Board Larry Ringer, and Temple Public Library Director Judy Duer. Their work includes stripping away the provisions that specify eligibility for membership in CTLS, position-specific conditions for Board members, and non-essential state and federal requirements. Their job is to craft a flexible set of Bylaws for the Corporation. The revised Bylaws must allow us to aggressively pursue many different funding strategies, provide innovative and self sustaining services, and form new alliances and partnerships with outside organizations.

On November 15, the Board of Directors will review the work of the Bylaws Committee. More work may be required to tailor the Bylaws to the new conditions facing the Corporation. All CTLS representatives will be sent reports and updates on the changes contemplated by the Committee. By January 27, 2012, the membership will be asked to approve the revisions to the current Bylaws at the Membership Meeting in Temple.

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CTLS Board of Directors:

Peggy Gibson	<i>Chair</i>
Larry Ringer	<i>Vice Chair</i>
Lyle Thormann	<i>Secretary</i>
Eileen Altmiller	<i>Treasurer</i>
Barbara Crossno	<i>At Large</i>
Curt Busk	<i>At Large</i>
Ruth Jennings	<i>At Large</i>
Dick Lavine	<i>At Large</i>
Lynne Holle	<i>At Large</i>

Youth Services News

By Kim Lehman

Summer Reading Clubs

Themes

Texas Reading Club - *Get a Clue!*

Texas Teens Read! - TSI (Teen Scene Investigation): *Realm of the Unknown*

Ordering Materials

Place your orders for Summer Reading Club 2012 materials here:

<http://tinyurl.com/3sgls78>

Please remember, if you're ordering for both clubs, do that on one form by using the appropriate check boxes. Also be aware that you're ordering packages of bookmarks, certificates and time/title logs so when you put in a 1, you will receive a package that contains 100. (Example: order 5 packages for 500 bookmarks, 10 packages for 1000 bookmarks)

The pdf versions of the manuals should be up by December.

TRC 2012. *Get a Clue!* Go to <http://tinyurl.com/4ybmqtz>.

TTR 2012. TSI: *Teen Scene Investigation* Go to <http://tinyurl.com/6ay8anl>.

Summer Reading Club News

In order to better serve you, the TSL created a new Summer Reading Club list that will keep you informed of updates, orders, deadlines, programs and features ahead for the clubs. You can subscribe to the Texas State Library Reading Club list at: <http://eepurl.com/eR8yE>

Thanks to Dawn Krause.

2012 – 2013 Bluebonnet List

The 2012-13 Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List was announced this Saturday, October 22 at the Texas Book Festival in Austin. Drum roll please...

Arnosky, Jim. 2011. *Thunder Birds: Nature's Flying Predators*.

Cardillo, Margaret. 2011. *Just Being Audrey*. by Julia Denos.

Deedy, Carmen Agra and Randall Wright. 2011. *The Cheshire Cheese Cat: A Dickens of a Tale*.

Durango, Julia. 2010. *Under the Mambo Moon*.

Fleming, Candace. 2010. *Clever Jack Takes the Cake*.

Hatke, Ben. 2010. *Zita the Spacegirl*.

Jonell, Lynne. 2010. *Hamster Magic*.

Kennedy, Kim. 2010. *Misty Gordon and the Mystery of the Ghost Pirates*.

Lupica, Mike. 2010. *Hero*.

McElligott, Matthew and Larry Tuxbury. 2010. *Benjamin Franklinshtein Lives!*

Ramsey, Calvin A. 2010. *Ruth and the Green Book*.

Selznick, Brian. 2011. *Wonderstruck*.

Smith, Clete Barrett. 2011. *Aliens on Vacation*.

Sternberg, Julie. 2011. *Like Pickle Juice on a Cookie*.

Swaim, Jessica. 2010. *Scarum Fair*.

Sylver, Adrienne. 2010. *Hot Diggity Dog: The History of the Hot Dog*.

Taback, Simms. 2011. *Postcards from Camp*.

Warner, Sally. 2011. *EllRay Jakes is Not a Chicken*.

Weinstein, Muriel Harris. 2010. *Play, Louis, Play: The True Story of a Boy and His Horn..*

Yohalem, Eve. 2009. *Escape Under the Forever Sky..*

<http://www.txla.org/TBA>



Continued from previous page...

Youth Share

We had a great response from the two Youth Shares last month. The wonderful folks at the Bee Cave Library set up tables with giveaways ranging from safari hats to a huge variety of craft materials. Everyone left with a bagful of “party favors”. Thank you to the Bee Cave Library and Gibbs Memorial Library in Mexia for hosting these sharing events. Here are just a few of the ideas shared.

Bark George

Make a prop for the book *Bark George* by Jules Feiffer. Take a stuffed animal and slit its throat. Rest assured no puppets were harmed. In other words make a place so the dog can swallow felt, cut out animals. To make it more dramatic, put on plastic gloves to retrieve the animals.



Monica Rasco – Wimberley Library

Recommended Storytime Books

Just a Little Bit by Ann Tompert
Singing Chick by [Victoria Stenmark](#)
The Baby Beebee Bird by Diane Redfield Massie
Picasso: The Green Tree Frog by [Amanda Graham](#)
Dogs Don't Wear Sneakers by Laura Joffe Numeroff
Press Here by Tullet.
Pete the Cat : I Love My White Shoes by Erik Litwin
Go Away Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley
Big Smelly Bear by Britta Teckentrup

Craft Program

What to do with leftover craft stuff? Have a program where you put out all your leftover craft materials. Have a two hour block of time where kids come and make whatever they want to make. All ages can participate.

Barbara Hathaway – Bee Cave Library

Frog Craft

<http://tinyurl.com/3wq9w72>

Kit Coates - Cedar Park Public Library



Child Care Outreach

We assign volunteers to do storytimes at a particular childcare center. They visit each week and deliver a basket of picture books for the teacher to use.

Susan Smith- San Marcos Public Library

Book Trailer Awards

School Library Journal has announced the finalists for the Trailee Awards! The winners will be announced at ALA Mid-Winter in January. Check out the amazing book trailers below and start voting for your favorites. The deadline for voting is December 31.

To view a promotional video: <http://animoto.com/play/VkZznKYJjZzo5LUEwgVPHg>

To see a list of the finalists: <http://www.sljsummit2011.com/blog/link/9>

Thanks to Teresa Schauer.

My Ideal Library

By Kam McEvoy

Have you considered...gathering information about what your patrons want out of their library experience by having cards to fill out that say, "My ideal library..._____"? And/or having an online equivalent? The question is so open-ended that you might get big ideas, small ideas, silly ideas, and thoughtful ideas. But it will definitely be interesting to see what responses you get. Might also be worthwhile to have these cards at local restaurants or local hangouts where people beyond your patrons could give you feedback. Idea from Suzanne Chapman: <http://userslib.com/2011/09/25/ux-photo-booth-2011-my-ideal-library/>

The Best Laid Plans of Mice and Men...

Interesting pictures posted from Aaron Schmidt's blog with the question: Is the furniture in your library being used as originally intended? <http://www.walkingpaper.org/4180>

How library staff and designers thought folks would use the space:



How folks are actually using it (electrical cord hazards and all!):



Library patrons often use your space in unexpected ways. Can you think of ways to adapt your environment to fit their needs? In this case, I can see moving those lovely and clearly expensive couches to another area and putting in floor pillows with better access to electrical outlets from the also expensive-looking coffee table.

I am actually constantly challenged by this type of situation with my toddler at home, as she does not have my same preconceptions of how to use furniture, toys, plates, sticks, what-have-you. It can be both delightful and frustrating. I have found that being flexible and cognizant of how she uses things makes our home's "user experience" much better for all of us, as I don't have to constantly say "no, don't do that." And in the case of the library user experience, you won't have to say, "I'm sorry but you can't..." because you have set it up for patrons to do things the way that feels natural to them.

TANG Tech Tips: Networking Static IP, IP Ranges and who owns our URL???

By Holly Gordon

These questions came up for different libraries this month.

*"My library's **static IP** address costs \$20/month...can I get rid of this?"*

Answer: Probably, if

--you are using a hosted library system like Biblionix's Apollo

AND

--you are using a website like Plinkit, which is not on your server.

So look over the bill from your ISP (Internet **S**ervice **P**rovider) and see if it includes a charge for a static IP, then give us a call and we will help you decide if you can safely eliminate your static IP.

"I got rid of my static IP, but now patrons in the library have to log into TexShare!"

Answer: Yes, that is a downside. However, with most library systems such as Biblionix's Apollo, SirsiDynix, etc. you can contact the vendor and have this added for your online catalog. This will also enable your patrons to log into your databases remotely.

BTW – if you DO have a static IP, e-mail it to Jay Velgos (jay.velgos@tsl.state.tx.us). He can set your TexShare account so that you and your patrons do not have to log in when they are in your library.

"Our website URL is "greatlibrary.org", but who set that up and who pays for it?"

Answer: This question came up a lot when we migrated the Plinkit sites recently. URLs are hosted by services such as GoDaddy.com and NetworkSolutions, or through your city. An easy way to get information about your URL hosting is to use this tool: <http://whois.domaintools.com>. For instance, when I use this tool to look at our URL I learn that it is registered to me, and the hosting company is NetworkSolutions, and we are paid up to May 2016.

Registrant:

Central Texas Library System
1005 W. 41st St.
Austin, TX 78756 US
Domain Name: CTLS.NET

Network Solutions, LLC.

13861 Sunrise Valley Drive
Herndon, VA 20171
1-888-642-9675 fax: 571-434-4620

Record expires on **08-May-2016**.

Record created on 07-May-1997.

Domain servers in listed order:

NS53.WORLDNIC.COM 205.178.190.27

NS54.WORLDNIC.COM 206.188.198.27

Administrative Contact:

Gordon, Holly
Central Texas Library System
1005 W. 41st St.
AUSTIN, TX 78756
800-262-4431 fax: 512-583-0709

Goodbye, Hello...

As you probably know by now, my last full day at CTLS was October 31, though I will continue to help out until we get Zak Roussel settled into the CTLS routine. Zak is our new TANG person, and brings with him a strong, broad background in PC and network support. You will find him to be a patient support person, and I know he will take great care of our libraries. He can be emailed at tech@ctls.net.

I'm moving to Texas 211 (<http://211.org>), which is part of Texas Department of Health and Human Services Commission. I'm going to be the Resource Database Manager, and my initial project will be to integrate the 24 different Information and Referral databases around the State into one database, while migrating to new software. It has become difficult for me to travel, so I really needed a job in which travel was not required. But I do hate leaving CTLS because this is my dream job. Best to you all...Happy Trails!



New Book Will Help Keep Effective Teachers in the Classroom

Press Release submitted by Nancy Hykel, West Public Library

Former teacher turned productivity expert harnesses her past and present careers into a book that will save teachers from stress and burnout. Organizing and productivity consultant Helene Segura is proud to announce the release of her book, *Less Stress for Teachers: More Time & An Organized Classroom*. Segura, a former teacher, addresses the thinking behind how to overcome "the overwhelm" that teachers feel on a daily basis. Teachers are bombarded with hundreds of tasks and decision-making situations per day, but they are often not given the tools to cope with all of that. This book will guide educators to a more efficient mindset, which will allow them to make better use of time-saving tools and concentrate on the joy of teaching and, more importantly, be happier. Readers will learn:

- The 5 most critical areas to control
- To create time where educators thought it was impossible
- To manage email, paperwork, lesson plans and other tasks
- To set up a classroom in the most efficient way
- To lower teacher stress level during the school day

This book is a thinking pathway that helps teachers bust through the emotional, psychological and organizational walls that prevent them from utilizing planners and other tools. It's two decades' worth of lessons, experiences and anecdotes organized into an easy-to-read book that will make readers laugh, cry, squirm, and ultimately re-evaluate who they are and how they are approaching their school days. Learn more at www.LessStressForTeachers.com.

New CTLS Large Print Books!

I am so happy to announce that we are sending out new Circuit books to those libraries on the CTLS circuit! Each library on the circuit will be getting at least 10 new books this year. When you get a box of 10 new books from CTLS, please just pick out the 10 most worn, out-of-date (2008 or earlier) titles and send them back to me. Postage is, of course, all free using the Free Matter for the Blind verbiage on the package.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the CTLS Large Print books at kate-lyn.patterson@ctls.net.



Welcome, Zak!

On Monday, October 31st, we were lucky enough to have a quick Halloween, going away party for Holly, and a welcome party for Zak!



We told him we heard he had a lot of

BRRRAAAIIINSS

so we knew he would be up for the job.



We will miss Holly very much and we wish a warm welcome to Zak!



CTLS Calendar of Events

November	11	CTLS Closed ~ Veteran's Day
	15	CTLS Board of Directors Meeting ~ CTLS Office, Austin, TX
	15	Top Tech Trends for Non-Techies ~ San Marcos, TX
	16	Top Tech Trends for Non-Techies ~ Waco, TX
	24-25	CTLS Closed ~ Thanksgiving
December	2	Performers Showcase ~ Georgetown, TX
	23-26	CTLS Office Closed ~ Happy Holidays!
January	2	CTLS Office Closed ~ New Years

Register for CTLS workshops and events online at www.ctls.net!

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Zak Roussel , <i>TANG</i>	tech@ctls.net	x 15
Katelyn Patterson , <i>Office Coordinator</i>	katelyn.patterson@ctls.net	x 13

COME TO SHOWCASE !

Featuring central Texas' best educational and entertaining performers and speakers for children, teens and adults



*Do you ever need to hire
an educational, entertaining performer for a
school, library, museum or community event?*

SEE the talent before you HIRE!

Showcase is an annual preview event for libraries, schools, museums, PTA's and other program planners. It's your time to see in-person demonstrations from Texas performers, speakers, authors and other presenters, both educational and entertaining. Showcase is sponsored by the Central Texas Library System, Inc.

Attendees - Take time to SEE the performers and speakers BEFORE you hire them. Visit the exhibits. Learn how to get money to pay for performers. Win door prizes! *Everyone in your community who books entertainment or educational presentations is invited to attend.*

Performers & Exhibitors - Showcase your talent on-stage and through one-on-one time with attendees in the exhibit area.

Come see lots of NEW performers!
They have open slots for summer events and beyond.

Date: Friday, Dec. 2, 2011, 8:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Refreshments and sign-in, 8:15-8:45 a.m.

Location: Georgetown Public Library, 402 West 8th Street, Georgetown, Texas

Attendee Registration: Cost is \$25 for CTLS member libraries; \$35 for non-members. Register online at www.CTLS.net. *Fees include refreshments; lunch is on your own.*

Performer & Exhibitor Registration: Fees vary; info at www.CTLS.net



For more information, contact
Kim Lehman at Kim.Lehman@ctls.net or 512-583-0704 x17
Check out over 200 entries in the **CTLS Performer's List** at www.ctls.net

SEE YOU AT SHOWCASE - DECEMBER 2, 2011
Georgetown Public Library

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Central Texas Library System

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