

CTLS Newsletter

October 2013 No. 128

IN THIS ISSUE:

CTLS Board Elections
Page 1-3

Halloween!
Page 3

Connect 4 Literacy
Page 4

News You Can Use
Pages 5

Youth News
Page 6

Around the Stacks
Page 7

What's Happening
Page 7

CTLS Calendar & Staff Directory
Page 8

Workshop Flyers
Page 9

From the Executive Director

By Pat Tuohy

Board Elections Slated for October

Fall is the traditional time for campaigns and elections, and it is no different on the CTLS calendar. This month we have 4 board positions up for election by the representatives of member libraries. Three positions - 1, 4, and 7 -are for the full 3 year term. Position 9 has a one year term which fills a vacancy on the Board created by a resignation.

CTLS members have a great slate of candidates to choose from. Of the 4 positions, 2 positions are competitive races and 2 are uncontested slots. Directors of member libraries will receive a paper ballot in the mail the week of October 7th. This ballot should be delivered to the voting representative for your library no later than October 9th. The official ballot should be marked and either mailed or faxed back to CTLS no later than close of business October 18th. Votes will be canvassed by the CTLS Treasurer the following week and results announced no later than October 25th.

Please take time to get to know the talented people who have taken up the challenge that serving on the CTLS Board of Directors presents. This member driven organization is dependent on the commitment and dedication of volunteers like these candidates for the CTLS Board.

Position 1: Represents public libraries with populations below 10,000; any type of representative may run

Eileen Altmiller, Buda Public Library citizen volunteer

Relevant Experience: St Edward's University: Reference/Circulation Librarian, 1975-81; Reference/Collection Development Librarian, 1981-85; Chief Librarian, 1985-2002; Director, Office of Faculty Grants, 2003-2007. Board of Directors, CTLS, Inc., 2006-present; Board of Trustees, Buda Public Library, 1991-95; Member and Chair, Library Advisory Subcommittee for the TIF Board, 1998-2000; TexShare Advisory Board, 2001-05. Elected to the Buda City Council in November 2012.



Why are you interested in serving on the CTLS Board?

As a small town library user and former board member, I understand the challenges facing small public libraries. As a longtime librarian, member of the TexShare Advisory Board, and TIF Subcommittee, I understand the context and political landscape. And finally, as a library administrator, I seem to have an amazing capacity for meetings.

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CTLS Board of Directors

Pat Tuohy
Executive Director

Larry Ringer
Chair

Eileen Altmiller
Vice Chair

Barbara Crossno
Secretary

Gretchen Pruett
Treasurer

Larry Koeninger

Jean Phipps

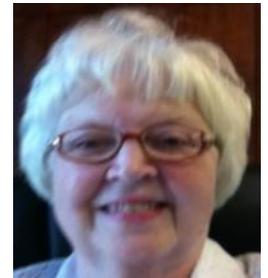
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Position 4: Represents any size public library and any type of representative may run

Phyllis Macmillan, Director of the Marlin Public Library

Why are you interested in serving on the CTLS Board?

I admire and appreciate the work CTLS does to support Texas libraries and want to see that work continued as CTLS operates as a private business rather than a state agency.



What do you want to see CTLS doing for libraries in 3-5 years?

I would like to see CTLS continue to grow and serve more libraries throughout Texas. The advice and insight offered by the CTLS staff is invaluable especially to small libraries. CTLS is able to act as a hub to facilitate networking among librarians. Although TLA provides networking opportunities, CTLS is a smaller and more intimate group. At this time, I do not have more specific goals in mind that I would like to see accomplished by CTLS, but I would like to help take advantage of opportunities and meet new needs and challenges as they arise.

Nicki Stohr, Director of the Wilson County – Floresville

Why are you interested in serving on the CTLS Board?

I wish to become more active in CTLS so that your valuable services are available to offer to all Texas libraries. Services such as the larger buying power through your Commercial Partnership Program are a huge value to smaller libraries. I also believe that the networking opportunities that you offer librarians through membership meetings are an added advantage to belonging to CTLS. I have found that with networking sessions I can discover solutions that have already been tried by another facility and I am not reinventing the wheel. I would like to see these advantages continue to be made available to other Texas librarians.



What do you want to see CTLS doing for libraries in 3-5 years?

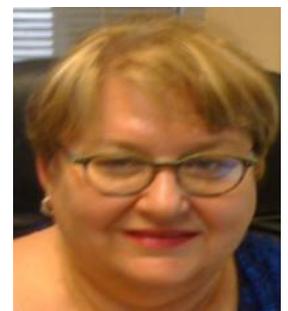
I would like to see more staff training come to the rural parts of Texas. Not all small libraries can travel to far away cities for their staff training session. I would like to see CTLS do more electronic staff development in the next three years. For example I would like to see the annual Summer Reading Performers Showcase be presented as a webinar with a live feed (if possible).

Position 7: At Large; any type of library and any type of representative may run

Kathy Bell, Director – Nancy Carol Roberts Library, Brenham

Why are you interested in serving on the CTLS Board?

I am a new public librarian but I am an old librarian. I have built and run school libraries both here and in Central America. I am hoping to share my unique paradigm with others in our community. Plus I want to learn from others the many ways that public libraries are special.



What do you want to see CTLS doing for libraries in 3-5 years?

This point in time is as unique as when Gutenberg printed his first Bible. Think about it, we are standing on the front lines of a brave new world where information will divide the “haves” from the “have nots” in our society. It will be the public libraries that will be the educational “bread-givers” of the future. I see this happening at my library daily. Those pushed to the margins in our society, the aged, the poor, the minorities have only us to provide them with the information that they need to survive and prosper. I have in my library today, displays of information on nutrition and health care welfare. We, the public gatekeepers, with our limited funds need help making the best choices to stretch our funding farther. CTLS and the board need to serve as the editors and advisors for these choices.

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Kelly Skovbjerg - Director, Patrick Heath Public Library , Boerne

Why are you interested in serving on the CTLS Board?

Libraries are challenged to transition- to find the right mix of technology, programming and funding to serve diverse communities constantly looking for the next greatest thing. I want to be a part of helping the last remaining library system in Texas support and nurture member libraries. We cannot forget the value of libraries in modern society.



What do you want to see CTLS doing for libraries in 3-5 years?

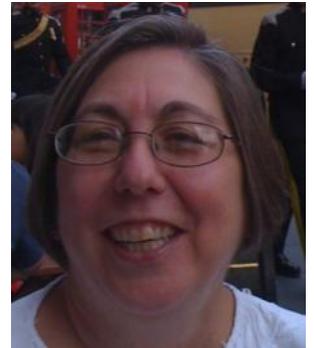
Libraries will continue to desire to be everything to everyone. I'd like to see CTLS continue its efforts to help libraries serve their individual communities' needs through long-range planning assistance. I'd also like to see CTLS hone in on assisting libraries in technology, such as with e-book platforms and negotiating with publishers on behalf of the libraries in the system. CTLS should continue to play the consortium role as related to products, services and vendors. The state library simply does not have the capacity for that. I'd like to see CTLS involved in long-range initiatives for the libraries, for example, the Edge Initiative.

Position 9: At large; any type of library and any type of representative may run

Alice Nixon, Corpus Christit Public Library citizen volunteer

Why are you interested in serving on the CTLS Board?

I have a very real passion for public libraries, especially rural public libraries. I have stayed active in Texas libraries since my retirement by volunteering at Corpus Christi Public Library and serving a second term on TLA's Tocker Grant Review Committee.



What do you want to see CTLS doing for libraries in 3-5 years?

I would like to see CTLS continue to survive and thrive in the next 3 – 5 years by continuing the programs they have in place currently. I would also like to see CTLS be able to develop more “high touch” consulting in the future than they are fiscally able to do right now.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Can you believe Halloween is already here? Are you prepared?

Check out some of these great Halloween programming ideas from our very own Kim Lehman:

<http://www.ctls.net/2011/10/halloween-programming-ideas/>

Please share with us stories and pictures of your Halloween displays and programming at your library!

We will also be sharing great ideas we run across on [Pinterest!](#)

Connect 4 Literacy

By Heather Reynolds

Coming Home to Texas and Literacy

It was a whirlwind two weeks of preparation and driving to get from Kentucky to Texas to administer the Connect-4-Literacy grant for CTLS, Inc. I am happy to be back in the great state of Texas near family and happy to be working with this grant. This TSLAC grant brings public and school libraries together to work for the common goal of literacy for children. Literacy for children happens to be my passion.

I received my MLS from UT Austin. I then relocated to Utah where I worked for two years as a Youth Services Librarian for the Salt Lake County Library System and then worked for eleven years as Senior Youth Services Librarian for the Park City Library. I have planned and performed countless baby lap-sit programs, storytimes, tween programs, teen programs, and taken on other duties as assigned. I have purchased titles to entice reluctant readers, along with the avid readers. I also collaborated with many non-profits and the school system, and understand the value of working with partners. Recently, I made a detour to Kentucky to be near friends and took on Community Relations for the Jessamine County Public Library. I was already a lover of public libraries, and it was there that I learned to share that love with others through advocacy, networking, marketing, and social media.

It's great to return home and come back to literacy. The Connect-4-Literacy grant involves two Austin Public Library branches, two AISD elementary schools, books, e-books, summer reading, and 1,000 kids and their families. I think it is the perfect recipe for literacy. The grant will expand library services, build strong foundations for learning, and increase success in school for children from families living in poverty. The project focuses on the Pre-K-through 5th grade school children attending Blackshear Elementary and Graham Elementary; both are Title 1 schools. These children are served by Austin Public Library's Carver Branch and Little Walnut Creek Branch, respectively.



Books, e-readers, e-books, and classroom sets will be purchased for the schools. The e-readers serve a two-fold purpose of igniting children's natural curiosity as an incentive for reading for the fun of it and also exposing kids to the technology of e-readers. The school librarians and public librarians have met and established an open line of communication. They will invite each other, families, and children to special programs and events at their locations. Working closely with teachers and reading specialists, the librarians will funnel information about curriculum needs to the public library staff.

As the school year comes to a close in 2014, children at the elementary schools will be encouraged to attend summer reading programs at their local branch libraries. Grant funds will be used to purchase extra summer reading promotional materials, including reading logs and bookmarks. Funds will also be used to purchase extra giveaway books for the Carver and Little Walnut branch libraries in anticipation of a greater number of children from the elementary schools participating in the Summer Reading Program.

There are so many benefits of collaboration between public and school libraries. Soon we will know the impact of this grant. Meanwhile, plans are being made to reapply for the grant with other locations and perhaps other grade levels. For more information or questions about the grant, contact Heather Reynolds at heather.reynolds@ctls.net or 512-583-0704.

Do Tell!

We love to hear from our members! Please don't forget to let us know what is going on in your library! Brag, share photos, share success stories, and share lessons learned! With your permission, we will always pass it along on our website, in the newsletter, or through social media.

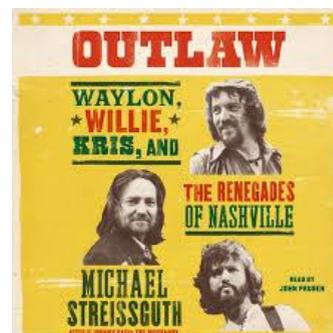
Contact any of the staff via email or share with us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter!](#)

News You Can Use

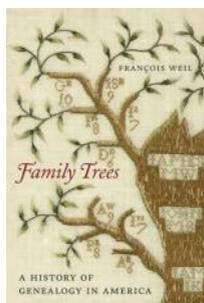
By Laurie Mahaffey

Texana Book Review

Michael Striessguth's new book, *Outlaw: Waylon, Willie, Kris, and the Renegades of Nashville*, tells the story of Texas musicians going to Nashville and making a splash in the country music scene. Many of us lived through these years, admiring these artists and going to hear them whenever possible. HarperCollins published the book, which sells for \$26.99. Favorably reviewed in *Library Journal*, the book contains photographs of these iconic musicians. Buy for your music section and prepare to see it move.

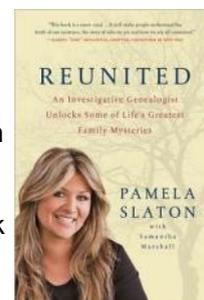


Genealogy and Related Books (no pun intended)



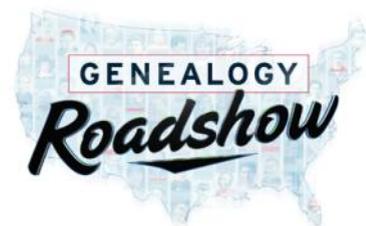
Taking an entirely new tack on genealogy is *Family Trees: a History of Genealogy in America*, by Francois Weil. The author, who is the chancellor of the Universities of Paris, “considers why America’s present- and future-oriented society with blended cultural values so treasures knowledge of group identities.” Trends over the years include the colonial quest to establish status up to the *Roots*-energized embrace of diversity. This is a “why” rather than a “how to” genealogy book. Published by Harvard University Press, it was reviewed in *Library Journal* and is \$27.95. (Available as an e-book)

Pamela Slaton and Samantha Marshall teamed up to write *Reunited: An Investigative Genealogist Unlocks Some of Life's Greatest Family Mysteries*. Slaton is a celebrity searcher with her own show on the Oprah Winfrey network. The *Library Journal* review says she “gives anyone affected by adoption a spark of hope and dose of reality in this compulsively readable book.” The author, an adoptee, gives the history of her own search, which unfortunately did not end well. The review describes the response as “horrific and heartbreaking.” “She combines her suspenseful search stories with rich, full-color portraits of the parties involved...” Published by Griffin/St. Martin's, the book is \$14.99 in paperback.



Reg Niles, a long-time search consultant for the Adoptees' Liberty Movement Association, has updated his 1978 work, *The Reg Niles Searchbook for Adult Adoptees*. Published by the Adoption Bibliography Center, this 2-volume work is \$100 and is a “valuable starting point for adult adoptee searchers.” Reviewed in *Library Journal*, the book lists sources for the adoptee searcher organized by state, Canadian province, or country (a handful).

This column rarely mentions sources other than books; however, a new television show on PBS is coming this fall of interest to genealogy researchers. *Genealogy Roadshow* is on Monday nights at 8 pm following *Antiques Roadshow*. The first segment was on September 23 and was filmed in Nashville. The second episode was filmed in Detroit and aired on September 30. The third episode comes from San Francisco (October 7), followed by the October 14 episode filmed in Austin. Look closely at this one to see someone you know in the background.



Don't forget to follow *CTLS, Inc.*
on *Facebook*, *Twitter*, and *Pinterest!*

Youth News

By Kim Lehman

The Minecraft Craze

Contributed by Sarah Cronin, Assistant Teen Services Coordinator at the Austin Public Library

Austin Public Library has been using Minecraft in the library programming. At the Southeast Community Branch, James Loomis has a large number of youth that play Minecraft almost every day. At the Windsor Park Branch, I have hosted Minecraft Mondays where the youth play Minecraft, and in May I ran a Cool Construction Contest. Youth created something cool in Minecraft like a sculpture or a house, and we printed out their creations. We had a People's Choice winner and a Judge's Choice winner as well. At the Faulk Central Library, Michelle Beebower hosts a regular Minecraft Mod program where youth can play Minecraft. We also had a small area at our YomiCon event where youth could play Minecraft together.



We run Minecraft on our Connected Youth laptops, and we purchased 8 accounts that the youth can use to play with. This has worked really well since many of the youth we work with would not be able to purchase their own accounts. The accounts cost \$20, and the software is free to download. Youth can play together in a world they created, or they can find a world hosted publicly to play in.

We have found Minecraft to be wildly popular. It has been rewarding seeing the youth make new friends, collaborate, and be creative.

To learn more or to buy an account, go to <https://minecraft.net/>

Science Programming at the Wilsonville Library

Steven Engelfried at the Wilsonville Library in Oregon has developed an amazing, comprehensive science experience in their library during the summer. The resources are available to download for free. Some of these resources include Science Logs, Summer Science Guidebooks, and Programming Ideas.



The *Preschool Programs* feature weekly sessions with a story and a Science Demonstration, followed by craft and science activity tables just right for ages 3-6. You can download notes, handouts and a booklet.

Science Classes target grades 1- 5 with a series of hands-on classes presented by experts from local science museums. *Tabletop Science Activities* are rotating activities stationed in the Children's Room for drop in use.

This is an amazing resource. Really: <http://www.wilsonvillelibrary.org/Index.aspx?page=244>

Summer Reading Program Manuals

The Texas State Library and Archive Commission sent welcome packets for the new Texas Summer Reading Program. The packet is filled with goodies, and includes important program information and deadlines, a catalog of 2014 themed incentives, bookmarks, and more, and a complimentary copy of the CSLP program manuals on DVD (3 copies), including clip art. If you do not receive your program manuals by October 15th, 2013, please contact the TSLAC at ld@tsl.state.tx.us, [512-463-5465](tel:512-463-5465), or [800-252-9386](tel:800-252-9386) (toll-free for Texas).

Order Your Free SRP Materials

Order Your FREE Materials From the State Library Before November 15th, 2013!

The State Library supports participating libraries by paying for a limited number of CSLP bookmarks, posters, certificates, and reading logs. However, unlike past programs you can submit only ONE order each year to the State Library. [Click here](#) to order your free materials online from the State Library before November 15, 2013!

Please order your materials in amounts appropriate to your number of estimated participants. This will help ensure that everyone who wishes can take advantage of the new adult and early literacy program materials as well as having free materials for children's and teen programs. Visit the [summer reading page](#) on the State Library website for all the details.

Around the Stacks

By Katelyn Patterson

National Friends of Libraries Week October 20-26, 2013

United for Libraries, a division of ALA, reminds us to celebrate National Friends of Libraries Week! Here is some information including resources from their website: http://www.ala.org/united/events_conferences/folweek . Does your library have any exciting things planned for that week?

Friends of Libraries groups have their very own national week of celebration! United for Libraries will coordinate the eighth annual National Friends of Libraries Week Oct. 20-26, 2013. The celebration offers a two-fold opportunity to celebrate Friends. Use the time to creatively promote your group in the community, to raise awareness, and to promote membership. This is also an excellent opportunity for your library and Board of Trustees to recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library.

Explore ideas and resources:

- [Friends Groups](#)
- [Libraries](#)
- [State Friends](#)
- [PR and Marketing Materials](#) (including a sample press release that can be customized for your library/Friends group)



Free webinar on starting a Friends group

United for Libraries will host a webinar on How to Start a Friends Group, presented by United for Libraries Executive Director Sally Gardner Reed, on Tues., Oct. 22, 2013, at 1 p.m. Eastern Time. [Register now](#)

What's Happening Around the State

- TLA District 3 Fall meeting is taking place on October 18th. Register [here!](#)
- The Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library is hosting an Observe The Moon Night event at their library in Brenham. This is an annual event dedicated to encouraging people to take notice of the Moon with the naked eye to a sensitive telescope. Find more information at observethemoonnight.org.
- The Texas Book Festival is looking for volunteers! [Visit their website](#) to sign up or to get more information.
- The [Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library in Edinburg](#) has hosted exciting events to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month! Check them out [here!](#)
- After 13 years of amazing service, Lupe Herrera has retired from the Buda Public Library. Ms. Herrera started as the library's first library assistant and second full time employee in August of 2000. She plans to spend more time with her husband Ruben and their family. For those of you long-time CTLS librarians who remember our awesome office assistant and TANG guy Marvin Perez, Lupe is his mother-in-law. Congratulations, Lupe!



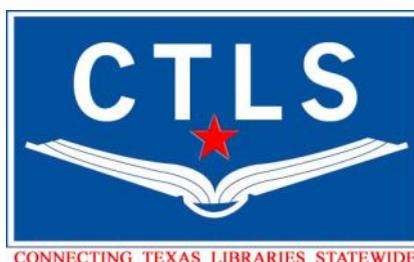
CTLS Calendar of Events

- October 18, 2013** **Final Day to return ballot for
CTLS Board of Directors Election**
- October 18, 2013** **TLA District 3**
Texas State University, San Marcos
For more information: <http://www.txla.org/district-meetings>
- October 26-27, 2013** **Texas Book Festival**
State Capitol Building, Austin, TX
For more information: <http://www.texasbookfestival.org/>
- December 6, 2013** **Performers Showcase**
Georgetown Public Library
[Register Here](#)
- December 9, 2013** **CTLS Workshop**
Every Child Ready to Read
McAllen, TX

Register with the above links or go to www.ctls.net

CTLS, Inc. *Connecting Texas Libraries Statewide*

| | |
|---|--|
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We look forward to hearing from you!

COME TO SHOWCASE !

Featuring some of the 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 CTLS, 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.*

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



Friday, December 6, 2013

Georgetown Public Library
402 West 8th Street
Georgetown, Texas (near Austin)

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Refreshments and sign-in, 8:15-8:45 a.m.

Attendee Registration: Cost is \$30 for CTLS member libraries; \$60 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 or 800-262-4431.
Check out over 200 entries in the **CTLS Performer's List** at www.ctls.net