



CTLS Newsletter

February 2013 No. 132

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From the Executive Director

By Pat Tuohy

CTLS Members Are Making a Difference

It comes as no surprise that CTLS is a proud supporter of the Texas Library Association. This is THE professional association for individuals who labor for the advancement and improvement of all types of libraries in Texas. Many of the librarians who manage and work in the 157 CTLS institutions are members and leaders of TLA. These librarians give their time and energy to forge standards, create innovative programs for their peers, promote reading programs, and work for better public funding for all libraries in Texas. This year CTLS has three outstanding member librarians who are seeking statewide offices in the Texas Library Association. While all of the candidates seeking statewide office are dedicated and worthy individuals, we are choosing to spotlight the librarians who have tossed their hats in the ring.

Balloting for all TLA offices will begin in mid-February and run thru March. Current members of TLA will be sent ballots via email by the Association. If you are a member of TLA, please vote in this election. Whether you support the candidates here is your decision, but please vote.

Below are photos of and statements from your fellow CTLS members running for TLA office:

Susan Mann, Candidate for President-Elect of the Texas Library Association

Susan Mann, Director of the Hillsboro City Library



How Will Your Candidacy Advance the Work of TLA on Behalf of Texas Libraries?

All of my service in TLA and in my profession has brought me to this point and my TLA presidential initiative. For the past 30 plus years I have focused my professional life on libraries positioning themselves in their community to meet not only patron, but potential patron needs and to prove that they are **essential** through my many years of work on the Legislative Committee, as a member and most recently as Chair, as well as my work as PLD president, through TLA's leadership training (Tall Texans) and service on the ACCESS Texas and Texas and national White House Conference process. This



CTLS Board of Directors

Pat Tuohy
Executive Director

Larry Ringer
Chair

Eileen Altmiller
Vice Chair

Barbara Crossno
Secretary

Gretchen Pruett
Treasurer

Larry Koeninger
Alice Nixon
Jean Phipps
Kelly Skovbjerg
Nicki Stohr

focus has included not only work in my own public library, but also work for my school libraries with my 9 years of service and 6 of those as president on the Hillsboro ISD Board of Trustees and serving on TEA's 21st Century Workforce Development Programs Distinction Designation Committee. I have had the opportunity to work for academic libraries by advocating for funding at both statewide and national levels. While I think the most critical parts of the advocacy process are the relationships we form in our organizations and communities – my lifelong personal and professional commitment provides the infrastructure for what we can all do to not only form relationships, but for expanding advocacy initiatives through content and training all librarians, employees, supporters and stakeholders to – again – position our resources and services as **essential**.

Texas Library Association Service:

Legislative Committee Chair - 2011 to 2015
Legislative Committee Member - 1997 to Present
Public Library Division Chair - 1998/1999
Public Library Division Treasurer - 1993/1994
SCLRT Charter Member - 1989
SCLRT Chair - 1992/1993, 2002/2003
District 3 Chair - 1994/1995
District 3 Councilor - 1996 to 1999
PLD Legislative Committee Chair - 1998 to 2008
Public Library Fund Ad Hoc Committee Chair- 1999 to 2001
Access Texas Ad Hoc Committee Member- 1995/1996
Tall Texans Round Table Member - 2004 to Present
Tall Texans Inaugural Class of 1994
ALA Legislative Day Texas Delegation Member - 1997,1998, 1999, 2000, 2008

Honors:

Texas Library Association Distinguished Service Award April 2011
State of Texas House of Representatives – Resolution of Honor 2011
TLA Small Communities Libraries Round Table – Librarian of the Year 1994
Tall Texan Leadership Institute – Inaugural Participant 1994

Gretchen Pruett, Candidate for Treasurer of the Texas Library Association

Gretchen Pruett, Director of the New Braunfels Public Library



I believe that we have one major issue that unites all libraries - conveying our worth. Public perception of the value of libraries today is based on outdated service models and ignorance of the cost of illiteracy to today's society. Libraries are also expanding their roles within their communities and institutions at the very time when common wisdom says we are becoming irrelevant. It is more important than ever for libraries to work smarter, not harder. TLA is a vital link in the chain of library awareness – facilitating the conversations that we all must have to stay alive and relevant.

Prior to my work in libraries, I was a Certified Public Accountant in New York State for seven years, specializing in not for profit organizations. I have served on the Board of Directors for several types of nonprofits, including a multimillion dollar social services agency and a church. I understand the role and the responsibilities of the Board from both sides of the partnership.

Texas Library Association

Candidate for Treasurer - TLA Executive Board - 2014
Past Chair and TLA Annual Conference Program Chair– Public Library Division – 2013
Bylaws Committee – 2010 to 2013
Tall Texan Committee – Secretary/Treasurer – 2004/2005 and 2005/2006
Tall Texan – Class of 2003
District 3 Treasurer – 2004/2005, 2005/2006 and 2006/2007
Centennial Booth of TLA – 2002
District 3 Fall Meeting Presenter – 2006
Public Library Association Exhibitor Demonstration Presenter – 2006
Continuing Education Committee – 2008 to 2010
Member – 1998 to present
American Library Association Member - 2002 to present
Public Library Association member 2003 to present
CTLS - Connecting Texas Libraries Statewide
Treasurer and Board member - two year term commencing 2012

Texas State Library and Archives Commission

TexShare Advisory Board Commission member - three year term commencing 2013
Joint TSLAC and TLA Minimum Criteria for Accreditation Task Force member

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Leadership New Braunfels – New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce Class of 2011
New Braunfels Rotary Club 2009 – present
New Braunfels Rotary Club Treasurer - 2013

Waynette Ditto,

Candidate for Secretary of the Public Library Division of Texas Library Association

Waynette Ditto, Director of the Hewitt Public Library



I am Waynette Ditto and I am currently the Library Director for the Hewitt Public Library. I have 23 years' experience working in various libraries. I began as a school librarian at China Spring I.S.D; I have worked as adjunct reference librarian for McLennan Community College and am currently serving as Library Director in Hewitt, Texas.

I have an Associate Degree from McLennan Community College, a Bachelor's Degree from Tarleton State University, and a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from Texas Women's University. I have been a member of TLA for most of those 23 years and served on various committees throughout the years. My loves is library advocacy and have spent a lot of time speaking about libraries and funding. I have attended TLA's Legislative day for many years. I advocated for school databases the first time we needed funding and most recently I testified to the state budget committee regarding the restoration of Public Library funding. On a local level I am the chair for the McLennan County Librarians group and we were successful in obtaining a 25% increase in county funding. I also am involved in CTLS' on the Long Range Planning committee and helped navigate a successful transition to the Non-Profit CTLS. Currently, I am serving at the state level on the Minimum Standards Accreditation Committee.

I love libraries and look forward to the future in serving as secretary, but the main reason that I am running for this position is because I hope to be able to advocate for Public Libraries. Working in all of the different libraries I understand that the Public Library is a combination of them all. My passion is to continue to advocate for libraries to make us stronger so that we can serve more people.

News You Can Use

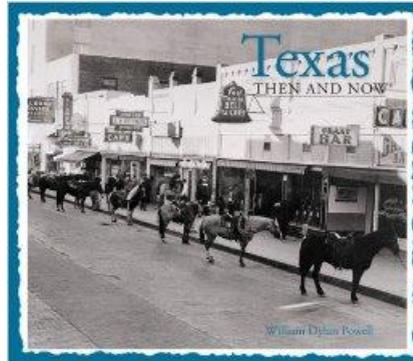
By Laurie Mahaffey

2014 Open Meetings Act Handbook

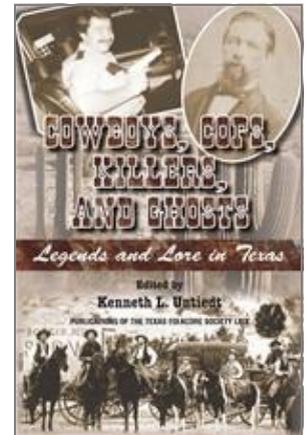
Texas library directors should be aware of the Texas Open Meetings Act, which governs how your library board does business. Of particular note is the posting of meetings (72 hours in advance). The handbook can be downloaded for free and printed out for each of your board members. Go to: https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/publications_oq.shtml.

Texas Book Reviews

It's fun to look back at our communities as they were a long time ago. William Dylan Powell, who wrote both "Austin Then and Now" and "Houston Then and Now," has produced "Texas Then and Now," published by Thunder Bay Press. At \$19.95, it's a bargain for those adults who still like "picture" books. The book was reviewed favorably in the Austin American Statesman on January 12, 2014.



The Texas Folklore Society publishes a series of books focusing on the lore of Texas and the Southwest. Number 69 in this series is Kenneth L. Untiedt's "Cowboys, Cops, Killers, and Ghosts," published by University of North Texas Press for \$34.95. Most of the essays making up the book were presented as papers at the society's annual meeting. This volume covers everything from cowboys and outlaws to Tejano music. The Austin American Statesman reviewed this book on Sunday, January 19, 2014.



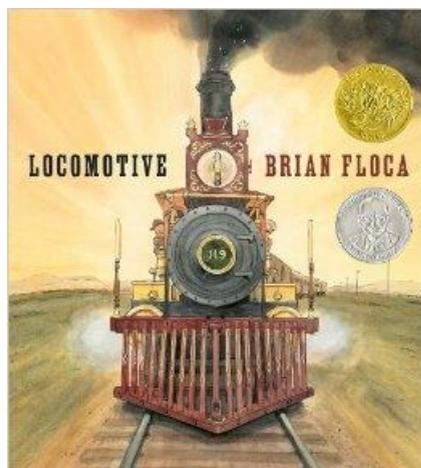
Cuero Municipal Library

Schertz Public Library

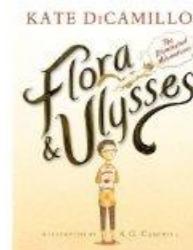
Youth News

By Heather Reynolds

It's Official! The 2014 Youth Media Medal Winners are in...

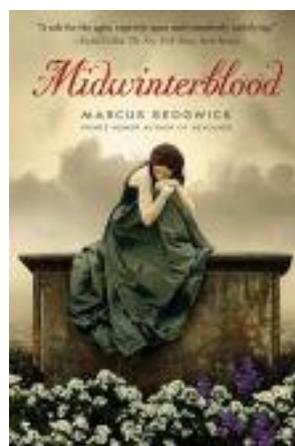
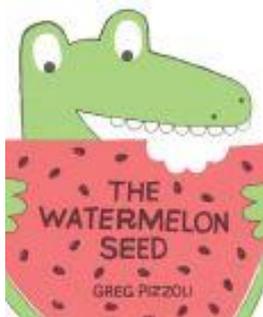


The 2014 Randolph Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book for children goes to Brian Floca for *Locomotive*.

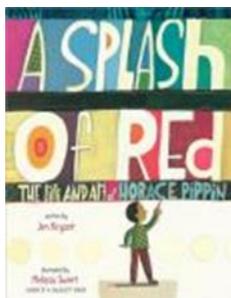


The 2014 John Newbery Medal for the most outstanding contribution to children's literature goes to Kate DiCamillo for *Flora & Ulysses: the illuminated adventures*. As public libraries have evolved, so have the youth media awards. There are more awards than ever given out every January at the ALA mid-winter meeting. Here are a few who emerged in the twenty-first century to add to the existing list of youth media awards.

The first Theodor Seuss Geisel Award, given annually to the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished American book for beginning readers published in English in the United States during the preceding year wasn't given out until 2006. This year's winner is *The Watermelon Seed*, written and illustrated by Greg Pizzoli.



The 2014 Michael L. Printz Award for excellence in literature written for young adults winner is *Midwinterblood*, written by Marcus Sedgwick. The first Printz award was not given out until 2000.



The first Schneider Family Book Award for books that embody an artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences. Three annual awards are presented for the best Teen, Middle School and Children's Book. The first awards were given in 2012. This year's winner in the children's book category is *A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin*, written by Jen Bryant and illustrated by Melissa Sweet.

For a complete listing of all the youth media award winners, visit this website: <http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2014/01/american-library-association-announces-2014-youth-media-award-winners>

Science Stuff

By Kim Lehman

SRP Videos

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission produced 20 videos based on ideas in the manuals. To see all the videos [click here](#).

Science Program Presenters

Looking for people who present science programs to come to your library this summer? CTLS has a list of science presenters both free and those that charge a fee on our website. Go to <http://www.ctls.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/science-program-presenters1.pdf>

You have patrons and people in your community that have expertise in different science fields that may be able to present a program for your library free of charge. Here are some possible professions to tap into. Many people have had great success doing forensics programs with police officers and private detectives.

Agriculture extension office – botany, entomology, research
Astronomy groups – space, planets
Auto mechanics, small engine repair – how engines work, energy
Beekeepers – entomology
City departments
Civil engineer – bridge construction
Clinics/Hospitals – health
Community colleges, universities
Computer science – IT person, programming, building computers, programming
Cooks – chemistry in the kitchen
County Extension Office
Dentist
Doctors, nurse practitioners – health, functions of the body systems, research
Eagle Scout Project – present a science programs at the library, have kid make stomp rockets, solar model cars...
Garden Clubs
High Schools – robotic groups, science clubs...
Meteorologist (local weather person)
Model plane organizations - aerodynamics
Museums
Musicians – the science of sound
Police Department - fingerprinting, forensics
Robotic Clubs
Rock collectors – geology, earth science
Rotary club
Science teachers – elementary, physics, chemistry, earth science
VFW's – pilots



Looking Ahead

Earth Day Science Activities
The American Chemical Society has some great information and activities centered on recycling like making paper or separating recyclable materials.

[Click here.](#)



Valentine's Candy Science

[Cool Science Experiment](#)

More Science Stuff

By Kim Lehman

The Power of Many Ideas Shared by Workshop Participants

We had three highly successful Summer Reading Program Workshops. Here are a few of the ideas shared from the participants.

Great Science Videos

[Smarter Everyday](#)- These are great videos to explain stuff. Very cool!

[Minute Physics](#)

Short, easy to understand, animation videos about physics.

[Crash Course](#)

Hank Green does some awesome science videos. There are also history videos.

Books

It's Not Magic, It's Science! : 50 science tricks that mystify, dazzle & astound by Hope Buttitta

Backyard Ballistics by William Gustelle

Great book about rockets.

Made by Dad by Scott Bedford

Book with great projects.

Smash It! Crash It! Launch It! by Newcomb and Mercer

One of our most popular science experiment books. Very doable.

My Big Science Book by Roger Priddy

Crafts

[Arvind Gupta](#): Turning trash into toys for learning- TED Talk

[Arvind Gupta Science Toys](#): Directions and videos of easy, inexpensive science toys to make.

Programming

[This That Glow Under a Blacklight](#)

Do science experiments in fluorescence using a blacklight. Vitamin A and the B vitamins thiamine, niacin, and riboflavin are strongly fluorescent. Try crushing a vitamin B-12 tablet and dissolving it in vinegar. The solution will glow bright yellow under a black light.



Lancaster Library with Catherine Whiteman and volunteers

Heather at the Schertz Public Library



April from the Schertz Public Library

Making stuff in Schertz



Harker Heights



What's Happening

Let us know what you are doing at your library!

Unusual Library Events

Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial is doing some interesting and innovative upcoming programs. You may want to try presenting these programs at your library.

Pre-Valentine's Day Bazaar

The bazaar is an indoor event featuring more than 20 vendors with unique gift items including: one-of-a-kind artwork, handmade original crafts, jewelry, aromatic soaps, candles, chocolates and much, much more. For your convenience a local flower shop will also be on-site taking orders. The bazaar promises to be a One Stop Shop! The event will take place on Saturday, February 8th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library, located at 1906 S. Closner Blvd. right in front of the historic Echo Hotel. Admission is free to the public.

Love & Chocolate Event

Event scheduled for Thursday, February 13th, 2014, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Love & Chocolate is an annual pre-Valentine's Day celebration brought to you by the Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library. The event features poetry, art, live music and of course lots and lots of chocolate. The event will take place at the Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library, located at 1906 S. Closner Blvd. right in front of the historic Echo Hotel. Admission is free to the public.

Jardin del Arte 2014 Season Call for Artists

The Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library is excited to announce Jardin del Arte's 2014 season. This popular art event takes place every 2nd Friday of the month during the months of April - November at the City of Edinburg Courtyard located at 415 W. University Dr. from 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. It features an outdoor art exhibition by more than thirty participating artists, plus live music and food sold from participating local restaurants and food vendors. It also includes live music and performance art. Also needed are performance and musical artists, so if you have a band, musical group or if you are a guitarist or soloist or participate in a dance group or any type of performance art and would like to participate in Jardin del Arte, contact us as well as we are working on finalizing our season calendar.

Union Pacific Railroad Grants

If your town is served by Union Pacific Railroad, you may want to apply for this grant. Stage one preliminary application due by August 14, 2014. You have plenty of time to apply.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Let us know if you have received any grant money from the Union Pacific Railroad.



<http://www.feeldesain.com/book-words.html>



<http://www.retrash.com/book-garland/>

CTLS Calendar of Events

February 17, 2014

Presidents Day Holiday



CTLS, Inc. Connecting Texas Libraries Statewide

CTLS Staff Directory

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We look forward to hearing from you!