



Tool Kit for Building a Library Friends Group

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for the

Friends of Tennessee Libraries

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<http://www.friendstnlibraries.org>

<http://tinyurl.com/BuildingLibraryFriendsGroupToolKit>

Getting Started

(read first)



1. **Organizing a Friends Group: A Basic To-Do List**, p. 3 below
2. **How to Start a Friends Group Tip Sheet.**
<http://tinyurl.com/HowStartFriendsGroupTipSheet>
3. **Libraries Need Friends - A Toolkit to Create or Revitalize Friends Groups (United for Libraries)** for more detailed information. <http://www.ala.org/united/sites/ala.org/united/files/content/friends/libraries-need-friends.pdf>
4. **Getting Started: How One Friends' Group Came into Being**
<http://www.friendstnlibraries.org/wp-content/uploads/Getting-Started-Replace.pdf>
5. **Welcome to the Friends of Tennessee Libraries** <http://www.friendstnlibraries.org> which includes the list of the **Friends Responsibilities in Local Library**, the 4th column in TSLA **Comparison of Responsibilities (Tennessee, 2017)**.
http://tsla.libguides.com/ld.php?content_id=39128303
6. **Friends of Tennessee Libraries (FOTL)** web site. <http://www.friendstnlibraries.org>
7. **Invitation to join FOTL** because we want to include everybody.
<http://www.friendstnlibraries.org/support-us/join/>
8. Purchase **The Good, the Great, and the Unfriendly: a librarian's guide to working with friends groups** by Sally Gardner Reed. American Library Association, 2017.

ADDITIONAL WEB RESOURCES

Should Our Library Form a Friends Group? <http://tinyurl.com/ShouldLibraryFormFriendsGroup>

How to Start a Friends Group Webinar with Sally Reed (United for Libraries) 47 min video.
<https://ala.adobeconnect.com/a1087453682/p5gf38kxhh7/?launcher=false&fcsContent=true&pbMode=normal>

Revitalizing Your Friends Group & Engaging Texas State Library Archived Webinar.
<https://onlinetraining.tsl.texas.gov/course/view.php?id=251>

When Friends Go Rogue Aren't Friendly (Library Hotline).

<http://tinyurl.com/WhenFriendsGoRogue>

[When Friends Aren't Friendly](#) [When A Friend Steps Out of Bounds](#)

What will kill libraries is not ebooks, Amazon, or Google,
but a lack of imagination.



- R. David Lankes



Organizing a Friends Group: A Basic To-Do List

At any point in this process, please call upon FOTL to conduct a workshop for your group.
By Martha Moore Gill, former FOTL President and current *newsletter* & *Facebook Page* Editor.

1. Create a steering committee.
 - a. Keep size to no more than eight people.
 - b. Appoint a chair (this is not a permanent position).
 - c. Appoint a secretary (this is not a permanent position).
2. Decide on a name for your group.
3. Apply for a tax-identification number.
4. Establish a ByLaws committee. (pp. 4-5 following)
 - a. Appoint a chair.
 - b. Compile ByLaws.
 - i. Look at other groups' examples.
 - ii. Do not be exact about such details as dues, meeting times, and other details.
5. Adopt **The Ethical Dozen for Friends of the Library** (see p.8 below <http://tinyurl.com/FriendsEthicalDozen>)
6. Appoint a nominating committee.
 - a. Committee will create a slate of officers.
 - b. The slate will be voted on at the membership meeting.
7. Schedule a membership meeting.
 - a. Vote to adopt ByLaws.
 - b. Elect officers.
 - c. Collect dues.
8. New president/board chair begins to preside.
 - a. President/board chair will appoint committee chairs.
 - b. President/board chair will meet with board members.
 - i. Discuss long-range plans.
 - ii. Discuss short-term plans.
9. Board files appropriate applications.
 - a. Develop a **Memorandum of Understanding** to be signed by your library and by your Friends' group. (see p.7 below)
 - b. **Review What Every Board Member Should Know: A Guidebook for Tennessee Nonprofits** <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/finance/ocjp/nonprofitguidebook.pdf>
 - c. Double check your preparations: **How to Form a Tennessee Nonprofit Corporation** <http://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/forming-nonprofit-corporation-tennessee-36088.html>
 - d. Find an attorney to help your group *pro bono* complete Form 1023 501(c)(3) for **IRS Tax -Exempt Status for Your Organization** <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p557.pdf>
 - e. **Register your group's charter with the Secretary of State's Division of Business Services** <https://sgssos.tn.gov/Login.aspx>; and file application with the Secretary of State's Division of Charitable Solicitations and Gaming.
 - f. See <http://sos.tn.gov/business-services/non-profit-corporations> for additional guidance.
 - g. Use **A Brief Guide to Government Forms Friends Groups Need to Know** for review <http://tinyurl.com/BriefGuidetoForms>





Developing ByLaws & Policies

Bylaws are a concise statement of purpose and organizational structure within which a Friends group functions.

A set of bylaws should include at least the following:

- ➔ **Name of the organization.** (The official name that will be used on your legal documents, including your Articles of Incorporation and your IRS 501(c)3 determination letter.)
- ➔ **Purpose of the organization.** (Your "mission statement" that guides your future decisions on planning, programming, and spending your money.)
- ➔ **Membership.** (Who can join, how to join, voting rights.)
- ➔ **Governing body.** (Board of directors, how they are chosen, and how long they serve.)
- ➔ **Officers.** (How they are chosen, their duties, and their terms of office.)
- ➔ **Meetings.** (How they are scheduled, to whom they are open, and what notice must be given.)
- ➔ **Fiscal year, financial matters, audit** (Including any requirements your state may have for the financial governance of not-for-profits.)
- ➔ **A procedure for amending the bylaws.**
- ➔ **A dissolution statement.** (What happens to the organization's assets if the organization disbands?)
- ➔ **A statement of the rules of order** to be followed in official meetings.

It is well to remember that changes to bylaws will usually need to be reported to the arm of state government that oversees incorporation, the Secretary of State's office. For this reason, it is best that such topics as amount of membership dues and scheduling of meetings be written in general rather than specific terms. You don't want to go through a bylaws change every time you establish a new membership category, change dues, appoint a committee, or change the board's meeting schedule.

To help develop general library policies, **The Library Trustees Association of New York State** has an *incredible* policy database, which includes more than 3,000 policies searchable by multiple criteria, all of which have been voluntarily shared by libraries throughout New York.

New York Library Association: [Sample Policies](#)

Mid-Hudson Library System: [Public Library Policies - Development Tips & Samples](#)

The Association for Rural and Small Libraries in cooperation with the **Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC)** has also developed a [Public Library Policies Clearinghouse](#) for small and rural libraries.

Sample Friends Bylaws

Sample ByLaws of Tennessee Friends Groups <http://www.friendstnlibraries.org/wp-content/uploads/Sample-ByLaws-of-Tennessee-Friends-Groups.pdf>

Handbook for Connecticut Library Friends <http://foclib.org/resources/Pictures/Handbook-for-CT-library-friends.pdf>, pp.12-14; p.57

- ✓ Friends of Connecticut Libraries <http://foclib.org/resources/Pictures/FOCL-Bylaws-2012.pdf> <http://foclib.org/Friends-By-Laws-Resources>
- ✓ Friends of the Beardsley and Memorial Library <http://foclib.org/resources/Pictures/Friends-of-the-Beardsley-and-Memorial-Library.pdf>
- ✓ Friends of the Brookfield Library <http://foclib.org/resources/Pictures/Friends-of-the-Brookfield-Library.pdf>
- ✓ Friends of the C. H. Booth Library <http://foclib.org/resources/Pictures/Friends-of-the-C.-H.-Booth-Library.pdf>
- ✓ Friends of the Danbury Library <http://foclib.org/resources/Pictures/FRIENDS-BYLAWS-2013.pdf>
- ✓ Friends of the Salem Library <http://foclib.org/resources/Pictures/Salem-bylaws.pdf>
- ✓ Friends of the Wethersfield Library <http://foclib.org/resources/Pictures/Friends-of-the-Wethersfield-Library.pdf>

Minnesota http://mnlibraryfriends.org/files/9414/1598/0085/malf_guidelines.pdf pp. 27-30

Mississippi <http://mlc.lib.ms.us/wp-content/uploads/Library%20Development/Friends/bylaws-sample.pdf>

New Hampshire http://www.nh.gov/nhsl/lds/sample_bylaws.html

United for Libraries <http://www.ala.org/united/friends/orgtools/samplebylaws>



Building An Effective Friends Group

(Adapted from the Mid-Hudson Library System)



Doug Roesemann, past president of Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA), now United for Libraries, encourages Friends to continue to stand up for their libraries, noting that, "... Libraries are for the people. If the people don't stand up for libraries, who will?"

Roles

The key to a successful Friends Group is a good working relationship between the Friends and the library's Board of Trustees, especially clarity and understanding of each other's roles. In fact, the number one area of conflict usually involves the overstepping of prescribed roles. Here's an easy way to understand the stakeholder roles:

- ✓ The **Board of Trustees** govern the library, setting direction and policy for the organization and hiring a qualified library director.
- ✓ The **Library Director** carries out board policy, leading the organization in the direction set by the board and managing the day-to-day operations of the library.
- ✓ The **Friends** support quality library service through advocacy, fundraising, and volunteering in ways that promote the policies and long-range plan of the library.

Says 2014-2017 FOTL President Don Reynolds, "I've always thought of Friends groups as grandparents, who can provide those treats (and basics, sometimes) that parents (Boards of Trustees) do not or can not. Rudy Giuliani once said that grandparents 'give unconditional love, kindness, patience, humor, comfort, lessons in life. And, most importantly, cookies.' That's what Friends are for."

Good Relations

Friends are the library's strongest allies and advocates. To insure clear communication between Friends and Trustees:

- ➔ Hold an annual meeting with the Friends to establish fundraising and advocacy priorities for the year. Things go smoother when everyone's on the same page.
- ➔ Involve the Friends Group in the library's long-range planning process. They make a great focus group, often hearing what library services are a priority in the community.
- ➔ Make sure the Friends are aware of the library's long-range plan. The library director should walk through the final plan with the Friends' executive committee (or whole group) to make sure it is clear and to answer questions they may have.
- ➔ Assign a Board liaison to the Friends. This person should attend Friends meetings and report back to the Board.
- ➔ Ask the Friends to assign a liaison to the Board and invite this position to attend Board meetings. Create a place in the Board meeting agenda for a report from the Friends.
- ➔ Make sure the Friends are aware of the library's policies.
- ➔ Attend Friends events and show Board member support of their efforts.
- ➔ Join the Friends. Being a member is fine; however, it is not advisable for a library trustee to serve on the Friends board.

Operating Agreement

United for Libraries suggests an “operating agreement” or “Memorandum of Understanding” be established as a written document agreed on by the Friends and the library board. The purpose of this document is to codify that all Friends’ gifts (of money, time or talent) match up with the highest needs of the library.

Here are some suggestions from United for Libraries as to what considerations should be included in an operating agreement:

- * Will library administration and a Trustee attend all Friends board meetings?
- * Will a member of the Friends executive board attend all Trustee meetings?
- * Will there be an opportunity on each other’s meeting agendas for a report from the visiting liaison?
- * What support will the library give the Friends for publicity, mailings, labor for the book sale, space for the book sale, office space, office staff support, etc.?
- * How will the Friends group be incorporated into the library’s planning process?
- * Are Friends authorized to spend their funds on organizations, agencies, programs or projects that are not directly linked to the library and, if so, under what conditions?
- * This will be included in the mission and bylaws of the Friends group, but it is good to be clear about it upfront. Money spent for other purposes can be a point of contention between the library and the Friends and may even adversely affect the Friends’ 501(c)(3) status if significant funds are spent in areas outside the group’s mission.
- * Will the Friends group engage in advocacy campaigns on behalf of them library and, if so, who will be involved in the design and message of those campaigns?
- * What role and authority will the Friends have for developing and implementing programs?

(Questions based on [Libraries Need Friends - A Toolkit to Create or Revitalize Friends Groups \(United for Libraries\)](#) by Sally Gardner Reed)

<http://www.ala.org/united/sites/ala.org.united/files/content/friends/libraries-need-friends.pdf>

Check UFL Fact Sheet No. [25. Sample Memorandum of Understanding](#)

http://mnlibraryfriends.org/files/2315/0879/3006/25_Sample_Memorandum_of_Understanding.pdf

Friends have the same goal that Boards have - to help make the library a viable, vital and visible organization in the community. Boards can help Friends make the most of the library for customers by understanding their separate roles, facilitating regular communication and saying thank you.

Friends of the Library value public library services to the community and are willing to volunteer their time, talents, and efforts to promote and support the library’s goals and objectives in whatever way will be helpful. **Library Friends are organized to help support the work of the library, not to engage in the work and responsibilities of the library board members or the library staff.** Friends of the Library cooperate with both, but do not interfere with either.

Be led by the community we serve.

Asking “what can we do?” instead of announcing “we will do this.”



The Ethical Dozen for Friends of the Library

ADOPTED 18 SEPTEMBER 2015

“Friends can make the difference between a mediocre and an outstanding library.”

Jean A. Ashfield, *Friends of Library Handbook*, New Hampshire

Friends support and help their library’s staff and trustees

“integrate the library thoroughly into the life and work of the community they serve.”

1. Friends of the Library is a group of individuals who value public library services to the community and who volunteer their time, talents, and efforts to promote and support the vision, mission, and objectives of their library in whatever way will be helpful.
2. Friends organize to help support the work of the library, not to engage in the work and responsibilities of the library trustee board members or the library staff. Friends of the Library cooperate with both, but do not interfere with either. Friends recognize that they do not perform a decision-making role for the library: they are familiar with and support the policies of the library. Friends provide input into the library’s long-range planning process and remain knowledgeable as to the status of the plan.
3. Friends support quality library services in the community through fund raising, volunteerism, and serving as advocates for the library’s program.
4. Friends work to ensure that the public has equal access to information, both as a Constitutional right and as the best way to sustain a democratic way of life.
5. Friends subscribe to and believe in the *Library Bill of Rights*, the *Freedom to Read*, and the *Freedom to View* statements. <http://tinyurl.com/LibraryRightsFreedomsEthics>
6. Friends recognize that authority rests with the whole Friends board assembled in public meetings and shall make no personal statements or promises nor take any private action which may compromise the board. They support the actions taken by a majority of the board and clearly differentiate personal opinions from board decisions.
7. Friends do not interfere with the library operations of the library staff.
8. Friends promote the library program to the public.
9. Friends conduct fundraising which complements the library’s mission. Friends’ activities support library board long-range plans and policies. Friends decide how to spend their funds after conferring with the library director.
10. Friends follow legal, professional, and ethical practices in making decisions. They scrupulously avoid personal conflicts of interest and do not condone them in others. They say nothing in a board meeting that could be construed to violate anyone’s civil rights.
11. Friends serve as advocates for local, state, and national library issues and represent the library program to legislators and funders.
12. Friends are open and welcoming to suggestions, questions and communications from the library staff, trustee board members, and the public.

Fundraising

Frontline Fundraising Toolkit (ALA)

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/frontlinefundraising/gettingstarted>

Tax Information for Charities & Other Non-Profits

<http://www.irs.gov/Charities-&-Non-Profits>

The IRS also has a site about **determining values on donated items**. Libraries should give a letter of thanks when books are donated and let the donor assign the value. This article talks about the FMV (fair market value) of items. <http://www.irs.gov/publications/p561/ar02.html>



More detailed information about fundraising procedures can be found at:

Checklist for Effective Fundraising: Policies and Procedures

<https://www.askright.com/checklist-for-effective-fundraising-policies-and-procedures/>

Gift Acknowledgement of the Association of Advancement Services Professionals

<http://www.adrp.net/assets/adrp%20best%20practices%20-%20gift%20acknowledgment.pdf>

Friends Fundraising Ideas and Success Stories

Further resources listed on pp.10-11.

http://www.friendstnlibraries.org/wp-content/uploads/FOTL-2018-Fundraising-Ideas-from-Listserves_-4TN-Success-Stories-5May18.pdf

Beyond Book Sales: The Complete Guide to Raising Real Money for Your Library. Edited by Susan Dowd. Neal-Schuman, 2014. **This book is available through R.E.A.D.S.**

"Beyond the Book Sale: Raising Real Money for Your Library," (downloads to your computer) by Susan Dowd from Minnesota Library Association Conference, 2014.

Fundraising Ideas: Over 225 Money Making Events for Community Groups, with a Resource Directory. Jane Shride Amos. McFarland, 1995.

United for Libraries has Sample **Library Sponsorship Policy and Procedures**

<http://www.ala.org/united/trustees/policies>

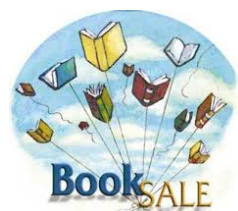
Consider Becoming an Amazon Smile Organization. AmazonSmile. You shop. Amazon gives.

<http://smile.amazon.com>

Kroger Community Rewards <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>

Fundraising Ideas <http://www.ala.org/united/friends/ideasharing/fundraising>

Used Book Sales



A Book Sale How-To Guide: More Money, Less Stress. Pat Ditzler and JoAnn Dumas. American Library Association, 2012.

This book is available through R.E.A.D.S.

The sample documents and guides that appear in *A Book Sale How-To Guide* are provided here as downloadable, editable documents for use in staging your own book sale. <http://alaeditions.org/web-extra-book-sale-how-guide>

Book Sale Manual by the Friends of the Portage Lakes Branch, Akron Summit County Library (Ohio)

<http://tinyurl.com/BookSaleManualAkron>

How to Hold a Used Book Sale <http://createthegood.org/toolkit/how-hold-used-book-sale>



Annual Reports

Annual Reports include a summary of activities and fiscal information for the past year, along with a list of Friends officers, board members, and staff (if any). Annual Reports are published at the end of the budget year, in June or December. Don't forget to include name, address, city, and state of the library.

Former Fort Loudoun FOTL Regional Representative Barbara Zurl has written **Consider the Annual Report** (reprinted from the Summer 2008 FOTL *newsletter*) to guide report construction: <http://tinyurl.com/ConsidertheAnnualReport>.

Friends of the **Chattanooga Public Library** (Tennessee) Thank you to our supporters! video.
<https://animoto.com/play/HUKNIXPBvX9ErYUVPzwBjQ>

Friends of the **Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library** (New York) Annual Report
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5GjnN0rl_hRa09NM2M1bHN1eU0/edit

The Friends of the **Danbury Library** (Connecticut) Who We Are / What We Do
<http://www.danburyfriends.org/about-us> <http://www.danburyfriends.org/projects>

Denver Public Library with Friends Foundation blended report (Colorado)
<https://www.dplfriends.org/what-we-do/financials.html>

Friends of the **Hennepin County Library** (Minnesota) Annual Report & Financials
<https://www.supportclub.org/sites/default/files/2017%20Annual%20Report.pdf>
<https://www.supportclub.org/financials>

The Friends of the **Jeff Davis County Library** (Texas) Annual Report
<http://friendsjcdcl.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/annual-report-2013-draft-2.pdf>

Friends of the **Knox County Public Library** (Tennessee) Annual Report
<http://www.knoxfriends.org/what-we-do/>

Friends of the **Lee Library** (New Hampshire) Annual Report
http://www.leenh.org/Pages/LeeNH_Library/Annual%20Report%20of%20the%20Friends%20of%20Lee%20Library%202014%20for%20Town.pdf

The Friends of **Monroe County Public Library** (Indiana) Annual Report
<http://mcpl.info/sites/default/files/annual-report2011.pdf>

Friends of the **Newton Free Library** (Massachusetts) Annual Report
http://www.newtonfreelibrary.net/friends/annual_report.php

The Friends of the **Saint Paul Public Library** (Minnesota) Annual Report
<https://thefriends.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Online-Impact-Report.pdf>



Use a newspaper article, email, Facebook Page, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Pinterest to review and promote local Friends group and library activities:

National Friends of Libraries week celebrated across county
http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/courier/news/national-friends-of-libraries-week-celebrated-across-county/article_ed43b1d2-4898-59b1-aadd-56bc9c6bfde8.html

Public Libraries: Enablers of Americans' Dream
http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/opinion/2012682058_peirce22.html

11 Things You Pay For That Your Library Has For Free
<http://www.investopedia.com/financial-edge/0611/13-things-you-pay-for-that-your-library-has-for-free.aspx>

18 Ways the Library Can Help You Save Money
<http://love-library.com/2013/11/13/18-ways-library-can-help-save-money/>

The Public Library - An American Freedom <http://tinyurl.com/mu3hgbb>

Celebrating friends of the library Rita Allen is director of the Argie Cooper Library, Tennessee.
<http://www.t-g.com/story/2129407.html>

Friends of the Libraries: Libraries provide bang for your buck
http://www.dailypilot.com/entertainment/tn-dpt-et-1219-friends-of-the-libraries-20141218_0_5126555.story



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

* MUST PURCHASE FOR LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S PROFESSIONAL SHELF

[Libraries Need Friends: A Toolkit to Create Friends Groups or to Revitalize the One You Have](#) by Sally Gardner Reed. United for Libraries, 2012.

[Guidelines for Organization](#). Minnesota Association of Library Friends, 2003.

Why friends volunteer at library: [Volunteers Building A Better Tomorrow: Friends of the Library](#) 11 min video. Douglas County Library (Minnesota), 2011.

[Successful Friends Groups: What works, and what doesn't work](#) 78 min video. Washington Library Association, 2012.

[A Power Guide for Successful Advocacy: Citizens-Save-Libraries](#). United for Libraries, 2013.

* **101+ Great Ideas for Libraries and Friends: Marketing, Fundraising, Friends Development, and More** by Sally Gardner Reed. Neal-Schuman, 2004. [OP]

* **Even More Great Ideas for Libraries and Friends** by Sally Gardner Reed & Beth Nawalinski. Neal-Schuman, 2008.

Friends Group Resources. Mid-Hudson Library System (New York) <http://midhudson.org/topics/sustainable-libraries/friends-groups/>

Hawkins County Libraries Newspaper Supplement
<http://tinyurl.com/HawkinsCountyNewspaperSupp>

Sevier County Libraries Newspaper Supplements
<http://tinyurl.com/SevierCountyNewspaperSupp>

Top 25 Social Networking Sites People Are Using
<https://www.lifewire.com/top-social-networking-sites-people-are-using-3486554>

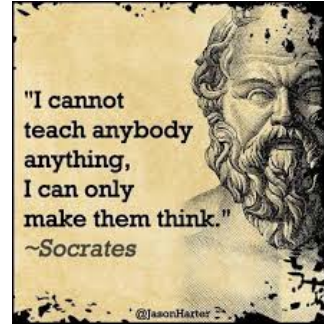
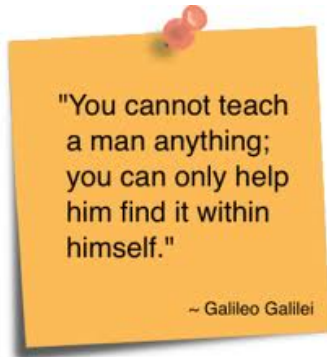
9 Vital Ways Facebook is Best Partner for Libraries
<http://www.5minlib.com/2017/04/9-vital-ways-facebook-is-best-partner.html>

Friends and Foundations Fact Sheets

Created by United for Libraries, the tips and lists linked below provide further detailed information. (For groups already formed, take a look at some of the retention and revitalization sheets.)

- 1: [How to Organize a Friends Group](#)
- 2: [Fundraising Campaigns Best Practices](#)
- 3: [A Checklist for Planning Successful Programs](#)
- 4: [How Organize Academic Friends Group](#) 29: [Making Case for Academic Library Friends Group](#)
- 5: [How to Organize a Teen Friends of the Library Group](#)
- 6: [How to Organize a Friends of a School Library Group](#)
- 7: [How to Revitalize Your Friends Group](#)
- 8: [Getting Involved with Literacy Programs](#)
- 9: [Planning a Book and Author Event](#)
- 10: [The Role of the Friends Board](#) 19: [Checklist for Friends Board Strategic Planning](#)
- 11: [The Role of Library Trustees](#)
- 12: [Designating a Literary Landmark](#)
- 13: [Checklist for Advocacy](#)
- 14: [Friends Board Development](#)
- 15: [Moving to Center Stage in the Community](#)
- 16: [How to Organize a Foundation](#)
- 17: [Getting and Keeping Members](#)
- 18: [Branch Friends of the Library](#)
- 20: [Friends Board Diversity](#)
- 21: [State Friends](#)
- 22: [Guidelines for Giving](#)
- 23: [Advocacy Campaigns and Spending Limits for Nonprofits](#)
- 24: [Planned Giving](#)
- 25: [Sample Memorandum of Understanding](#)
- 26: [Library Support for Friends Activities](#)
- 27: [When Friends Aren't Friendly](#)
- 28: [Sample Document Retention/ Destruction Policy](#)
- 30: [Orienting New Active Members in Your Friends Group](#)
- 31: [When A Friend Steps Out of Bounds](#)

Be careful of the notion that "Libraries Change Lives"



Vision Statement

To help and support local Friends groups in their efforts to integrate the library thoroughly into the life and work of their community.

Mission Statement

The Friends of Tennessee Libraries (FOTL) is a volunteer organization of individuals and organizations dedicated to supporting Tennessee Libraries and local Friends of Library groups through:

- Establishing and helping Friends of Library groups succeed;
- Communicating with libraries and trustees about the value of Friends;
- Serving members as communication network and clearinghouse for information;
- Advocating for library funding and legislative support on a local, state, and national basis.

Friends of Tennessee Libraries (FOTL)

Please join the Friends of Tennessee Libraries (FOTL) by completing the membership application form at <http://www.friendstnlibraries.org/support-us/join/> or contact

FOTL Treasurer Marjorie Kaup Haines
P.O. Box 681493 Franklin, Tennessee 37068

United for Libraries

Join the national organization that supports the Friends and trustees who govern, promote, advocate, and fundraise for all types of libraries.

<http://www.ala.org/united/membership/howtojoin>

859 West Lancaster Avenue, Unit 2-1 Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania 19010

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