

Strengthening Libraries in Oklahoma through Friends of Libraries

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Alton Carter at FOLIO Luncheon

Award-winning author Alton Carter was a great motivational speaker at the FOLIO Luncheon this spring. His books (*The Boy Who Carried Bricks* and *Aging Out*) are very personal stories of growing up in the foster care system. Watch for him in the Reading Round-Up tour this fall.

Financial Fitness @ Your Library

The Good News is that FOLIO has received a grant from the FINRA Investor Education Foundation and the American Library Association to provide financial fitness programs around Oklahoma for another year. The second series of financial literacy workshops is underway around the state.

Even if you are not a part of this grant program, you can offer financial education information and programs at the library. Oklahomans have a real need for learning to manage their monies. Only 30% of households have long-term financial goals. Most households (76%) are living pay-check to paycheck. Oklahomans have more medical bills overdue than the US average.

Here are some ideas to help you get started.

- Financial education programs or courses are a great service that libraries can sponsor. OSU Extension, college faculty, or credit union professionals are willing to lead such sessions.
- Free course manuals and PowerPoints to teach classes are available from the National Endowment for Financial Education (nefe.org) for different target groups—teens, seniors, adults, military.
- Great vetted web sites are available at financial-fitness.oklibraries.org. You may refer customers there or link from your site.
- Free display materials are available from FINRA, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, SaveAndInvest.org, MyMoney.gov, Cooperative Extension, and Federal Trade Commission. (See titles and links at financial-fitness.oklibraries.org under Resources for libraries.)
- State libraries may advertise their financial education classes on the financial fitness web site. Send your information to fara.taylor@libraries.ok.gov.
- Continuing education training modules, developed by the FINRA Foundation and the American Library Association, provide practical reference suggestions for financial questions and are linked on the Financial Fitness web site.



Pictured is the spring Lawton Financial Fitness class. (story continued on p. 8)



A Message from the President

Dear Friends,

Thank you to everyone who attended the FOLIO annual luncheon and meeting on April 26 during the Oklahoma Library Association Conference! With your support we presented scholarships to four students: Amber Beaman, Vona Bowling, Hannah Moore, and Rachel Pierce in the OU-SLIS program; honored the Elgin and Guthrie Friends' groups with "Best Friends" awards; and inducted Sharon Saulmon into the FOLIO Hall of Fame. Author Alton Carter delivered a powerful talk about his life story and inspired us to read his books and think about how we can make a difference! His third book *The Boy Who Dreamed Big* is a picture book and is now available.

It is not too late to respond to the FOLIO Mothers' Day Endowment Campaign. Your gift is tax deductible. The interest earned from the FOLIO Endowment helps libraries and librarians by providing scholarships for support staff and awarding Seed Grants to libraries to help establish a Friends organization..

Thanks for your support of FOLIO!

Dr. Karen Neurohr, FOLIO President, 2016-18



National Friends of Libraries Week, Oct. 15-21, 2017

It is time to begin planning your National Friends of Libraries Week activities! Possibilities might include **Friends** conducting membership drives, **Friends** celebrating their activities and promoting their library and the work they do, as well as **libraries** honoring and celebrating their Friends for their support.

Ideas and sample press releases are available: http://www.ala.org/united/events_conferences/folweek

Stilwell Friends Celebrate Completion of Children's Wing

The Stilwell Public Library Friends have kept very busy for the past ten years raising funds to furnish the new children's wing. Opening ceremonies took place on Saturday, May 20, at 1:00 p.m.

During the month of May, Friends volunteers planted flowers throughout the community as a part of Sprucing Up Stilwell, parked cars at the Stilwell Strawberry Festival, and held the opening of the Stilwell Farmers Market.



The Masonic Flint Lodge #11 recently donated money to help furnish the new children's wing of the Stilwell Public Library.

Grace Ferris, President of the Stilwell Public Library Friends Society recently stated, "We have a great bunch of volunteers who are excited to see the children's wing completed after 10 years of fundraising."

**CONGRATULATIONS,
STILWELL FRIENDS!**

Awards at FOLIO Annual Meeting

2016 – 2017 Best Friends Awards



Pictured l to r are Jane Bryant, Kris Kutay, Children's Librarian, Guthrie Public Library, and FOLIO Best Friends Committee members Sharon Douthitt and Gerry Hendon.

Each year FOLIO presents two awards to Friends groups that demonstrate exemplary success in the support of their local library. The awards were presented at the FOLIO luncheon on April 26 at the OLA convention.

Friends of the Guthrie Public Library was chosen to receive the Oklahoma Best Friends Award for a Friends group in a city with a population of more than 10,000.



Pictured l to r are Elgin Librarian Leslie Durham and FOLIO Committee members Sharon Douthitt and Gerry Hendon.

Friends of Elgin Community Library was awarded the John Harkey Best Friends Award for a city with a population of less than 10,000. Each Friends group received a check for \$500.

Congratulations to these Friends for the outstanding work they do to support their local libraries.

—Jane Bryant, Best Friends Committee Chair, and FOLIO Board Member

Scholarship

Annual scholarship awards for library science students is one of the highlights of the FOLIO Annual Meeting. The organization is proud to present four scholarships of \$600 each. We wish each of these students much future success in their educational and professional goals.



Amber Beaman is currently a Technical Services Librarian at the Linscheid Library at East Central University in Ada, while enrolled in the MLIS program at OU. Vona Bowling is a Children's Section Library Associate at the Moore Public Library (Pioneer Library System), an OU MLIS student, and is interested in continuing her work as a children's services librarian in the future. Hannah Moore works as a Youth Library Associate at the Broken Arrow Library, a branch of Tulsa City-County Library while she pursues her degree from OU MLIS. Rachel Pierce is also an OU MLIS student while working at the Lawton Public Library as a Senior Library Associate.

The FOLIO Scholarship Committee was made up of FOLIO Board members Jane Bryant, Dianne Pennington and Laurie Sundborg.

--Laurie Sundborg, Scholarship Committee Chair and FOLIO Board Member

Hall of Fame Award

FOLIO Board members Barbara Pickthorn and Dr. Judy Neale presented the FOLIO Hall of Fame Award for outstanding service to Second Vice President Sharon Saulmon for all that she has done for FOLIO, including the Financial Fitness grant, *FOLIO Newsletter* Co-editor and Facebook Manager.



News from Around the State

Friends of the Guthrie Public Library

The Friends of the Guthrie Public Library were enormously pleased and extremely grateful to be awarded one of this year's Best Friends Awards. Since 1986, when city budget cutbacks threatened to close Guthrie Public Library, the Friends of the Guthrie Public Library have raised well over a quarter of a million dollars to keep our library open and thriving. Besides membership fees, donations, and grant awards, the primary way we raise funds is with our used book sale, held each February. This year's sale raised nearly \$4,500.

The money raised goes toward Summer Reading Programs, STEM activities and programming, shelving, furniture, equipment, and technology, enriching the lives of not only the 10,000 Guthrie residents we serve, but the 45,000+ residents of Logan County who depend on Guthrie's library for their information needs. Popular programs include: Lego Club, teen and tween STEM programming, a local writer's group, and talks given by local authors. In addition to these programs, library director Suzette Chang, with help from library staff, has undertaken a total redesign of our library facilities, putting the library on track to become an information hub that honors Guthrie's rich history, while looking ahead to the future.

—Holly Samson Hall, Friends of the Guthrie Public Library Board Member

Cherokee National Youth Choir

Friends of the Catoosa Public Library sponsored the Cherokee Youth Choir during April.



When in doubt, go to the Library.

—J. K. Rowling

Southwest Oklahoma City Friends

Indoor Garage Sale

The Friends SOKC Public Library held an Indoor Garage Sale on Friday-Sunday, April 7-9. Friends reached out to other Friends and staff at the library to gather donation items, such as gently used children's clothing, toys, household items and books. Friends received, priced, and organized items, and also staffed the three-day event. A total of \$1,565 was raised. All of the proceeds from the sale will fund programs and continuing education for the SOKC staff.



Toys for SOKC Children

The SOKC Friends of the Library also donated toys for our pizza shop passive program in the puppet theatre area. This is an integral part of the SOKC Children's Department, as this area teaches children to practice sharing and good citizenship through imaginary play. The Friends also donated two LEGO kits that will be drawing prizes for the Summer Reading Program. These incentives help librarians motivate children to read and learn all summer.

—Ashley Nixon-Amador, Information Services Librarian



Self Check-Out Kiosk Now at Mustang



The Mustang Public Library added a self-check kiosk in April. Customers can now check out their own materials using radio frequency technology to read an item's barcode number. Items can be checked out in one stack, allowing for prompt and accurate service. Receipts can be emailed or printed.

Library Director Desiree Weber said joint funding from the City of Mustang, Friends of the Mustang Public Library and the Canadian County Education Facilities Authority have purchased the self check-out kiosk and software. Library staff are on hand to provide assistance to those using the new technology.

—Jon Watje, *Mustang Times*, (May 3, 2017): 7A.
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Stratford Seed Grant

The Stratford Friends of the Library have been busy since they received their seed grant in November. Membership has increased to 19. The Friends gave 230 service hours through April. Activities included painting, staining cabinets, labeling books, weeding and reading shelves, reinforcing paperbacks, applying dust jackets, and landscaping. They raised over \$1200 from raffle ticket sales for a quilt.



"We are excited about the future of the Stratford Friends of the Library and will continue to help Chandler-Watts Memorial Library in its mission to serve the needs of all members of the community."

—Teresia Harrison, President

American Girl Tea Party in Elk City

The Elk City Library hosted its annual American Girl Tea Party Tuesday, April 11, at 3:30. This tea is held every year in honor of National Library Week. Our Friends of the Library provided the cookies and helped serve as hostesses.



Every year we celebrate an American Girl in history. This year we did Addy, from 1864. A young lady from the community played the part of Addy and talked about how it would have been growing up in that time in history.

—Donna McNaught, Youth Director,
Elk City Carnegie Library

Meeker Friends of the Library

We had a great turnout for our Annual Bean Supper on March 31st. Our local Masons have always supported the Library and they matched our receipts, making our deposit over \$4,000. We are very blessed to have the support of the Masonic Temple Lodge.

Every Tuesday, May 23-June 27, the Friends are helping with the Living Longer/Living Stronger workshop. This free program is 2.5 hours a week for six weeks. You'll get the support you need, find practical ways to deal with pain and fatigue, discover better nutrition and exercise choices, and learn better ways to talk with your doctor and family about your health. These classes are offered by the Lincoln County Health Dept.

Our Summer Reading Program will be every Wednesday in June: June 7th will be Extreme Animals; June 14, Ok. Wonder Torium; June 21, Special Guest Readers Shawna Keene and Tribby Hardway and June 28, OKC Zoo.

Cletta Kinnear and I attended the FOLIO luncheon in Norman on April 26. We both greatly enjoyed meeting the many board members and speakers and I'm looking forward to next year's meeting.

—Donna Weber, Meeker FOL

Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel Poetry Contest Results

FOLIO co-sponsored the fourth Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel Poetry Contest for high school and homeschool students, grades 9-12. More than 90 poems were entered, a record number! Thirteen high school student poets from seven schools and one homeschool received awards Sunday, April 30, at the Lincoln County Museum of Pioneer History in Chandler.

Award winners:

First place was Taylor Clayton- 10th grade Kiefer HS (teacher Monica Witte). Second place was Savannah Rains- 11th grade, Oilton HS (teacher Donna Roberts). Third place was Josh Harrington- 11th grade, Bristow HS (teacher Christy McCreary).

Five Honorable Mention Awards went to Kiefer HS 12th grade students of Lorrie Quinnelly- Devan Choate, Jessica Squire, Hannah Zapata, Ricky Long, and Kiefer HS 10th grade student- Kiersten Nihart (teacher Monica Witte). Honorable Mention Awards also went to Malachi Davis- 12th grade Chandler HS (teacher Tony Smith), Adrienne Frey- 11th grade Mannford HS (teacher Catherine Blair), Courtney Sabatka- 11th grade homeschool (Chuck and Karla Sabatka), Madilyn Simpson- 11th grade Wellston HS (teacher Rebecca Stephens), and Katlian Traylor- 10th grade Davenport HS (teacher Sandy Walker).

Event sponsors included the Oklahoma State University Library, Lincoln County Historical Society and Museum of Pioneer History, FOLIO, OSU Emerita Librarian Jill Holmes (in honor of Joy Harjo who was born in Tulsa, OK and is a member of the Mvskoke Nation and an award-winning poet and musician), Stroud Public Library, Chandler Public Library, Don and Sally Ferrell, and the Chlebda and Coghill families in loving memory of Jim Chlebda and Back40 Publishing.

The late Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel (1918 – 2007) was born near Stroud. She wrote poetry in everyday language that expressed her feelings about her childhood in Oklahoma, her experiences of migrating to California and settling in a new place, and her astute observations of everyday life. Learn more about Ms. McDaniel: <http://digital.library.okstate.edu/mcdaniel/index.htm>

In California, McDaniel became known as the Okie poet. She continued to write about Oklahoma all of her life. The Stroud Public Library is a national Literary Landmark honoring Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel.



Award Winning Poets are pictured:

Front row, left to right: Madilyn Simpson (Wellston HS); Adrienne Frey (Mannford HS); Katlian Traylor (Davenport HS); Kiersten Nihart (Kiefer HS); Taylor Clayton (Kiefer HS) Back row, left to right: Courtney Sabatka (homeschool); Malachi Davis (Chandler HS); Ricky Long (Kiefer HS)



Even More Great Ideas for Libraries and Friends

By Sally Gardner Reed and Beth Nawalinski
Published by Neal-Schuman ISBN 978-1-55570-638-8

As the title indicates, this book is a sequel to *101+ Ideas for Libraries and Friends*. The authors ask the question, "Why spend time and energy trying to come up with the perfect fund-raising idea when some other library or Friends group has already done it?" Their answer was to gather these successful ideas, categorize them and publish them for others.

Each of the six chapters covers one category and contains step by step instructions. The chapters cover such subjects as raising money, selling books, programs for services and outreach, advocacy and public awareness, building membership, and organizational effectiveness. They also include practical helps such as handouts, letters, brochures, forms, signage, volunteers, flyers, invitations, and publicity. In many cases, even information about how to get feedback and results is included.

A wide variety of events are included: silent auctions, author events, celebrating milestones and honoring special people are just some that are worth considering. The Table of Contents shows clearly what is contained in each chapter, and the Index is a most helpful tool. Highly recommended.

--Jeannine Spencer, Secretary, FOLIO Board



We send our loudest appreciation and applause and thanks to the following wonderful Friends for their contribution to the **FOLIO**

Endowment Fund this spring. We asked them to honor their mothers or other special readers from their childhood. We all know that giving a child the gift of reading is giving them a gift for life. We have reached the halfway point in our goal. There is still time for **YOU** to make a gift to our campaign also.

Candace Baird

Gene & Kay Boies in memory of our mothers

Jane Bryant

Glenda Carlile

Helen Cline

Beverly Dieterlen in honor of Gerry Hendon

Jon & Sharon Douthitt in memory of our mothers

Eugene Earsom

Dana Flora in honor of Gerry Hendon

Cyndi Friedemann

Robert & Jennifer Greenstreet

Judy Haught in memory of Ethel Atkinson

Gerry Hendon in memory of Vinnie Cox

David & Jane Hendon in honor of Gerry Hendon

Mandy Hesse in honor of Carolyn Klepper

Scott & Carol Kidder in honor of Gerry Hendon

Carolyn Klepper

Angie Lewis in memory of Sue Long

William Lowry

Lynn McIntosh

Joe & Carol McReynolds in honor of Thelma Fosnot

Jeanette McQuitty

Donna McSpadden in memory of Clem & Barb McSpadden

Sherry Meador in memory of Charlotte Worsham

George & Karen Neurohr

in memory of Cleo Brown & Ruth Neurohr

Karen Neurohr in honor of Judy Hogan

Diane Pennington

Barbara Pickthorn in memory of Charlotte Grunow

Linda Polson in memory of Wilma Sanders Stellman

Anneva Sander

Sharon Saulmon

Jeannine & Rodgers Spencer

Susan Stackler in honor of Elsie Creider

Laurie Sundborg

Tom Terry

Joyce Varner

Pat Weaver-Meyers in honor of Kay Boies

Judith Wilcox

Friends of the Blanchard Library

Friends of the Hulbert Library

Won't you make a gift also?

Send your gift to: FOLIO Treasurer, PO Box 702585,
Tulsa, OK 74170.

Need Help?

Call your FOLIO Ambassador

FOLIO has Outreach Ambassadors who are ready and willing to talk or consult with your Friends' group or your officers. We want to help you be successful and strengthen your library. Let us know how we can assist you.

Ambassadors are available for each quadrant of the State.



Northeast

- Jon and Sharon Douthitt
sdouthitt@prodigy.net

Northwest

- Joe and Carol McReynolds
joemcreynolds@yahoo.com
- Karen Neurohr
karen.neurohr@okstate.edu

Southeast

- Wayne Hanway
whanway8@gmail.com

Southwest

- Judy Haught
haughtjc@gmail.com
- Carla Garrison
cgarrison@cableone.net

Seed Grants



FOLIO has been making Seed Grants available to help get Friends groups started or reinvigorated since 1993. The application and details are available on the FOLIO website—<http://www.okfriends.net>

www.okfriends.net.

Seed Grants are awarded on the basis of need and available funds. Applications are accepted at any time. There is no specific deadline. The Chandler-Watts Library in Stratford was given a seed grant last October. See news of their activities on p. 5.

P. O. Box 702585

Tulsa, OK 74170

FOLIO:
Strengthening
Libraries
In
Oklahoma
through
Friends
of
Libraries
Since 1978

Financial Fitness @ Your Library

(continued from p. 1)

- CEUs are available through the Oklahoma Department of Libraries for the FINRA Foundation/ALA modules. You will learn a great deal about doing reference in general in these modules, as well as locating free financial resources.
- Great examples of library financial education programs are at smartinvesting.ala.org.



The Financial Fitness@Your Library class for teens was held at the McAlester Public Library this spring where they covered such topics as Borrowing, Money Management, Credit Scores, Earning Potential, Investing, Fraud, and Insurance. One lucky teen at the sessions was given a 7" Samsung Galaxy tablet!

Q - How can we recruit more members to our Friends group?



The most effective way to get new members is to promote, promote, promote. Develop a brochure that is available at the library's front desk. The brochure should include membership categories, a phone number for questions, a list of committees and a way for the new Friend to join a committee.

Let prospective members know what they will get for their membership—a “sneak peak” to the book sale, the first to know about programs, etc. Think of places outside of the library for the brochure to be distributed—doctors' offices, grocery stores or local bookstores.

The brochure may be very simple and inexpensive at first. The important thing is to get the opportunity for joining to as many outlets as possible.

See more information at [United for Libraries \(ala.org/united\)](http://United for Libraries (ala.org/united)).
—Sally Gardner Reed