

Strengthening Libraries in Oklahoma through Friends of Libraries

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Celebrating
40
Years

FOLIO celebrated 40 years at its 2019 Annual Meeting held at the Oklahoma Library Association Annual Conference on March 15.

FOLIO and OLA attendees were greeted with a welcoming information exhibit. The exhibit offered supplies and information to conference attendees. In addition, bundles of books by and about Wilma

Elizabeth McDaniel along with National Poetry Month posters were given away to public and academic libraries. This was part of a statewide project co-sponsored by FOLIO in honor of Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel for National Poetry Month which is recognized each April,

Activities for the day included a sold-out author and awards luncheon featuring inspirational author Alton Carter, the FOLIO Annual Business Meeting and two informational programs on the topics of endowments and money smart programming.

FOLIO Scholarships Awarded to Four Students

At the annual FOLIO author and awards luncheon on March 15, \$600 scholarships were presented to Ashley Bean, Lauren Schrank, Michelle Skinner, and Courtney Shelly. All are Master's degree students at the University of Oklahoma School of Library and Information Studies. The Lillian Born Norberg and Mary Lou Atkinson Staff Support Scholarships are offered to full-time or part-time employees of a public, academic, or special library in Oklahoma in the process of furthering their education. A total of 55 scholarships have been awarded since the project began in 2006.

Ashley Bean works at Oklahoma State University-Tulsa Library. Her career goal is to work in an academic library. She hopes to inspire students, as her mentors have done for her, and to help all students get the most out of their education and achieve their goals.

Lauren Schrank's career interest is with youth and young adult services. She works at the University of Oklahoma – Western History Collection. In her application, she said, "As a librarian, I will strive to uphold, promote and protect library users' freedom to access information without restrictions.

Courtney Shelly works at the University of Oklahoma Libraries. She hopes to serve as a librarian to children and youth. She said, "I have benefitted from the open arms that a library and its staff provides and I hope to offer that same support to the staff and students I serve."

Michelle Skinner works at the Chickasha Public Library. Her objectives are to complete her master's degree and to use the knowledge gained to grow in her current position while being prepared for new opportunities.



L to R: Ashley Bean, Lauren Schrank, Courtney Shelly.
(Michelle Skinner was not able to attend.)

From the President. . .



What a wonderful FOLIO Annual Meeting on Friday, March 15! Thanks to everyone for participating and assisting in making our meeting a success. Our exhibit was a great centerpiece to reach lots of attendees, distributing Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel books, National Poetry Month posters and providing FOLIO information, as well as OLA Conference directions. Thanks for the leadership of Dr. Karen Neurohr. Our speakers all shared relevant, timely information. Alton Carter was an inspiring speaker for our FOLIO Luncheon. FOLIO is continuing to strengthen libraries through Friends.

Our programs, newsletter, ambassadors, awards, programs, conference programs, Literary Landmarks, and scholarships are all to help Friends make their libraries stronger: Libraries + Friends = Strong Communities.

Please respond to our Mother's Day Endowment Campaign. Honor someone who has positively influenced you—your mother, grandmother, a teacher or a friend. The endowment provides funds for scholarships and other programs.

The three-year Financial Fitness @ Your Library grant was completed in May. We - FOLIO, local Friends, Libraries, Oklahoma Department of Libraries, the FINRA Investor Education Foundation and the American Library Association (*Smart investing@your library® Financial Fitness Series*) - have reached hundreds of Oklahomans. The final report will be in the next issue of the newsletter.

FOLIO co-sponsored the Wilma McDaniel Poetry Contest again this year. Awards were presented and the Poetry Reading was held on April 7 at the Bristow Public Library. See other details in this edition page 3.

Help keep FOLIO programs and awards flourishing. Join this great team of library Friends helping Friends across the state strengthen libraries. Membership information is available at <http://www.okfriends.net/membership.html>.

For the latest information, trends, ideas, library quotes, and library jokes, FOLLOW us on Facebook – Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma (FOLIO).

The FOLIO Annual Membership/Board meeting during the spring conference included a Membership Roll Call and Friends from around the state reported on what their Friends are doing. Highlights include:

Ponca City Friends of the Library (FOL) sponsor a kids' rodeo and Touch-a-Truck for kids.

Elk City FOL is sponsoring a poetry workshop, a poetry contest, and an American Girls Tea. They are also continuing their Books for Babies project.

Helmerich Library Friends gave \$5,000 grants to libraries in Tulsa. The group also provided \$2,000 for Storytime in the Park and created an Escape Room.

Will Rogers Library FOL, Claremore, funded a program that provided books, mostly large print, for retirement homes and nursing homes. Friends went as volunteers.

Shawnee Friends had a successful book sale, became volunteers in the classroom, and sponsored a poetry contest for students in grades 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12 and a poetry "slam" on Sunday afternoon when winners could read their poetry for family and friends.

Noble Friends has a group called "Closet Ladies" which meet weekly to sort and arrange donated books in the Friends closet in preparation for future book sales.

The FOLIO Board met at the Okmulgee Public Library on June 14, 2019.

Sharon Saulmon, President



Meeker's Bean Supper and Pancake Breakfast Raise Funds

The Meeker Friends of the Library hosted a Bean Supper on April 5. Between it and a pancake breakfast hosted by the Meeker Masonic Lodge on April 6, over \$4500 was raised. Funds will be used for the summer reading program, books, movies, and computer upgrades.

"Many thanks to the Meeker Masonic Lodge and the citizens of Meeker for their support!"



Hall of Fame Laurel Wreath Award

FOLIO has established a new award—the Laurel Wreath Award—to be presented in recognition of exceptional continuing leadership and/or service to FOLIO by individuals who have previously been named to the FOLIO Hall of Fame.

The first recipients of the award are Karen Neurohr and Sharon Saulmon who were recognized at the FOLIO Annual Award luncheon on March 15.

Their names are engraved on a plaque decorated with the Laurel Wreath and affixed to the Hall of Fame plaque which is displayed at Oklahoma Department of Libraries. Committee members who created this new award were Sharon Douthitt, Wayne Hanway and Gerry Hendon.



Pictured are (from l to r) Sharon Saulmon, Wayne Hanway, Dr. Karen Neurohr and Sharon Douthitt.



Libraries play an important and unique role in promoting community awareness about resilience, climate change and a sustainable future. They are also leading by example by taking steps to

reduce their environmental footprint.

The American Library Association (ALA) is supporting the library community by showing its commitment to assisting in the development of sustainable libraries with the addition of sustainability as a core value of librarianship.

At the 2019 Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, the ALA Council, in adopting the strategic direction of sustainability, made a commitment to the “triple bottom line” framework for sustainability recommended by the ALA Special Task Force on Sustainability. This tripod consists of practices that are environmentally sound, economically feasible and socially equitable. The council also responded to a 2018 membership survey indicating two-thirds of ALA members want the association to provide leadership in the area of sustainability.

In working to ensure that libraries have access to resources needed to adopt sustainability practices within their institutions, ALA intends to explore collaborations with such institutions as the New York Library Association to nationally offer a Sustainable Library Certi-

fication Program. Library staff will have access to professional development opportunities including books, grants and library school curriculum.

“This is a pivotal time for libraries and the communities we serve,” said ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo. “Libraries are helping to better the education and lifelong learning of the communities they serve. By adding sustainability to its core values, ALA recognizes that libraries of all types can act as catalysts and inspire future generations to reach solutions that are not only sensible but essential to sustaining life on this planet.”

In adopting sustainability as a core value of librarianship, ALA recognizes the findings in the latest report of the United National Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The report, written and edited by 91 scientists from 40 countries who analyzed more than 6,000 scientific studies in October 2018, found that the immediate consequences of climate change are far more dire than originally predicted, calling for a transformation of the world economy at a speed and scale that has “no documented historic precedent.”

The American Library Association (ALA) is the foremost national organization providing resources to inspire library and information professionals to transform their communities through essential programs and services. For more than 140 years, ALA has been the trusted voice for academic, public, school, government and special libraries, advocating for the profession and the library’s role in enhancing learning and ensuring access to information for all. For more information, visit ala.org.

Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel Poetry Contest Results



Chandler student Skyla Daniels, first place winner, and teacher Kim Leatherwood.



Davenport Student Wyatt McGee, second place, teacher Sandra Walker, and A.J. Jenkins, honorable mention. (Not pictured: Logan Richardson and Jacob Accord, honorable mention awards)



Stroud teacher Jessica Martinez and Madison Williams, honorable mention



Kellyville student Nicole Bullard, honorable mention and teacher Amy Causon



Depew HS teacher Megan Vandecar and Celeste Christianson; Bristow HS teacher Samantha Ross, Jenna Stapleton, Aaliyah Givings, and Ricky Hollenbeck

FOLIO co-sponsored the sixth annual Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel Poetry Contest for rural high school youth in Lincoln and Creek counties. Bristow Public Library hosted the awards ceremony and reception on April 7.

One-hundred and ten entries were received. First place and \$150.00 went to Skyla Daniels of Chandler High School. Second place and \$100.00 went to Wyatt McGee of Davenport High School. There was a tie for third place: Aaliyah Givings of Bristow HS and Celeste Christianson of Depew HS each received \$50.00. Honorable mention awards and \$25.00 each went to Bristow HS students Ricky Hollenbeck and Jenna Stapleton; Davenport HS students A.J. Jenkins, Logan Richardson, and Jacob Accord; Stroud HS student Madison Williams; and Kellyville HS student Nichole Louise Bullard.

Co-sponsors included the OSU Library, the Bristow Public Library, the Bristow Historical Society and Museum, Stroud Public Library, Lincoln County Museum of Pioneer History, the late Jim Chlebda and Back40 Publishing, the Chlebda and Coghill Families, Friends of Wilma McDaniel and a poetry-loving FOLIO member who wanted to honor poet Joy Harjo.

FOLIO board members who helped with the contest included Candace Baird, Eugene Earsom, Gerry Hendon, and Dr. Karen Neurohr (coordinator).

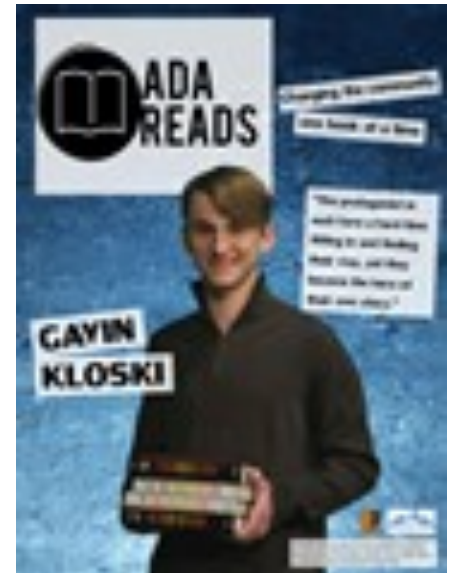
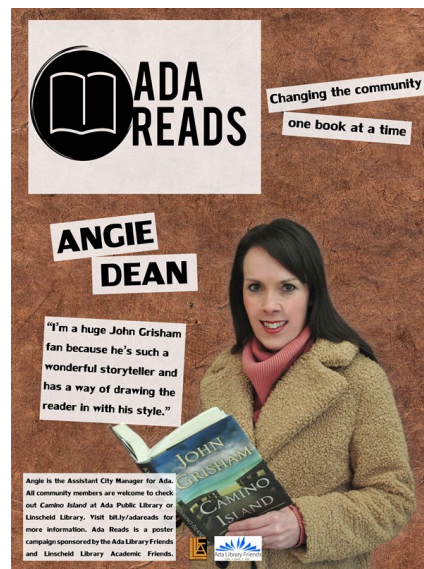
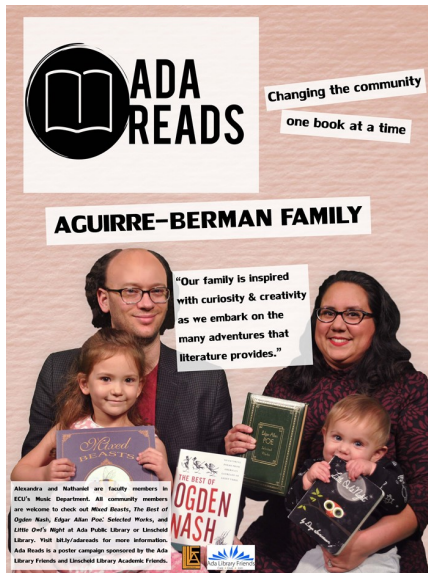
FOLIO co-sponsored

National Poetry Month Project

FOLIO co-sponsored a statewide project in honor of Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel for National Poetry Month which is April. At the Oklahoma Library Association Conference, bundles of books by and about Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel, along with National Poetry Month posters, were given away to public and academic libraries. The give-aways continued through April with FOLIO board members and other "book delivery angels" making deliveries to libraries. This project was made possible by the Oklahoma State University Library in Stillwater, and the Chlebda and Coghill families in loving memory of Jim Chlebda/Back40 Publishing. The limited edition books are out-of-print and difficult to obtain. Libraries can help uphold McDaniel's legacy in Oklahoma by adding these books to their collection and displaying the poster. For information about the project, contact FOLIO board member and OSU librarian Dr. Karen Neurohr, karen.neurohr@okstate.edu.

A BIG Thank you to the following after-conference "book delivery angels" who included Melissa Askew, Amy Causon, LaVetta Dent, Sharon and Jon Douthitt, Eugene Earsom, Judy Haught, Gerry Hendon, Emily Hull, Leslie Langley, Kim Leatherwood, Vicki Mohr, George Neurohr, Wendy Noerdlinger, Diane Pennington, John Phillips, Kitty Pittman, Sharon Saulmon, LuAnn Waters, and Micki White.

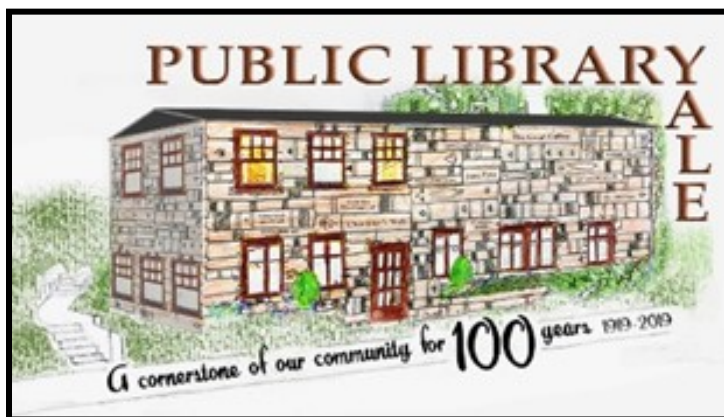
Ada Reads: A Joint Project of the Friends of Ada Public Library and Linscheid Library at East Central University



The Ada Public Library Friends and the Linscheid Library Academic Friends at East Central University worked together to create a community poster campaign called Ada Reads. Volunteers from the community posed with their favorite book for a photo and provided a quote about why they love the book. Twelve different posters with 31 volunteers of all ages were created. The posters have been distributed throughout the community.

Both Friends groups provided funding for printing the posters and purchasing the books which are featured in each poster for each library.

Yale Public Library Celebrates 100 Years



A slogan contest and a logo contest were held in November 2018 with a \$50 prize awarded to each of the winners. In December the kids had a great time creating gingerbread replicas of the former WPA library building. In January our local historian shared interesting photos and talked about the history of Yale around the time the library was founded.

An essay contest "What I Love about the Library" was held in February. The winning essays, one adult and one student, were chosen by a local Yale author. Banners and painted windows in storefronts marked the March celebration. Finally, to commemorate Earth Day in April, a tree was planted in a park behind the library.

The Friends of the Yale Public Library Association has been having fun all year with events and activities marking the library's Centennial. The final celebration is planned for November 2019 which is the actual month the library was opened in 1919.

Upcoming events include a Gala on August 2, another evening of history as well as the finale in November. The Friends will be selling T-shirts and other memorabilia beginning in June.

Elk City Friends of the Library Poetry Month Events

April was National Poetry Month and the Friends kicked off the month with a poetry workshop led by Friends member Judy Haught. During the week of April 9, poetry fans learned about literary devices, poetic forms, and rhythm and rhyming. They shared favorite poems and their own original poetry. In conjunction with the workshop, the Friends sponsored a poetry contest. Cash prizes were given to the winners of three age categories: elementary, junior high/ high school, and adult.

On April 11, Elk City Friends helped with the annual American Girls Tea. The formal tea for girls is based on the American Girls dolls. This year's doll was Molly from the 1940s. Included in the program was a lesson on etiquette and a talk by World War II veteran Joe Britton.

On April 26, the Friends sponsored a visit from author Sandy Tharp-Thee who spoke at the elementary schools about her book, *The Apple Tree*, and about the Cherokee syllabary. She also spoke at the library in the evening for an adult audience. On April 30, the Friends sponsored Haiku workshops with author Barbara Hay. She conducted workshops at the middle school and the high school and again at the library in the evening. The Friends treated each author to an elegant lunch and warm hospitality.



American Girl Tea Party



Sandy Tharp-Thee



Brenda Hays— Haiku Workshop

STILWELL FRIENDS OPEN BOOK ROOM

The Stilwell Public Library Friends have done it again. They recognized library needs and developed a project to help meet them. After the children's wing was completed, the physical needs of the main library and the community room became apparent. More funds were also required to support the summer reading program, as well as various other programs for all ages. It was proposed that the Friends could transform their library storage room into a permanent book sales room. Having such a room open for sales on a regular basis would increase the funds available to meet the needs of the library and its patrons. After shelves were built, and the donated books and other materials were organized, the room was ready. On Monday, May 20, members of the Friends, the Stilwell Chamber of Commerce, and Stilwell officials, met for an official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Stilwell Friends' new book sale room. This room opened for business on Friday, May 24, 12 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and plans are for the book store to be open every Friday from 12 noon to 5:30 p.m..



FOLIO LAUNCHES ENDOWMENT FUNDRAISER

Who taught you to read? Who turned you on to the delights and pleasures of reading? Was it your Mother? Sister? Father? Teacher? Story Hour Lady? Librarian?

We believe it is important to acknowledge those special people in our lives who gave us the gift of reading—thereby giving us a gift for a lifetime. You have a golden opportunity to acknowledge those who gave YOU the gift of reading by making a donation to the FOLIO Endowment now.

Every year, several Friends make contributions to the Endowment Fund and designate the gift to be “in memory of” or “in honor of” some special person in their life. We will publish those dedications in a future newsletter.

YES! I want to “Gift” the FOLIO Endowment:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Amount: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$200

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Send Acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____

Send your gift to: FOLIO Endowment Fund
P O Box 702585
Tulsa, OK 74170

Need Help?

Contact 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
douthittsharon60@gmail.com

Northwest

- 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 Friends groups organize or reinvigorate since 1993. The application and details are available on the FOLIO website—<http://www.okfriends.net>.

Seed Grants are awarded on the basis of need and available funds. Submit applications by the first of the months of September, December, March or June.



Would you like to save money, get bargains when you shop Amazon online AND help FOLIO? You can do just that! FOLIO will receive 0.5 % of eligible sales. Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations to FOLIO.

- Simply go to smile.amazon.com when you are shopping online.
- Select FOLIO as your charitable organization.
- FOLIO will receive a check for 0.5% of your eligible purchase. THANK YOU!!

Return Service Requested

**Libraries
+
Friends
=
Strong
Communities**

Honors for a Lover of Country, History, and Libraries



Twenty-two years after leaving this life, Helen Loreta Freudenberger Holmes was remembered and honored with two posthumous hall of fame inductions this year. On March 6, she was inducted into the U.S. Army Women's Foundation Hall of Fame in Washington, D.C. On April 26, she was inducted into the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame.

Many in Oklahoma's library community celebrate her for another reason. Holmes was a founder and first president of the Friends of the Guthrie Public Library. She also served as a delegate from Guthrie to the 1978 Oklahoma Governor's Conference on Libraries which led to creation of the statewide friends group, Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma (FOLIO). She was also a delegate from Oklahoma to the 1979 White House Conference on Library and Information Services.

In sharing the induction news, Holmes' daughter Andrea reminded us how much her mother cherished reading and libraries. "When I was a youngster, she always said she read every book she could get her hands on, and that continued throughout her life. So libraries were very dear to her."

Holmes was part of the first graduating class of officer candidates in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) in 1942.

She moved to Guthrie in 1972 to become more involved in civic activities. She became a member of the Guthrie City Council and went on to become the city's second woman to serve as mayor in 1979. During her tenure with the city, she became a political leader in the community movement to restore Guthrie's historic downtown district. The effort would result in a \$1 million federal Urban Development Action Grant—the largest UDAG grant at the time—and Guthrie would become a model to other communities for historical renovation.

Holmes' love of history is captured in her other accomplishments. She is editor and principal author of the two-volume *The Logan County History: 1889-1979*. She served as a special columnist and editor for history articles and special issues for the *Guthrie News Leader*, and she is the author of *Homes of Historic Guthrie*.

Holmes' personal library became the Helen F. Holmes Historical Collection at the Guthrie Public Library. Following her death, her research papers and collection of historical photographs were gifted to the Western History Collections at the University of Oklahoma Libraries.

For more information about this remarkable woman, go to <https://tinyurl.com/odlnews-holmes>.