

Carrie



Established 2004

Kingsport Chamber Foundation

P.O. Box 1403 • Kingsport, TN 37662

**ANNUAL REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2004/2005**

**The Old Custom House
Bristol, Tennessee**

2004 - 2005

SULLIVAN COUNTY IMAGINATION LIBRARY COUNCIL

Class of 2005

Jack Bales
Jane Bellamy
Joan Edwards
Sue Fulmer
Ben Mallicote
Jan Miles
Charlotte Thweatt
Brenda Webb

Class of 2006

Linda Brittenham
Marlene Larsen
John McKamey
Theresa McMahan
Marillyn Nations
Jenny Oaks
Chrissie Peters
Richard Venable

Class of 2007

Gail Anderson
Claudia Byrd
Flora Fish
Bill MacPherson
Carrie Schwartz
Carole Shaw
Bert Whitaker

2005 - 2006

SULLIVAN COUNTY IMAGINATION LIBRARY COUNCIL

Class of 2006

Evelyn Bales
Linda Brittenham
John McKamey
Marillyn Nations
Jenny Oaks
Chrissie Peters
David Tucker
Richard Venable

Class of 2007

Gail Anderson
Cindy Bowman
Claudia Byrd
Flora Fish
Bill MacPherson
Carrie Schwartz
Carole Shaw
Bert Whitaker

Class of 2008

Jack Bales
Jane Bellamy
Teresa Lesnak
Jan Miles
Joseph Nowland
Donna Tate
Charlotte Thweatt
Brenda Webb

BENCHMARKS OF SUCCESS

What an adventure the past two years have been! From hearing about the potential of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to the reality of providing 3,000 books a month to preschool children, it's been an exciting journey.

On May 29, 2003 three Sullivan County Librarians and three Board members attended a state-wide workshop presented by the *Friends of the Tennessee Libraries* which encouraged local groups to start their own program. At an organizational meeting in October other community leaders added their support. The *Sullivan County Imagination Library* committee was formed in March, 2004, and the next month voted to partner with the Chambers of Commerce in Kingsport and Bristol.

An anonymous donor provided funding to start the program. On June 18 *Kids Fest* at Dollywood featured Dolly and Governor Phil Bredesen presenting news that the State of Tennessee would fund one-half the cost of the books for registered children. This match-fund has enabled us to grow into endowment and Certificates of Deposit to grow monies to provide more books for children.

By July, the Memorandum of Agreement between The Dollywood Foundation and the Kingsport Chamber Foundation was signed and plans were underway for a Kick-Off celebration. On August 11 in a skybox overlooking the track, over 150 guests were treated to a delicious luncheon provided by Bristol Motor Speedway. Lady Jackson, President of the *Governor's Books from Birth Foundation*, was the featured speaker. Jeff Byrd, President of BMS, read *The Little Engine That Could* to an enthusiastic audience of preschool friends.

Registration immediately started at the public libraries, and the first book order for 312 books was placed on September 9. At an Annual Meeting that day the current Council was elected.

The Registration Committee has done an outstanding job of providing registration forms to many preschool groups and other places where parents could easily sign up their children. Many events have been held throughout the year to register new children, and the current enrollment is about 3,000. To date over 27,000 books have been mailed to our youngest Sullivan County citizens.

In January 2005, the fund-raising drive reached the first goal of \$100,000, and an event for recognition of donors was planned. The Wayne G. Basler Library at Northeast State Community College was the site for this successful event on March 2. Margie Maddux, Communication Officer for the *Governor's Books from Birth Foundation*, presented a Proclamation from the Dollywood Foundation to Mayor Richard Venable to be on permanent display at the County Courthouse. Appreciation and thank-you gifts were given to donors. In honor of Read Across America Day, Mayor Venable, NSCC Vice President Carole Shaw and Katie Yates read the *Cat in the Hat* and other stories to preschool guests.

I wish to thank all the Council and committee members for working so diligently to make this program a huge success. And a very special appreciation is due the donors who supplied the funds to make it all possible.

Our future looks bright. Let's continue this adventure throughout the years to help all children develop a lifelong love of reading!

Jan Miles
Council Chair



Sullivan County Imagination Library/Kingsport Chamber Foundation is supported by The Governor's Books from Birth Foundation and Dollywood Foundation. Also supported by the following Individuals and Businesses.

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Anonymous
Anonymous

SILVER BOOK

Carrie M. Schwartz
Weyerhaeuser Co. Foundation, Inc.

PURPLE BOOK

Eastman Chemical Co. Foundation, Inc.
King Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Speedway Children's Charities
The Master's Table, Inc.

YELLOW BOOK

BAE Systems
Eastman Credit Union
Friends of Thomas Memorial Branch
Library
Massengill-DeFriece Foundation
John McKamey - in memory of Polly
Harry & Jan Miles - in memory of
Wesley G. Miles
John Poteat
Sun Trust
John & Charlotte Thweatt

WHITE BOOK

AFG Industries
Anonymous
Jane Bellamy - in memory of
J. R. Bellamy
First Tennessee Bank
Joseph & Julie Gunn

BLUE BOOK

Absolute Communications
Bank of Tennessee
Boone Tree Library Assoc.
Curtis & Charlotte Burnette
Yvonne Cantrell
Friends of Colonial Heights Branch
Library - in memory of Fred &
Jean Abernathy
Friends of the Sullivan County
Library
S. L. Furches, Jr.
Gastroenterology Associates
Bill McGuire
Marilyn S. Nations
Gerald & Susan O'Connor
Beverly Puerckhauer
Settlers Life Insurance Co.
Tenneva
Unaka Scholarship Foundation, Inc.
Wal-Mart #2089
Weight Watchers
Joe W. Wimberly

ORANGE BOOK

Fred & Jean Abernathy
Adeline S. Akard
Alpha Delta Kappa
Anonymous
Robert Appleton
Glenn Arwood
Jimmy Barnes
Roy Bell
Robert Bridgman
Bruno Enterprises, Inc.
Julia Bynum
Central Heights F.C.E. Club
Coleman Properties
Deanna Kay Corley
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Gerald & Nancy Cross
Esther Class, First Baptist Church
Lisa Anne Fortner
Mark & Holly Griffith
Gary Harlow
Bobby Joe Hyatt
Insurance Professionals of
Kingsport
Robert Jackson
Lee Jenkins
Christina King
C. Lee & Joy P. McConnell
Steven & Elyse McCoskey
Sid & Ann Miller - in memory
of Wesley G. Miles
Stephen Miller
Robert & Debra Moody
Judy Mosley
Stan & Judy Murff
Dorothy Newsome
Michael & Danielle Parker
Rotary Club of Kingsport
Allan & Betty Rothwell
Ruth Sells
Michael & Donna Shaw
Barbara Smith
Thomas & Kathryn Smith
W. Clay & Kitty Smith
Bill & Sofia Starnes - in honor
of John & Charlotte Thweatt
Tom Brooks Exxon
D. Harrison Turner
Mrs. George Ward
Sherry Weaver - in memory of
Wesley G. Miles

In Memory of Harry Miles

Nicole Austin
Jack & Evelyn Bales
Jane Bellamy
Don & Carole Belles
Bingham & Hensley

In Memory of Harry Miles

Linda S. Brink
Linda Brittenham
Bob & Nancy Brown
Earl & Kay Brown
James Carr
Maryann Chmiola
Randall & Marianne Cline
William A. Danne
Stanely & Flora Fish
William Gibson
Ted & Jean Hagen
William Head
Jack & Judy Houlgate
Bob & Susan Hoover
Max & Daphne Horn
Lady A. Jackson
Stanley W. Joehlin
Elia & Fannie Karas Foundation
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Jenny Oaks
Mark & Laura Pendleton
A. B. Russell
Carrie M. Schwley
John F. Smith
Nancy & Gerry Stevenson
Karen Witcher
John Wood

IN-KIND

B & I Printing
Bristol Motor Speedway
Bryant Label Co.
Dobyns Bennett High School
Art Club
Food City - Euclid Avenue
Food City - Moreland Drive
Mr. Joe Gregory
Manufacturing & Machine Tool
Classes (NSCC)
Northeast State Community College
(NSCC)
Student Tennessee Education Assoc.
(NSCC)
Troutdale Dining Room

**Registration Committee Annual Report
September, 2005**

The ten-member committee has been very active in the following ways:

Continued distributing registration forms to the County and City Libraries
Attended and gave out forms during "Children Storytime Hour" at the Kingsport Library.

Chair visited monthly the 2 Health Departments and 2 WIC programs enlisting their help in giving out the brochures

Members attended The Headstart Parent Meeting explaining our program and giving out registration forms.

Committee went to 65 Child Care facilities and explained our program and gave out forms both in 2004 and 2005.

Program was introduced to Northeast State College and ETSU, Allandale.

Chrissie Peters, as member of our committee, as well as librarian for NSCC has distributed registration forms at all NSCC's registration days, "People United for Animals" event, and Boone Tree Library Association.

Peters serves as Liaison at NSCC to coordinate information coming from IL's around the region.

She has written featured articles in TLA Newspaper, Basler Library's "Turn The Page" newsletter, and "Spoonful of Sugar".

Peters coordinated "Read Across America" event at NSCC plus many more activities for the surrounding counties as they join the IL program

Members attended Rotary Club luncheon as Lady Jackson spoke about IL.

Committee RN's visited the Birthing Centers in our 3 hospitals and left forms to be placed in all the Mother Birthing Packets.

Chair met with Cinema manager to coordinate a "Day for Children" including the reading of "The Little Engine That Could", objects to color, and a table for SCIL. Registration was available all day. Many other members helped during that day.

The Polar Express Movie was being featured.

Attended the Weyerhaeuser Christmas Party to give out brochures.

Attended the First Baptist Homeless Children Party.

Attended the SCIL Retreat to help address letters for the funding committee

Participated in "Recognition Day" at Northeast State Library. Registration Committee member Chrissie Peters organized this event.

Attended three schools telling about our program at PTA meetings

Attended the Title 1 Parents' Night at Sevier Middle School.

Was interviewed on the nightly news TV about our program.

Asked the Dobyans Bennett Art club to draw us two posters for advertising purposes. This was done. Frames and easels were bought for the art posters.

Chair made two felt tablecloths for SCIL use

Asked Keith Wilson, Kingsport Times News, to give us free space to thank our sponsors. He agreed and a lovely free article was published.

Thweatt, Bowman, Miles and Webb attended "Homecoming 2005" in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

SCIL Council bought a folding table for our use.

Cindy Bowman led us in the Fun Fest Storytime for Preschoolers at Jackson School. Linda Rife arranged to blow the balloons for all the children. Council and registration committee (16) adults worked at this event. 102 children attended Book from the IL were used for story time. The children made bookmarks with stickers, and non-toxic coloring pens.

Jan Miles SCIL Chairman, set up a registration table with books and displays at the "Sidewalk Chalk Drawing" event sponsored by the Kingsport Public Library during Kingsport Fun Fest.

Also attended the South Central Kingsport's "Weed and Seed, Back to School Party". Forms were also given to Frontier Health worker to distribute.

Chair prepared a "Special Edition" paper to be given to churches and any other organizations for enlisting more children and explaining how a person can be a sponsor. The concept of "Adopting" an unknown child was introduced.

Met with a number of churches and Sunday Morning Preschool groups to explain our program.

Jane Bellamy represented IL at the Bristol Baby Fair. Over 600 people attended. Chrissie Peters coordinated the Food City Family Race Night Activities, Bellamy assisted.

We will have a booth at the Rhythm and Blues Festival event.

Joan Edwards will represent the committee at the Harvest Festival.

Cindy Bowman will plan games for the "Birthday Bash".

Brenda Webb, secretary for our committee is leading the work for the Fund Raiser at Joe Gregory's Ole Post Office.

Linda Rife organizes the Data Base.

Kay Brown tries to communicate with all parents where books were returned. For each one telephone call and/or post card is sent. After a period of time the returned books are distributed as suggested by the council or committee.

The Council voted to give one of each returned book to the Colonial Heights Library in appreciation for letting IL store our registration forms and returned books. At this time we have given 26 books to add to their children's library inventory.

A sample of books are being used by committee members, Jan Miles, Charlotte Thweatt, Jane Bellamy, Cindy Bowman to demonstrate the high quality of books when we give talks about our program.

Books have also been given to:

- The Bristol Children's YWCA
- Bristol Weed and Seed
- Kingsport Child Development Center
- Kingsport City Preschool Program
- Palmer Center
- Wellmont Preschool
- Holston Valley Pediatrician Library

Charlotte Thweatt, Chairman Registration Committee
Sullivan County Imagination Library

Registration Committee for Imagination Library**4/21/05**

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