



### TLA Honor Award: Larry Romans

The TLA Honor Award recognizes a person who has made a significant contribution to the furtherance of librarianship on a statewide or national level. **Larry Romans** has done both for many years. He has worked at Vanderbilt University Library since 1983, and his government information and political science web pages have widely been considered among the best in the country. Larry has been a member of TLA since 1984 and served on the Board for many of the last twenty years. He has served multiple terms as Chapter Councilor, Government Documents Round Table chair, and Legislation Committee Chair. Larry has been active in the American Library Association as well, serving on its governing Council and as a member of its Executive Board, and has chaired several committees. He is the recipient of many state and national awards for his lifetime of contributions. Most recently,

Larry and his spouse helped endow the Mike Morgan and Larry Romans Stonewall Book Award, given annually by ALA for the children's or YA book of exceptional merit relating to the LGBT experience. **Larry Romans will receive the TLA Trustee Award at the Opening General Session on Thursday.**



### TLA Honorary Membership: Suresh Ponnappa

**Suresh Ponnappa** has been a mainstay of the Tennessee library community since he first came to UT as a reference librarian in 1984. A member of TLA and ALA since that time, Suresh has headed many committees and projects benefiting Tennessee Librarians. He served as president of TLA in 2002-03, of the TN Health Science Library Association in 2005, and of Tenn-Share in 2007. Suresh retired from the Quillen Medical School Library at ETSU in 2013. His 29 years of service to Tennessee libraries, librarians and students make him eminently qualified for Honorary Membership in the Tennessee Library Association. **Suresh Ponnappa will receive the TLA Honorary Membership Award at the Opening General Session on Thursday.**



### Frances Neel Cheney Award: Pamela Dennis

**Dr. Pamela Dennis**, University of Memphis Learning Commons Coordinator, has an unquenchable interest in...well, pretty much anyone, anywhere, any time, and anything. Pamela creates myriad opportunities to ignite students' curiosity, love of books and reading through faculty collaboration, leadership, action research, Libguides on everything from chemistry to Judaic studies, and presentations on topics from Banned Books to STEM resources. She reached out to the University's Campus School, encouraging everyone—including parents—to use the extensive juvenile literature collection. She is extensively involved with TLA, chairing and serving on several committees and roundtables. Her continual encouragement and support of librarianship and the love of reading proudly uphold the traditions of the Frances Neel Cheney Award. **Pamela Dennis will receive the Frances Neel**

**Cheney Award at the All-Conference Reception on Thursday.**



### Friend of the Year Award: The Friends of Tellico Village

**The Friends of Tellico Village** are truly extraordinary people who have done extraordinary things. With no city, county or state funds, this group raised resources from private citizens and local groups, obtained a USDA loan and selected an architect and a construction company which built a LEEDS-certified, state-of-the-art 6,442 square-foot public library with an annex for storage. Since the library opened in November of 2012, the Friends have conducted their first Summer Reading Program, implemented a program for special-needs children, established adult education programs offering presentations in the library and initiated book delivery to senior living facilities. They've also held a successful used book sale. The Friends of Tellico Village Library are dedicated library advocates who built an outstanding library with blood, sweat, and tears, plus a whole lot of heart! **The Friend of the**

**Year Award will be presented at the Trustees and Friends Luncheon on Friday.**



### **TLA Library Support Staff Award: Ginger Gordon**

**Ginger Gordon** has worked at the Kingsport Public Library for 31 years. She started as a Library Page at age 17, shelving materials and shelf-reading on Saturdays for \$3.00 per hour. She has been through two renovations of the building, has worked in three different departments, and has worked under four different library managers. When the library catalog was automated in 1988, Ginger had the privilege of entering data from the old card catalog into Dynix using a Burroughs computer. Despite two spinal surgeries she has continued to work at the library—receiving, discarding, and keeping the administration office running. Ginger plans to retire in 2014. She is truly irreplaceable, and truly deserving of the Library Support Staff Award. **Ginger Gordon will receive the TLA Library Support Staff Award at the All Conference Reception on Thursday.**



### **Trustee of the Year Award: Angela Ott**

**Angela Ott** grew up in Pensacola, Florida and earned a B.S. in Family and Child Development from Florida State University. She did graduate work at Auburn University and lived with her Army husband and two daughters in Texas, Kansas, Hawaii and Georgia. She trained and taught as a Montessori teacher and was Children's Coordinator for Statesboro Regional Library in Georgia. While there, Angie got excited about the potential power libraries hold to strengthen communities. After moving to Woodbury in 2006, she joined the Cannon County Library Board and has served as Library Trustee ever since. She was on the Building Committee for the recent expansion and renovation of the Adams Memorial Library and continues working to use the library as a tool for community building, the true sign of a devoted Library Trustee. **Angela Ott will receive the TLA**

**Trustee Award at the Trustees and Friends Luncheon on Friday.**



### **TLA Making a Difference Award: The Children's Cabinet**

Co-chaired by Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam and First Lady Crissy Haslam, the **Governor's Children's Cabinet** is dedicated to coordinating initiatives across multiple departments to empower, educate, and engage Tennessee families. Last year Executive Director Jude White coordinated an ad-hoc committee from several state agencies that provided free literacy training and granted child-friendly computer stations for both public libraries and family child care programs across the state. In addition to the professional development support and budgetary savings, the Children's Cabinet programs have provided invaluable relationship building opportunities in several Tennessee communities, making a difference for Tennessee's libraries and most importantly, Tennessee's children. **Jude White, Executive Director of the Children's Cabinet, will receive the TLA Making a Difference Award at the Trustees**

**and Friends Luncheon on Friday.**



### **Louise Meredith School Library Media Award: Beth Frerking**

**Beth Frerking** is a librarian at Clarksville High School. Previously, she worked as a librarian for the North Slope Borough School District, serving schools in eight Inupiat communities along the Arctic Ocean. She has taken on many leadership roles since moving to Tennessee. She was the 2013 president for the Tennessee Association of School Librarians, is a member of Beta Phi Mu, and is active in the Nashville chapter of the Women's National Book Association. Beth's fellow teachers at Clarksville High selected her as the Distinguished Classroom Teacher for 2012-2013, recognizing her skills at integrating the library program into all aspects of education, the true hallmark of Louise Meredith. **Beth Frerking will receive the TLA Making a Difference Award at the Children's and Young Adult Roundtable Luncheon on Thursday.**



### **James E. Ward Library Instruction Award: Jeanine Akers**

Jeanine Akers soars above simply “meeting” the criteria for this award. Students, faculty, and colleagues often describe her with the words “wonderful,” “always” and “everything.” Beyond just adjectives, they use phrases like: “makes us love what we are learning about,” “she makes it fun,” “goes the extra step to help a student in need,” “calms us down and helps us figure out what’s going on,” “always patient with us,” and “always lends a hand to brighten somebody’s day”... and much more. “She’s not your stereotypical shhh’er librarian” (indeed!), but truly an extraordinary instructor librarian in every way. **Jeanine Akers will receive the James E. Ward Library Instruction Award at the Children’s and Young Adult Roundtable Luncheon on Thursday.**



### **TLA Intellectual Freedom Award: Exie Mai Harrington**

Exie Mai Harrington, a circulation assistant at Nashville Public Library’s Edgehill Branch, was a plaintiff in a federal lawsuit challenging emergency rules (Chapter 337 of the Public Acts of 2013) regarding the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). These rules severely limited how information about the PPACA could be shared, and who could help enroll others in qualified health plans, under penalty of fines. Harrington and the other plaintiffs won, successfully suspending the emergency rules and enabling library workers, healthcare workers, pastors, and other public employees to teach others about the PPACA without fear of fines. To quote judge Todd Campbell, the emergency PPACA rules are an “unconstitutional prior restraint in violation of the First Amendment.” **Exie Mai Harrington will receive the TLA Intellectual Freedom Award at the All-Conference**

Reception on Thursday.



### **Daniel Taylor Memorial Award: Michele Yellin**

Michele Yellin was bitten by the library bug when she met librarians during a convention. She soon sought employment with a public library as a youth services librarian while she worked toward her MLS from University of South Florida. She currently works in the Collection Development Department at the Memphis Public Library. Michele is professional, smart, and a leader in efforts to provide excellent library service. Michele has worked at several branches—even being assigned to two at a time and restoring youth services to one. Her cheerfulness never lags, and she is always thinking of ways to improve service for “her kids.” She embodies the spirit of the Daniel Taylor Memorial Award. **Michele Yellin will receive the Daniel Taylor Memorial Award at the Children’s and Young Adult Roundtable Luncheon on Thursday.**

### **Tennsco PLS Scholarship: Jillian Rael**

The Public Library Sector of the Tennessee Library Association is happy to announce that **Jillian Rael** has been awarded the Tennsco PLS Scholarship for 2014. The scholarship secures full pre-conference and conference registrations, tickets to all meals offered at the conference, the conference reception, and a three night stay at the conference hotel. Jillian is the Director of the Fayetteville-Lincoln County Public Library and is currently in the PLMI Training Program. Jillian writes, “To my knowledge, our library has never attended TLA Conferences, and this grant will allow me the opportunity to show how important it is.” Congratulations to Jillian. **Jillian Rael will receive the Tennsco PLS Scholarship at the Opening General Session on Thursday.**

### **TLA Conference Internship Program and Dr. Edwin Gleaves Scholarship**

The TLA Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that **Rebecca Durbin Baker** has been awarded the Dr. Edwin Gleaves Scholarship for 2014. In addition, the following people have been awarded TLA Conference Internships: **Anjanae Diane Brueland, Colin James Chappell, Lauren Hackert, Amber Denise Halter, Dwight Hunter, Kelsey Elizabeth Leonard, Rebecca Jane McClure, Delisa Arvilla Minor-Harris, Janell Irene Thomson, and Elizabeth Graham Wilson.** The Dr. Edwin Gleaves Scholarship and the TLA Conference Internships will be awarded at the Opening General Session on Thursday.