



**BOONE TREE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES  
MARCH 21, 2002**

The Spring meeting of the Boone Tree Library Association was held on March 21, 2002 at the Northeast State Technical Community College Library in Blountville, Tennessee.

Jo McDavid, President, called the meeting to order. The minutes of the Fall, 2001 meeting were printed for the membership to read. Minutes were approved as written. John Grubb gave the Treasurer's Report.

Announcements included Sullivan County Library's Third Annual Poetry Reading, featuring Jane Hicks and introducing Creative Writing students from Northeast State on April 2, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. Another reminder was of the E.T.S.U. Celebration of Books and Authors at the D.P. Culp Center Ballroom on campus on Saturday, April 13, 2002, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Fall, 2002 meeting is tentatively scheduled at the Colonial Heights Library.

Judith Barrett was our guest speaker, discussing the aging population in Sullivan and Washington Counties and how our libraries may serve them better. The following statistics were given. Washington County: total population 102,814; under age 5 5,958 (5.8%); ages 24-44 30,651 (29.8%); ages 45-59 19,788 (19.2 %); ages 60+ 19,224 (18.7 %). Sullivan County: total population 150,231; under age 5 8,428 (5.6%); ages 24-44 42,337 (28.2%); ages 45-59 32,553 (21.7%); ages 60+ 31,236 (20.8%). Judith suggests that we need more programming geared toward this aging population. She made ten suggestions. 1) Plan book groups using a mix of new titles and titles they read years ago. 2) Place large print books and books on tape near the checkout desk. 3) Plan programs of interest to older patrons, like health care, music, travel, etc., and include them in volunteer programs. 4) Include services for older patrons in your budget plans. 5) Make sure your building and parking lot are ADA compliant. 6) Provide services for patrons who are unable to visit the library using volunteer couriers and U.S. Mail. 7) Provide a space for information and resources for the aging or have a bibliography in a prominent place. 8) Work with other agencies whose primary function is to serve the older population. Volunteer to hold reading sessions. 9) Promote life long learning, hold computer training sessions for seniors. 10) Treat older patrons with respect. Older patrons sometimes have trouble explaining their needs. Practice patience.

After the program, refreshments were provided and a tour of the new library was available.

Respectfully submitted by

Lusetta Jenkins  
Secretary  
Boone Tree Library Association