

2015 Nominating Committee Recommends Slate

The Nominating Committee conducted candidate recruitment for board director positions from January through April of 2015. Friends members participated in the process by recommending potential candidates. Each nominee submitted a written application and attended a personal interview. The committee nominates the following people to serve as directors for a three-year term 2015-2018:

LeAnn Luna

LeAnn Luna holds a dual appointment with UT's Haslam College of Business as an associate professor with the Department of Accounting and Information Management and as a researcher with the Center for Business and Economic Development. Her position requires regular interaction with government officials at the state and local level and the analysis of budgets, financial statements and financial operations. LeAnn has worked as a tax accountant for an international accounting firm, a local CPA firm, and in private industry.

She has volunteered for the Dogwood Arts Festival and has served in a variety of volunteer roles for professional organizations. Most recently, she has been both a trustee and vice president of the board of the American Taxation Association.

Dale Pearson

Dale Pearson is a recent graduate of the Duncan School of Law at Lincoln Memorial University, adding transnational law and contracts specialties to an MBA in finance and a lengthy business resume. In a stellar series of regional corporate experiences, Dale has focused on finance and operations in several successful companies and departments. He is currently planning, materials and distribution manager of Keurig Green Mountain, Inc., one of the country's largest coffee roasters.

He has been a scoutmaster for the Boy Scouts of America and a coach for the Upward Bound program.

Jane Row

Recently retired as head of research services of the University of Tennessee Libraries, Jane Row brings to *Friends* a wealth of experience in library systems and planning that includes earlier positions with the 1982 World's Fair, Whittle Communications and the Metropolitan Planning Commission. She has chaired library committees, served on university committees, and has helped organize events.

She is an avid tennis player and has served as a board member and the first female president of the Board of Directors of the Knoxville Racquet Club. She is an officer of the Tennessee Tennis Patrons Association. Through Big Brothers/ Big Sisters, she is currently mentoring a child at Pond Gap School.

Rusha Sams

Former English teacher and high school principal, Rusha Sams, has become very interested in social media since her retirement from Knox County Schools. Her travel blog [*Oh, the Places We See*](#) incorporates usage of Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and Instagram on a daily basis.

She is a trainer for Discovery Education and for the University of Tennessee where she has prepared teachers to be principals in three rural counties. She has served in several positions with First United Methodist Church and on the boards of Blount Mansion and Leadership Knoxville. Rusha has participated in multiple Habitat for Humanity builds, locally as well as in Nepal and Lesotho.

Another duty of the Committee is to nominate a slate of officers of Friends from among the elected members of the Board of Directors. The Committee nominates the following:

President Claire Serrell

Graduated with a degree in English from Welles College in Aurora, NY, Claire Serrell moved to Knoxville in 1977 and raised her family here. First as secretary and a member of the board development committee, then as president-elect, she has been actively involved in a multitude of Friends programs and events and a wide range of Friends leadership decisions. Claire is actively involved in a number of local and state tennis associations.

President-Elect Kay Hays

Kay Hays' library story began in the second grade at the Burlington Branch where she was a page throughout high school. After a long career with Bush Brothers & Company, retiring as Executive Assistant to the Chairman, Kay has been a regular volunteer at many Friends book sales. Her hobbies include reading, collecting cookbooks, and travel and she is actively involved in her church. She currently chairs the annual meeting committee.

Secretary Martha Gill

Treasurer Marye Rose

Past President Bill Crosland

Bill Crosland, the perfect leader for all the growth Friends has experienced in 2014-15, will continue to serve as past president. We will retain the talents and services of Martha Gill and Marye Rose one more year as well. Martha will serve as secretary for both the executive committee and the board for the coming year, and Marye will continue as treasurer. d advise as an invaluable member of the executive committee. Bill brought many skills and experiences gained as a Knox County teacher and principal to the management of Friends.

Submitted by the Nominating Committee

Bill Crosland (Chair), Maggie Carini, Claire Serrell, Julie Webb, and Elnora Williams