

State Library Report

February 2013

Activities / Accomplishments

Joel & Sinclair Associates delivered their final *Operations Assessment of the Government & Heritage Library of the State Library of North Carolina* report to the State Librarian on February 7. Staff in the Government & Heritage Library will incorporate report recommendations into goal setting and planning during the month of March.

The GHL Blog (Government & Heritage Library blog) has been selected as one of 5 finalists for an *About.com* 2013 Genealogy Readers' Choice Award. Anyone may vote for the GHL Blog once a day through March 19 as the best at providing "essential, timely information on genealogy sources and collections, news, and methodologies." Erin Bradford's genealogy research series blog posts and genealogy posts created by other GHL staff make this an invaluable resource for genealogists. The winner will be announced on March 27. http://genealogy.about.com/od/blogging_history/l/blreaders-choice8.htm

Government & Heritage Library (GHL) staff conducted outreach and provided training or consultation to staff in 6 state agencies or institutions. Beth Hayden provided training on online NC historical newspaper resources for Museum of History staff. Denise Jones consulted with state government staff and librarians about print and digital publications and the NC State Publications Clearinghouse at the NC Museum of Natural Science, DHHS Division of Public Health, Injury and Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit; the Marine Science Center at UNC-W; Tryon Palace Special Collections. Denise consulted with NC DOT Library staff about cataloging backlogs and collection weeding.

The GHL launched its newest online collection, *Symphony Stories*, a collection of student guidebooks from the North Carolina Symphony's children's music education program dating from 1947 to present. Kathleen Kenney, Denise Jones, and Francesca Francis worked collaboratively to identify, locate, and catalog the guidebooks that underwent several title and format changes over the last 65 years. Linked catalog and metadata records now provide easy access to all of these historical booklets online. <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p249901coll22/id/660129>

Kay Tillotson presented a genealogy research workshop, *Tips and Tools for Genealogical Research*, for 14 researchers and librarians at the Warren County Memorial Library.

Beth Hayden coordinated a webinar about the State Data Center's programs and resources for 29 state government employees and librarians as part of the State Data Center Webinar Series.

The Government & Heritage Library and the State Archives hosted the first of four 2013 onsite quarterly genealogy workshops. Cheryl McLean and Kay Tillotson presented at the workshop, *Researching Your Revolutionary War Ancestors: Using Revolutionary War Records and Materials in the State Archives and State Library*, which was attended by 41 genealogical researchers. Attendees received a 6-page handout created by GHL staff, Cheryl McLean and Beth Hayden.

Emily Horton and Mike Childs presented *NCpedia: an Interactive Online Resource* to 15 K-12 social studies educators at the North Carolina Council for the Social Studies Conference.

GHL staff provided tours of the Government & Heritage Library for 17 students from the UNC-CH, School of Information and Library Science; 48 second- graders, parents, and teachers from the Cary Christian School; and 12 members of a State Archives tour group (genealogy).

GHL staff highlighted the NCpedia article about German POWs in North Carolina during WWII via Facebook and Twitter and in response, two NCpedia readers posted personal stories in the article's comments section. This is an example of how interactive online information resources enhance the learning experience by combining textbook and personal history in the same source.

<http://www.ncpedia.org/history/20th-Century/wwii-pows>

The NC Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NCLBPH), a regional library of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), underwent its onsite NLS biennial service and operational compliance evaluation. NLS consultant, Mary Beth Wise, met with all LBPH staff and State Library Administrators, Cal Shepard, Laura O'Donoghue, and Jan Reagan during her 2-day site visit. Results of the biennial evaluation will be compiled and shared with NCLBPH and the State Librarian as a report later in the year.

The NCLBPH was selected as one of the first 10 NLS libraries to implement the new digital magazine service. NCLBPH staff notified patrons of the change and the first digital magazines were shipped out on February 28.

The second "Heard Any Good Books Lately" program was released on the Triangle Radio Reading Service in mid-February. Underwritten by the Friends of the NCLBPH Library, the program discusses new and popular books, highlighting the collection of the Library for the Blind.

Gina Powell, Outreach Librarian at the LBPH, spoke with 13 people with visual impairments and NC Division of Services for the Blind (DSB) employees at a DSB Mini Center Class in Lumberton. She also spoke with Activity Directors at two adult-care centers about LBPH services (Valley Pines Adult Care and Cedar Creek Assisted Living) and hosted a tour of the LBPH for 9 members of the National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments.

Gina Powell assisted in coordinating and conducting the annual North Carolina regional Braille Challenge held at the Governor Morehead School for the Blind in Raleigh on February 14. Braille Challenge is the only national reading and writing contest in Braille for blind and visually impaired students. 48 students participated in the regional program.

The NC Cardinal project launched resource sharing across the 13 library systems on February 25. Without any formal announcement of the new service the libraries filled 1361 requests from patrons from other Cardinal libraries. David Green is working to produce an FAQ file that will provide answers to some of our frequently asked questions. He has also produced a new banner for the libraries' catalogs that can be personalized with each library's own logo. The next libraries to join are Caldwell County in

May and McDowell County in June. Tanya Prokrym is beginning to prepare the timeline and budget for the next year of library migrations. We have interest from two large urban libraries, two regional libraries in the East and a small municipal library.

The Friends of NC public Libraries will be holding their regional spring meetings in March and April. A State Library representative will attend each of the five meetings.

Kelly Brannock is working with a team of volunteers to judge the NC entries in the Letters about Literature program.

Library Development is presenting 5 Libguides workshops across the state with a sixth session being added in May. One great result of this is the increased use of the Libguides accounts.

Jennifer Pratt has sent out to each library director a chart describing their local funding for the last three years and the average they will need to meet in their 2013-14 Maintenance of Effort.

Molly Westmoreland, former Appalachian Regional Library Director will be joining the Library Development team as the Public Library Management Consultant on March 15th.

Lori Special is preparing for the Summer Reading Workshops to be held across the state in March. She has also been very involved in preparing for the soft launch of the NCDCL Education portal - education.ncdcl.gov.

The deadline for the LSTA grant applications was February 28th. Raye Oldham and Vicky Wheeler have received 68 grant applications, requesting a total of \$3,271,036, and have them ready for the first round of reviews by the Library Development Consultants beginning March 18th.

Jeffrey Hamilton has reported that the Sequestration will not affect the E-rate program except for the capacity of the FCC to manage the program. He believes Priority 2 requests (beyond Internet and connectivity) will most likely not be funded next year. He expects to have the 2013 Directory finished this month and ready for the website and for printing.

Joyce Chapman has evaluated a different vendor for our statewide statistical gathering and has recommended we begin working with the Counting Opinions LibPass product with an annual savings of \$40,000. Joyce Chapman and Jennifer Pratt are working with a small taskforce of librarians to evaluate and make recommendations regarding the questions we ask on the annual statistical report. The recommendations will include removal of questions that are no longer relevant due to changes in services and technology as well as the addition of new questions the librarians believe will more accurately describe the services the libraries in the state are providing.

Cal Shepard and Kelly Brannock served as speakers for 215 school librarians at the Librarian Networking Summit held on February 2, 2013 in the Teaching Resources Center of Joyner Library in Greenville, NC.

The State Library's new E-Book Advisory Committee held its initial meeting on February 18. The charge to this committee is to develop a recommended strategy for the State Library to employ in addressing the provision of e-books in public libraries statewide.

Notable Statistics

GHL Blog: Below is a breakdown of the top 10 blog posts of all time on the GHLblog (Lisa Gregory). Blog posts not only help us promote the GHL through social media but the articles we create also serve as great resources long after they are posted.

Are you a North Carolina Librarian?	3,283
Official State Horse raises federal concerns	2,023
Picture of the Week: Kittrell College, Kittrell, N. C.	1,404
State Doc Pick of the Week: Venomous snakes of North Carolina	1,073
Celebrating Hispanic Heritage: Prominent Hispanic North Carolinians and Hispanic Firsts	976
State Doc Pick of the Week: Organizational Chart of North Carolina State Government	814
Forgotten Patriots: African American and American Indian Patriots in the Revolutionary War	535
Remembering Pearl Harbor: Documentary on North Carolina's WWII Experience	454
Working with the NC State Publications Clearinghouse: Tip of the Month Publications in Draft	411
Is that ... Charlie Sheen?	408
State Doc Pick of the Week: North Carolina State Flag	400

Social Media Statistics: Government & Heritage Library: February

- Twitter (NCpedia): Gained 12 followers for a total of 1153. Staff posted 44 tweets.
- Twitter (DigPres411): Gained 8 followers for a total of 455. Staff posted 66 tweets.
- Pinterest: Gained 61 followers for a total of 194. Staff added 34 "pins", bringing the total number of pins to 698.
- Facebook Page: Gained 18 "likes" for a total of 560. Staff added 32 posts.
- GHL Blog: 17 staff blog posts went live

Other

A positive review of the GHL Blog was posted by a genealogy blogger on her blog, "Are you my Cousin?" <http://areyoumycousin-lisa.com/2013/02/ghl-blog/>.

A student posted a comment on the NCpedia *Great Horned Owl* article that illustrates that NCpedia helps students studying science as well as social studies and history. Riley Perdue commented on 02/20/2013: "Your website has helped me a lot, with my science project. Thanks, very handy. I will sure use it in the future. :-)= happy Riley You made Riley HAPPY!!!!!!!!!" <http://www.ncpedia.org/wildlife/great-horned-owl>