

State Library Report

June 2013

Activities / Accomplishments

Molly Westmoreland presented a Friends of the Library workshop at the Cabarrus County Library for 23 Friends. She is planning an Orientation for new public library directors on September 17 – 18. There are presently 8 new public directors in the state!

Raye Oldham has sent out forty-seven LSTA grant agreements to libraries for signatures. Once the signed agreements are filed the libraries can begin their projects. She is planning the LSTA Advisory Committee meeting to be held July 11- 12.

Kelly Brannock has completed the Continuing Education plan for the 2013-14 year. (The Continuing Education Advisory Committee will review the plan at their meeting in August.) The plan outlines Library Development-sponsored training for library staff across the state. First up will be three customer service workshops to be held at Richmond Community College in Hamlet, at the Central Library in Greensboro, and at a location to be determined in Greenville.

The State Library is funding scholarships for library staff to attend two different conferences this fall: ten public librarians will receive scholarships to attend the national Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference (in Omaha, NE) on September 25-28 while 50 library staff members (from any type of library) in North Carolina will receive assistance to attend the biennial North Carolina Library Association Conference (in Winston Salem) on October 16-18. Jeffrey Hamilton is handling these arrangements.

Joyce Chapman reports there are now 375 subscribers to the Library Development Blog. She is averaging three posts a week and is delighted that librarians are leaving comments and appear to be very interested.

Jennifer Pratt, Raye Oldham, and Kelly Brannock (LD) and Francesca Francis, Denise Jones, Vicki Brueck, and Mike Childs (GHL) attended the American Library Association Conference in Chicago June 28 – July 1. They are planning to report on their “star programs” during a brown bag lunch in July.

North Carolina has been selected as one of seven pilot states for the national Edge Project. The Edge Initiative is a nation-wide project developed to assist public libraries with assessing and improving their technology infrastructure and services. Molly Westmoreland, Jeffrey Hamilton, and Jennifer Pratt attended a convening to learn more about the initiative in Atlanta the first week in June. Armed with the information they received at the convening they brought together representatives from 22 NC libraries in Winston Salem on June 12 to prepare them for their participation in the initiative. Three NC public libraries have already completed the assessment!

If it's summer then that means it's Summer Reading Time! The LBPH Children's Summer Reading Program began in early June and staff have received a good response from readers. The kick-off event,

held June 21 at the Governor Morehead School, was a special program on dinosaurs and fossils presented by staff from the NC Museum of Natural Sciences. The children had the opportunity to handle fossils, bones, snakes, lizards and turtles; however, the highlight of the event was a 4' live alligator. 52 young readers attended the program. Meanwhile summer reading programs are being offered by public libraries in all 100 counties in the state. Several libraries participate in the Summer Food Service Program. The Roanoke Rapids Public Library is one these - children attending summer reading programs at the library receive a free lunch as part of the program.

Gina Powell, Carl Keehn, Deb Barnes, and Cal Shepard participated in the quarterly board meeting of the Friends of the NCLBPH in Raleigh. Gina and Carl attended the Consumer Advocacy Advisory Committee meeting (advocacy for the visually impaired community), and Gina participated in program planning committee meetings for the Braille Enrichment Literacy and Learning (BELL) program and the NC Annual Conference on Visual Impairment and Blindness.

Gary Ray, President of the Friends of the NCLBPH presented information on NCLBPH services for 30 members of the Valley Springs Lions Club.

Gina Powell, Outreach and Volunteer Services Librarian at the LBPH staffed a library display and provided information to 300 professionals and individuals at three separate events or conferences in June, including the Deaf Blind Awareness Day (100), the Raleigh Triangle Caregivers Conference (113), and the Durham Triangle Caregivers Conference (87).

GHL Information Services Branch (ISB) staff conducted seven Basic Level Genealogy Research training classes for 15 staff and completed this initial segment of public services training on July 1. ISB staff will commence the Intermediate Level Genealogy Research training segment in August. (Cheryl McLean, Kay Tillotson, Beth Hayden, Erin Bradford)

DIMP staff (with State Archives) finalized the *NCDCR Digital Preservation Plan* for DCR Executive Staff review and approval. (DCR is legislatively mandated to collect, preserve, and provide public access to digital state records and publications but can do so only with the full cooperation of executive agencies.) The revised plan proposes convening an Electronic Government Information Stewardship Committee within state government to facilitate needed partnerships among digital information creators, Chief Records Officers, IT systems staff, legal experts, and archives and library professionals.

Issues of the *North Carolina Historical Review*, 1924–1967 are now available for use online in the joint State Library/State Archives NC Digital Collections. Kathleen Kenney in the DIMP was instrumental in getting the issues digitized and searchable online. A press release announcing the launch of the digital collection was sent out on June 5. <http://news.ncdcr.gov/2013/06/05/north-carolina-historical-review-now-available-online/>.

An almost complete run of *Zion's Landmark*, a Primitive Baptist periodical published semi-monthly by Zion's Landmark Print in Wilson, NC from 1867-2012, was donated to the Government & Heritage Library by the last editor's family. The newsletter includes obituaries of North Carolinians and is of great interest

to genealogy researchers. Because of this, staff investigated the possibility of digitizing the collection for online access. The family granted permission and the GHL is collaborating with the Duke University Divinity School Library to get the print issues scanned for inclusion in the online “Religion in North Carolina Collection” currently under development at Duke.

DIMP staff created a new physical and virtual display in the Government & Heritage Library and on the State Library’s Flickr site called the “Obsolete Media Museum.” The display provides a look at our past in terms of production, storage, and access to audio, visual and textual content over the last 60+ years. It also reiterates the importance of preserving our current digital media and content today before it is too late! Displays are located in the GHL Government & History Research Room (1st floor) and the virtual exhibit can be viewed at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/statelibrarync/sets/72157633494681773/>).

The GHL Outreach and Marketing Team implemented recommendations from the GHL Operations Assessment Report, including reconvening regular meetings with state agency library staff to enhance awareness of library resources and encourage collaboration; revising sign-in sheets in Genealogy and the Government & History Research Room to include email addresses for patrons and maintaining these names and addresses in a shared database for distribution lists; designing a branding logo for the GHL; and developing a short- and long-range outreach and marketing plan and approach for the library. The team’s proposed outreach and marketing plan will be shared with staff in July.

GHL staff posted 19 new blog posts on state publications, new acquisitions, genealogy research tips and interesting NC facts. Denise Jones produced and distributed the summer issue of Clearinghouse Update Newsletter to librarians and state employees.

Eve Grunberg and Francesca Francis (GHL) presented “Sailing the Digital Serials Seas: Charting a New Course with CONTENTdm” to an audience of 25 librarians and archivists at the NASIG Annual Conference in Buffalo, NY (national serials group) on June 8.

Michelle Underhill, Kathleen Kenney, and Denise Jones (GHL) trained 4 staff in DCR NC Historical Publications to access the online version of the NC Historical Review in the NC Digital Collections.

Beth Hayden (GHL) coordinated a BLNC: Business Link North Carolina webinar for 39 government employees, librarians, and the general public on June 24. Christine Ryan of the NC Department of Commerce taught the webinar that covered free resources and assistance offered by the BLNC program for starting a small business in North Carolina.

Cal Shepard attended 7 meetings (including the newly-formed State Aid Review Committee, DigitalLearn.org Executive Team, and chairing the American Library Association’s (ALA) Training, Orientation and Leadership Development (TOLD) Committee) at the annual American Library Association Conference. She presented a State Library Update webinar on June 20 and hosted the ALA TOLD Leadership program for incoming ALA/Council Committee Chairs.

Coming Up

GHL staff will participate in the African American Family History Day event at the Charlotte Hawkins Brown historic site on July 13th (a DCR 2nd Saturday event) and provide information to visitors on the library's genealogy resources.

GHL and State Archives staff will present the final workshop in the Department's quarterly genealogy workshop series in Raleigh on July 27, 2013. The workshop, "What Happens to Your Stuff When You Die? Researching Probate Records" will provide attendees with tips on how to research probate records for North Carolina as well as other states including Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee.

Other

Comments and more from patrons:

An LBPH patron shared high praise for the reader advisory. He said staff has done an absolutely brilliant job in working with him over the years and is 100% on target in selecting books for him. He also said that he sometimes has some very challenging requests and that everyone at the library rises to the occasion and finds him what he needs.

A young man (student) whom staff had assisted in research let us know that he made an A- on his paper and will be presenting the paper at a conference in Jacksonville, FL.

A state employee remarked, "It is good to know someone is working to preserve this literature. Thanks for what you do." A staff member was meeting with him about the NC State Publications Clearinghouse and the library's permanent collection of state publications.

A GHL library patron from the NC DENR, Division of Air Quality, shared high praise for the GHL's interlibrary loan services: "Wonderful! Thank you for your determined efforts to track this down. I will spread the word about the extraordinary Interlibrary Loan Services of the State Library of North Carolina!"