

State Library Report

July 2013

Activities / Accomplishments

Staff from the Government and Heritage Library (GHL) published 17 posts on the GHL blog related to genealogy research, state publications, new library acquisitions, NCpedia articles, digitization methods, and new digital collections. GHL staffer, Mitzi Townes, contributed a blog post on Nat Turner to the Department of Cultural Resources' "This Week in NC History" blog.

Staff from Library Development (LD) published 17 posts on the LD blog. There were 2600 page views and 1041 visits recorded during the month of July

GHL participated or sponsored 9 educational outreach programs during July, including 5 genealogy workshops, exhibits, and presentations to a total of 102 researchers, librarians, and archivists; a NC One Map webinar with the NC Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCCGIA) where 78 state and local government employees, librarians, students, and GIS researchers were introduced to the state's geospatial portal; a presentation on NCpedia and digital collections to demonstrate computer science-related career opportunities in libraries for 48 children and parents at the Girl Scout Computer Science Camp; NC State Publications Clearinghouse; and a meeting of 21 staff from the State Library and state agency libraries in Raleigh to discuss collaborations, resources, and library issues.

Jennifer Davison submitted the State Library's completed Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) Biennial Survey to the Government Printing Office, a requirement of all libraries participating in the federal documents depository program.

GHL cataloging staff met with staff from other branches to discuss and prioritize cataloging projects for 2013-14. One of the of the priority projects underway is cataloging "Miscellaneous" historic North Carolina newspaper microfilm reels to better identify what newspapers/issues are included on these reels. To date, Vicki Brueck has identified 162 towns with miscellaneous newspapers and completed cataloging reels for 14 of them.

Kathleen Kenney represented the State Library at the National Digital Stewardship Alliance meeting at the Library of Congress in July. The State Library and State Archives are founding members of the Alliance.

Francesca Francis, Denise Jones, and Vicki Brueck attended the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Vicki and Francesca attended cataloging-related programs and Denise and Francesca attended GODORT (government documents round table) sessions and networking events.

Cal Shepard, Michelle Underhill, and Jan Reagan met with staff from the State, the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center, and the North Carolina Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill to discuss expanding public access to the State Library/State Archives *NC North Carolina Digital Collections* and the Digital Heritage Center Collections through participation in the newly created Digital Public Library of America (DPLA).

Response to participation was positive and Nick Graham will pursue next steps for sharing metadata records with DPLA.

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) sent out its second volume of local magazines in digital format to readers in July. This volume is the first to include locally recorded content as well. This new format, that includes multiple magazine titles on a single digital cartridge, continues to present challenges for staff. Craig Hayward, however, has been successful in identifying and solving the problems with access and playback before the cartridges are shipped out to readers. Reader reactions to the new digital magazine program (NLS and LBPH produced) for the most part is positive with readers enjoying the clearer sound and ease of using the digital cartridge.

LBPH began registration for its Adult Summer Reading program and response from readers has been strong with 50 participants registered in July.

LBPH circulation figures clearly reflect the phasing out of books on cassette tape and the increase in digital book circulation in North Carolina. In July, digital book circulation was 73% of overall circulation whereas cassette tape circulation was only 22%. (The other 5% is large type, braille and DVD)

Gina Powell, Volunteer and Outreach Services Librarian at LBPH, conducted or participated in 3 educational programs in which a total of 102 children and disability professionals participated. Gina also made presentations about the LBPH and its services to 17 members and speech therapists at the Greenville Aphasia Club, and 4 librarians at the Shepard Memorial Public Library and the Washington Carver Public Library in the Greenville area.

Jeffrey Hamilton supported 4 webinars during the month of July

- Introducing LibPAS with Joyce Chapman, 63 attendees
- Statewide Collaborative Virtual Reference Managers, 11 attendees
- NC One Map, 80 attendees
- LSTA Project Managers with Raye Oldham, 17 attendees

The Train Station Continuing Education for Librarians portal had 2,539 views in July. July's calendar promoted 65 online events and handled 185 registrations.

Kelly Brannock arranged for three face-to-face Customer Service workshops across the state and has made arrangements for 21 additional workshops during September – December.

3 sessions - Beginning LibGuides

6 sessions - Lib Cal

6 sessions - Advanced LibGuides

3 sessions - NC Live Basics

3 sessions - NC Live Advanced

Kelly Brannock and Lori Special are working with a group of Youth Services librarians to develop and present NC Live training for youth services staff and Every Child Ready to Read workshops in the late fall early winter.

Summer Reading across the state has finished up and statistics are being reported within the State Data Survey. The State Data Survey (which annually collects statewide public library statistics that are used in-state for planning purposes and are also reported nationally) was released on July 15th.

Joyce Chapman has developed a Public Library Data Dashboard. This sophisticated tool presents relevant data about NC public libraries and the communities they serve in a format they provides the ability to compare across other libraries and economic tiers. <http://plstats.nclive.org/dashboard.php>

Jennifer Pratt has prepared and sent out the annual state aid application packets to all public libraries.

Jeffrey Hamilton and Molly Westmoreland have supported 20 public libraries in their participation in the Edge Initiative pilot project, with 18 of the 20 libraries completing the initial assessment by the July 30 deadline.

The NC Cardinal project welcomed Albemarle Regional Library to the consortium during the month of July. This new migration added 4 counties (Bertie, Gates, Northampton and Hertford) to the consortium. A project to remove duplicate records from the shared catalog has been launched and work should begin in August to start the clean-up of the data.

On August 9 Cal Shepard and Lori Special met with Malbert Smith from Meta Metrics to discuss strategies for measuring reading level gains for participants of public library-sponsored summer reading programs.

Commissions and Committees

- The CEAC (Continuing Education Advisory Committee led by Kelly Brannock) welcomed two new members, Martha Sink (Alamance County Public Library) and Ricky Baker (Greensboro Public Library.)
- The YSAC (Youth Services Advisory Committee led by Lori Special) has been reactivated with new members and plans to meet by phone on September 6.
- Sylvia Sprinkle Hamlin, Director of Forsyth County Public Library, has been reappointed to the NC Public Librarian Certification Commission (led by Molly Westmoreland).
- The Governance Task Force of NC Cardinal (led by Tanya Prokrym) met in Asheville on July 31.
- The Cataloging Task Force of NC Cardinal (led by Tanya Prokrym) held two meetings (in Raleigh and Asheville) and is beginning work on the Best Practices document.
- The LSTA Advisory Committee (led by Raye Oldham) met on July 11 and 12th. They welcomed three new members, Jane Blackburn (Appalachian Regional Library), Cathy Campbell (Craven Community College), and Dana Sally (Western Carolina University.) The committee reviewed the funded grant projects for 2013-14 and made recommendations for the 2014-15 grant program.

Other

GHL Reference Question of Interest:

The unique resources in the State Library's Government and Heritage collection contribute to the local economy! How? By attracting researchers from around the country (and the globe) who come to visit Raleigh so they can use the materials housed in the library.

A recent example:

An Oxford University (England) history student is writing a dissertation on slavery in North Carolina and is coming to the states to conduct research in September 2013. He contacted the Government & Heritage Library to inquire about the library's resources on this topic and what sources on specific towns or plantations might be available. Library staff responded that the State Library holds collections of sources in North Carolina and Southern history and culture as well as substantial published holdings of slave narratives (collected as part of an oral history project in the 1930s from surviving ex-slaves) and extant 19th century newspapers. Staff also described the library's genealogy collection and the sources (private manuscripts, family papers, wills, and county land records and deeds) held in the State Archives as well.