State Library Report
September 2013

Activities / Accomplishments

The State Library Commission committee to review the state aid formula met on September 24th. The Committee concluded that the current State Aid formula does need updating but could not agree on a new formula to recommend.

Cal Shepard attended the conference and participated in the board meeting of the Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) September 26 - 29.

The LSTA Annual Program Plan was posted online on September 6. This posting marks the beginning of the 2014-15 grant program and describes the available grants for libraries with applications and deadlines. 2014-15 LSTA Grant Program

Raye Oldham met with IMLS and 14 states in DC on September 23-24 to plan for the Measuring Success Initiative -- a targeted effort to re-design the annual State Program Report in order to describe the national impact of federal LSTA funds.

Library Development designed and presented 5 Affordable Care Act workshops across the state during the week of September 16-20 to public library staff.

The annual public library survey data gathering has been completed and the survey is closed. Joyce Chapman has provided access to the draft data and is working her way through a check and clean-up of the data.

The public library applications for state aid have been received and checked in for the fiscal year 2013-14. Jennifer Pratt and Lorice Hyman are checking each application and filing in preparation for issuing the annual allocation memos.

Joyce Chapman authored 14 blog posts for the Library Development blog and launched a new blog category on Innovative Programming. Information about new (or old) innovative programs in public libraries will be highlighted. LD Blog Programming Series

Kelly Brannock met with the Continuing Education Advisory Committee on September 24th to discuss the C.E. plans for the fall and spring sessions and to develop a user survey to assess library staff training needs.

Jeffrey Hamilton attended the Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) September 26 – 29 conference and managed the scholarship program (funded through our LSTA program) offered for public library staff to attend. Ten scholarships were awarded.
Lori Special and Molly Westmoreland staffed the North Carolina booth at the National Book Festival in Washington DC on September 21st. They provided information about North Carolina and promoted Kelly Starling Lyons, the NC author of Hope’s Gift.

Library Development welcomed 8 new public library directors to the State Library for an orientation on September 17 and 18th. Molly Westmoreland planned the two day event and included information on the three sections of the state library.

Lori Special provided a workshop for the Haywood County Public Library Youth Services Staff on September 24th in Waynesville.

Library Development staff presented a total of 8 other face-to-face workshops and webinars during the month. These were attended by a total of 285 library staff.

NC Cardinal staff held conference calls with Cumberland County Library, the newest member of the consortium, to begin planning their migration to the new system in December. Tanya Prokrym met with the Cataloging Task Force in Raleigh on September 25th to discuss the progress of the catalog deduplication project. Tanya also met with the Governing Task Force in Asheville on September 30 to discuss the draft bylaws of the consortium. David Green has developed a template for the member libraries to brand their catalogs with their logos in addition to the NC Cardinal logo.

The NCpedia article entitled "Lumbee Indians Face the Ku Klux Klan, 1958" was shared on Reddit, a social news and entertainment website where registered users submit content in the form of a link or text, on September 22. The post generated over 100,000 pageviews of the article on NCpedia. This was by far a new daily record, and contributed to an overall record month for the site.

The Government & Heritage Library, in cooperation with University of North Carolina Press will be making the entirety of The North Carolina Gazetteer available online through NCpedia. The North Carolina Gazetteer is a dictionary of North Carolina’s geographical place names documenting their location, history and the origins of the name and contains information on over 20,000 places in North Carolina.

The NCpedia project is the focus of class assignment in an American history class (HIS 251-001) being taught by Professor Susanna Lee at North Carolina State University (NCSU). In the assignment, students will research and write an article for the NCpedia. Mike Childs, NCpedia librarian, presented the library’s process for researching, editing, and publishing content in the NCpedia to the class of 65 students. NCpedia staff will review all class articles and determine eligibility for inclusion in the NCpedia.

Digital Information and Management Program (DIMP) staff conducted outreach with state agencies to encourage participation in the joint State Library and Archives social media archiving program, ArchiveSocial. Agencies must agree to have their social media sites crawled by the custom web harvester in order for their social media sites to be archived. Archiving these sites preserves this information for long-term public access to the public records of state government.
The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped co-sponsored an educational program with the NC Museum of Natural Sciences for 60 blind and visually impaired individuals. The program, Marvelous Mammals, was a lecture and tactile demonstration of live mammals, pelts, and fossil held at the Museum of Natural Sciences.

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped finalized plans with Raleigh Parks and Recreation to co-sponsor a new adult book discussion program for blind and visually impaired individuals in the Raleigh area. The program will commence on February 14. LBPH staff will lead the book discussions and Raleigh Parks and Recreation will manage registration and transportation for participants.

The National Library Service (NLS) released its new mobile app for I-devices in mid-September. Patrons of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped may use the app to download books directly from the NLS BARD website to their I-phone or I-pad. Within the first 24 hours of release, 30 LBPH patrons had registered their devices and downloaded the app. By October 5, that number had risen to 157 patrons. An Android device app is under development.

Mike Childs presented “North Carolina goes digital: learning about our state through an online encyclopedia and other digital resources” at the Triangle Reading Council. Sixteen K-12 educators and librarians attended the presentation.

Staff in the Government & Heritage Library wrote and published 15 blog posts. They provided overview information about library services and resources to a total of 60 professionals in three separate events, including a library tour for NC General Assembly legislative aides, orientation program for new public library directors, and an open house for K-12 teachers at the Museum of History.

Other

A media specialist at a school library in NC sent an email to NCpedia saying that a 4th grade teacher thought there had just been a state dirt or soil designated. Did we have any information about that? State Library staff responded immediately saying that earlier this year clay had been designated as the official state art medium, but that we also have a state stone (emerald), mineral (gold), and rock (granite.) We gave her links to the symbols in NCpedia and to the NC General Assembly site that has the statutes.

Two minutes later we received the following:

Wow! Thank you for the informative and QUICK response! The class is due in the library any minute and you will make me look like a rock star! Many thanks.