

State Library Report

November 2013

Activities / Accomplishments

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) held its annual Volunteer Recognition Event on November 14 in Raleigh to honor the library's 113 volunteers who contributed 6,387 volunteer hours over the past year. These 6,000+ hours are equivalent to 2.5 full-time employees. Volunteers make it possible for the library to maintain excellent customer service and timely delivery of reading materials to over 11,000 library patrons throughout the state.

Mary Helen Pearsall, LBPH volunteer, conducted two Mini-Center programs sponsored by the North Carolina DHHS Division of Services for the Blind. She shared information about the LBPH and services with a total of 31 blind or visually impaired individuals.

Gina Powell (LBPH) spoke to 16 members of a UNC-CH School of Library and Information Science Collection Management class about the special issues involved in collection development and management at the LBPH. She also met with Karen Michel at the Chapel Hill Public Library to discuss LBPH services and possible program collaborations.

Gary Ray, President of the Friends of the NCLBPH, made a presentation to 30 members of an Asheville Visually Impaired Support Group about LBPH library services available to them.

Denise Jones submitted four state agency publications as nominees for ALA's GODORT 2013 Notable Documents: *North Carolina and the Two World Wars*; *NC Health Statistics Pocket Guide*; *Remote Testimony and Related Procedures Impacting a Criminal Defendant's Confrontational Rights*; and *General Industry Basic Safety and Health Management Program*. A North Carolina state government publication, *ACCESS North Carolina: A Vacation and Travel Guide for People with Disabilities*, was selected for the notable documents list in 2012.

The Digital Information Management Program (DIMP) released the Fall edition of the *Digital Insider* newsletter. The newsletter can be found on the Government & Heritage Library's website at http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ghl/news/di/2013_1101.pdf

Joyce Chapman presented on the panel, "Evaluating the User experience: What to Ask, How to Measure, and What to Learn from Assessment" on November 9 at the Mid Atlantic Regional Archives Conference in Philadelphia, PA. She also presented on the panel, "Hunting for Best Practices in Digital Library Assessment" on November 5 at the Digital Library Federation annual meeting in Austin, TX.

The LSTA competitive grant cycle for 2014-2015 is in full swing. In November, Raye Oldham distributed 13 Letters of Intent (LOI) for project grants to reviewers: LD Consultants, SLNC Senior Management, and members of the LSTA Advisory Committee.

Library Development Consultants have begun their annual site visits. Consultants visit every public library in the state once a year to keep in touch, monitor for compliance with state aid regulations, and to provide assistance and advice if needed.

NC Cardinal

The Albemarle Regional Library is now participating in resource sharing across the consortium. All 16 of the active libraries in NC Cardinal are sharing books across the state. In November alone, 54,000 items were transited among the libraries.

Cardinal Staff launched “The Nest” a website designed specifically for staff at NC Cardinal member libraries. The Nest contains general information on the NC Cardinal program, the latest news from Cardinal committees, instructional materials, and a discussion forum.

Notable Statistics

There were 10 posts to the LD blog in November (lower due to holidays). It had 606 visits, 484 visitors, and 908 page views. The most popular post was the recap of session presented at the NC Library Association Conference “Tip and Tricks for Job Seekers” that Kelly Brannock participated in.

Train Station: There were 1,828 views of the Train Station, 83 events were added to calendar, and 36 registrations taken.

State Library staff presented 2 webinars on Adobe Connect with a total of 53 attendees. The Data webinar was presented by Beth Hayden and Joyce Chapman. A grant writing tips webinar was presented by Raye Oldham.

The State Library is now offering Universal Class, a website with over 150 self-paced courses covering technology, communication, interpersonal skills, management, and more. Classes are available to staff from any type of library in NC. <http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ld/education/universalclass.html>
In November 27 user accounts were created and library staff enrolled in 31 courses.

Library Development offered 9 face-to-face workshops which were attended by over 120 staff from public, community college, and independent college & university libraries. Workshop topics included “LibGuides” and “LibCal” (the content management system provided for libraries free of charge by the State Library), NC LIVE, and using data to tell the library story.

Over 90% of attendees agreed that the information provided was very useful and that they felt much more confident in their skills and knowledge as a result of the workshops. “This workshop was well organized, covered very useful information, with great tips and examples. Our instructor was awesome and I liked having hands-on practice and time to explore!”

Coming Up

The Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and the Raleigh Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources' Specialized Recreation and Inclusion Services are co- sponsoring a free Audio Book Club for residents of Raleigh and surrounding Wake County towns beginning in February 2014. The LBPH will provide books to book club participants and book discussions will be held at the Five Points Center for Active Adults in Raleigh. Transportation and registration is being handled by the Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Visually Impaired Program.

Comment received from a researcher: Thank you so much for your time. I visited the Library and Archives there this summer and fell in love with the staff in the Government and Heritage Library. My sister and I could not believe how thoroughly knowledgeable and helpful all of you were, especially Kay Tillotson (in Genealogy).

NCpedia entry comment: Thank you for the NCpedia. I had not heard of the term "redeemer" as used in nineteenth century post reconstruction political thought: I googled the term and, voila, it sent me to your web site. Thank you. <http://ncpedia.org/comment/3133#comment-3133> for <http://ncpedia.org/redeemer-democrats>

NCpedia entry comment: Writing a novel set in the Depression...very helpful info on schools/kids/education. Thanks so much! <http://ncpedia.org/comment/3278#comment-3278> for <http://ncpedia.org/public-schools-great-depression>