State Library Report

May 2014

Staff

Josh Berkov has been hired to fill the Collections Librarian position at the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH). He will join us on June 16.

John Jones, Circulation Processing Assistant II at the LBPH, has been selected to fill the vacant Circulation Processing Assistant III position. He will start in the new position on June 16.

Activities / Accomplishments

The Government & Heritage Library, in collaboration with the DCR Historical Publications Section of the NC State Archives, began selling DCR Historical Publications out of the library in May. The library now maintains a selected inventory of publications and will work with Historical Publications to obtain titles for customers that are not held in the library inventory. All sales proceeds go directly to the State Archives.

Joanna Cox, a student in the Library and Information Studies Program at UNC-Greensboro, is doing a summer internship at the State Library under Michelle Underhill, Director of the DIMP in the GHL. Joanna will develop and conduct a usability survey and assessment of the State Library’s website. As part of the process, Joanna began interviewing library staff about the website in May.

Staff from the Government & Heritage Library and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped demonstrated library resources and discussed library services with 15 members of the North Carolina State Library Commission at the State Library on May 12.

Denise Jones, State Agency Liaison Librarian in the GHL, was instrumental in facilitating open public access to digitized versions of valuable historical reports of the North Carolina Supreme Court available online via the HathiTrust collaborative digital repository collection. The North Carolina Reports, 1990-2005, considered to be in the public domain, were digitized by the University of Michigan Library and donated to the HathiTrust as part of their university’s digital collection. The HathiTrust, however, sought authoritative verification of the public domain status before allowing full public access to these digitized reports. Denise identified Jim Hutcheson, North Carolina Supreme Court Reporter, as the state official who had this authority. Mr. Hutcheson contacted the HathiTrust, verified public domain status, and granted permission for open public access and viewing of the digitized North Carolina Reports.

Denise Jones received 3 boxes of disks containing digital files for the North Carolina Reports and NC Court of Appeals opinions for uploading into the library’s digital North Carolina State Government Publications Collection over the next 6 to 8 months. Many thanks to Jim Hutcheson, Supreme Court Reporter, and Barrett Fish, Supreme Court Librarian for helping Denise and the GHL in procuring these digital files.
Francesca Francis and Eve Grunberg, State Documents Catalogers in the GHL, gave a presentation on “Know your catalog record” for GHL staff that included information on public views of library catalog records, how new RDA rules affect catalog records, and how to obtain needed information from old and new OPAC records.

Kay Tillotson and Cheryl McLean attended the National Genealogical Society 2014 annual conference in Richmond, VA. During the 4 days, each attended 20 educational sessions on topics such as research methodology, migration, court records, overcoming brick walls, indentured servants, and much more.

Rebecca Hyman, with input from other ISB staff, wrote and refined the learning objectives and video scripts for the four modules of the joint genealogy research MOOC (Massive Open Online Course), Roots MOOC, being developed by the State Library and the Z. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest University. GHL staffs, Beth Hayden, Cheryl McLean, and Rachel Trent, as well as Chris Meekins and Debbi Blake in the State Archives assisted in writing the video scripts. Filming of the video portions of the Roots MOOC is scheduled for June in the State Library and State Archives. The MOOC will be launched in March 2015.

Mike Childs, NCpedia Librarian, presented on the NCpedia to 48 members of the North Carolina Society in Chapel Hill.

Josh Wilson, Systems Integration Librarian in the DIMP (GHL), presented “Personalizing Google analytics Using Events & Custom Variables” to 35 librarians, archivists, and students at the CONTENTdm Southern Users Group Meeting in Columbia, SC. Rachel Trent, Collection Management Librarian in the DIMP, also attended the meeting.

Jan Reagan, LSS Section Chief, with the help of Debbie King in Library Administration, coordinated a virtual meeting event, the Lyrasis e-Gathering, for 16 selected State Library staff on May 15 in Room 208 of the Archives and History Building. Various library staff (LD, GHL, LBPH, Admin) attended the virtual keynote presentation, “Tapping Our Inner Futurist: Outcomes and the Future” given by futurist, Garry Golden, for librarians. Staff also participated in a brief discussion of Mr. Golden’s approach and relevance for NC libraries.

Jan Reagan, LSS Section Chief, met with the LBPH Strategy Team to discuss the logistics of evaluating external factors that influence/impact LBPH services and operations – present and future – using the PEST analysis tool. Members of the strategy team were each assigned to research and assess one of the following external areas of significance - political, economic, socio-cultural, and technology (PEST). Research findings will be presented and discussed with the whole team in June. The results of the analysis will be used in the ongoing planning efforts at the LBPH.

Cheryl McLean and Kay Tillotson represented the Government & Heritage Library at DCR’s Bathfest event in Bath, NC with an informational exhibit. They also participated on Oral History Panel presentation and discussed the importance of preserving family stories handed down through the generations.
Gina Powell, Outreach Librarian at the LBPH and Mary Helen Pearsall, a NCLBPH Friends Board member presented information on LBPH services to 20 blind and/or visually impaired individuals at two separate Mini-Center events sponsored by the NC DHHS Division of Services for the Blind in Coats and Chapel Hill.

Gina Powell hosted a group of 6 blind/visually impaired individuals from Robeson County at the LBPH. She discussed library services and programs and gave the group a tour of the library facility.

Marlene Debo, Reader Advisor continues to coordinate book selection, discussion leaders, and group meetings of the joint Wake County Parks & Recreation VIP services (visually impaired services) and LBPH monthly book club for visually impaired Wake County residents. The titles for the upcoming series have been selected and a number of participants have volunteered to lead discussions.

Carl Keehn, Gina Powell, Craig Hayward, and Catherine Rubin attended the biennial conference of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), themed “New Frontiers,” in Oklahoma City, OK. Participants received updates on improved access to reading materials online through BARD (the NLS system for downloadable books) and via mobile apps; NLS plans for a second generation digital talking book machine; rollout of the new NLS Patron Information and Machine Management records system (PIMMS) for libraries; the upcoming upgrade for the KLAS ILS system which will accommodate the new PIMMS (2015); and the issuance of currency readers to interested LBPH patrons in 2015 (in conjunction with the U.S. Bureau of Engraving). Staff gained lots of great information about current and future technologies and services the NLS is using and incorporating into the program.

Cal Shepard accompanied the NC delegation of student ambassadors to Washington DC for Library Legislative Day on May 6th. She attended the meeting of the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies on May 7, addressed the crowd of statewide library supporters who gathered in Raleigh on May 20th for the state library legislative day, and attended a meeting of the Executive Committee for NC LIVE on May 30th.


The Library Development Section met together on May 6 for their annual planning retreat. They evaluated their progress towards their 2013-14 goals and planned for the upcoming year.

- Jennifer Pratt presented at the State Library Commission meeting on May 12, giving an overview of the Library Development section and an update on Affiliated Libraries.
- She attended the NCLive Resource Advisory committee meeting to select resources for the next three years on May 19 in High Point.

The Counting Opinions Summer Reading Online Management Tool has been launched and libraries are offering this tool for counting minutes read this summer to children and adults all over the state. Lori Special has spent countless hours getting this new system up and running for the public libraries.
NC Cardinal

- The system was upgraded to the most current version of Evergreen. This implementation will facilitate important new features and fixes several issues.
- The project team, Tanya Prokrym and David Green began formal planning of the Southeast Regional Evergreen Conference (SEREC) to be held in Raleigh during the fall 2014.
- Tanya published the first version of the NC Cardinal Cataloging Best Practices and Procedures on The Nest, (http://statelibrary.ncdcr.libguides.com/thenest/).
- David connected all NC Cardinal libraries with the Counting Opinions Summer Reader program via SIP2.

Continuing Education

- Kelly Brannock worked with staff from Archives and GHL to plan a webinar on digital resources for family research. The webinar is scheduled for June 19th.
- Kelly attended the Paraprofessionals Conference at ECU on May 16th.
- Jeffrey Hamilton provided a workshop for 45 staff members on LibGuides and LibCal for the CLONE in-service day on May 15.

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LSTA

- Raye Oldham prepared the notification emails for all LSTA grant applicants.

Data and Communication

- She authored the annual NC report on the national Public Library Survey dataset, comparing NC to regional peers for the most recent data available -- 2011-2012 (http://plstats.nclive.org/reports/PLS_FY2011_NorthCarolina.IMLS.pdf)
Joyce taught the webinar “Surveys 101 part II: Tools to Gather and Analyze Data (https://ncdcr.adobeconnect.com/_a1013072264/p3wf2ewrsua )

She completed initial analysis of statewide EDGE Initiative data

Notable Statistics

Library Development BLOG - Total May blog posts: 12

- 1,291 visits
- 1,040 unique visitors
- 2,575 page views
- Top 3 posts (titles and number of views):
  - LSTA Highlights: “Story Place” -- A Storytelling Maker Space- 343 views
  - New Library Director: Robeson County Public Library- 135 views
  - New in 2014: SRP & book club software for NC public libraries - 117 views

GHL BLOG - Total May blog posts: 16

- 1,403 visits
- 1,130 unique visitors
- 2,287 page views
- Top 3 posts (titles and number of views):
  - (Webinar) Genealogy Online: Navigating the State Library and State Archives’ Digital - 124 views
  - Revolutionary War Pensions, Part 1 - 117 views

Issues

Coming Up

LBPH Travel Program
June 25, 10:00 am – Noon in the Longleaf Pine Room at the NC Museum of History, Raleigh

Free, travel-themed educational program LBPH library patrons, friends, and interested individuals and professionals. LBPH patrons, Karen Broderick and Sandy and John DeLuca will talk about their travels – Karen’s trip to Tanzania and Kenya and the DeLuca’s trips to Savannah, Georgia and Hilton Head. Additionally, Phillip Woodward, Communications Project Manager/Access Specialist at the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DHHS), will talk about accessible travel in North Carolina and the state publication he has compiled titled Access: North Carolina: A Vacation and Travel Guide for People with Disabilities.

LBPH Children’s Summer Reading Program: Fizz, Boom, Read
July 2nd, 2014 from 9:30 am—11:30 am in the Gov. Morehead School Gymnasium, Raleigh

Ever wanted to operate a robot? Try on a Haz Mat suit? Perform chemistry experiments? That’s what
the LBPH young summer readers will be doing at this event open to all NC Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped patrons ages 0-21. Registration required.

Other

Reference Request:

Carla Morris, Reference Assistant in the GHL, researched and located an article in the 1924 Pinehurst Outlook newspaper about a Japanese golfer named Rokuro Akahoshi for a staff member at a television studio. The television channel may use this article for a show that will be broadcast during the US Open Week. (The U.S. Open will be in Pinehurst in mid-June.)

NCpedia user comments (children and adults):

“Your website is awesome! I had to write an essay on Penelope Barker, and out of all the sites I've used to look her up, yours really stood out. Thanks a boatload!!!!”

“wow this is neat. i never seen anything like it. my teacher let us get on this site today and im on it now. exactly 5-27-2014 at 6:26pm. so hope yall have a great day(s)”

“this website helped sooo much because we are making a newscast in school and it helped sooo much”

“Thank you for this story. I was sitting at our dinner table discussing the reasons why we do not celebrate July 4th, and brought up June German as a point of reference to the Juneteenth Holiday, which we do celebrate, and decided to reference it. Up popped your story, I am delighted. I posted it to my FB Page, so happy I did, because it brought back so many delightful memories to me. With much gratitude.”