

## State Library Report December 2014

### Activities / Accomplishments

State Librarian Cal Shepard, along with the Library Development (LD) consultants, attended the NC Public Library Directors meeting on December 4-5 in Pinehurst where she made a “State Library Update” presentation. She also attended a board meeting of the NC Center for After School Programs on December 11, presented a State Library Update webinar on the 16<sup>th</sup> and convened the State Library commission for a meeting via conference call on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

LD staff participated in two interviews for LD Data and Communications Consultant. LD Chief, Jennifer Pratt, attended the State Data Coordinators meeting in Louisburg, KY on December 9 – 11. Jeffrey Hamilton attended e-rate webinars and published a new webpage on E-rate Modernization (<http://statelibrary.ncdcr.libguides.com/eratemodernization>). Jeffrey also migrated the State Library’s LibGuide account to the new version of LibCal and conducted a demo for State Library staff on the new version of LibGuides.

Raye Oldham oversaw the process of reviewing Letters of Intent from libraries intending to submit project grant applications and continued oversight of 37 EZ Edge Technology Grants.

Thirteen public libraries are confirmed for *Let’s Talk About It* programs in the spring. Our partner, the NC Humanities Council, will be moving their offices to Charlotte in January 2015, and we have been working *with staff to prepare for the transition*.

Molly Westmoreland provided a trustee workshop to the governing board of Braswell Memorial Library on December 5, 2014.

Lori Special met with representatives of Our Children’s Place, NCSU School of Education, Department of Public Safety, and Department of Public Instruction and with Department of Agriculture representatives to discuss co-sponsoring programs for incarcerated parents and their children and also to co-sponsor a statewide teen reading program in all 100 counties. Both programs would take place in Fall 2015.

Kelly Brannock finalized plans to partner with DCR’s CREST program and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine in offering a new “Emergency Preparedness & Response Summit for Public Libraries” at 2 North Carolina locations in the spring of 2015; nearly 150 NC library staff members attended in-person continuing education workshops in December including 5 new NC LIVE “Introducing ProQuest” workshops and a new “Tackling RDA” workshop.

Harnett County Library migrated to NC Cardinal in December and they are now the newest member of the consortium. Migration activities continue for Northwest Regional Library System and Brown Municipal Library. Four library systems were accepted into NC Cardinal for FY2015-2016: Neuse Regional, Iredell County, Johnston County, and Henderson County. Two consortium-committee meetings were held in December as well. The NC Cardinal Governance Committee met to discuss

resource sharing policies and procedures. The Cataloging Committee met to review and recommend consolidation of specific cataloging definitions.

The North Carolina Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) was one of the early adopters of the revised WebOpac (online public access catalog), part of the library's KLAS integrated library system. One of the features of the new catalog is that the WebOpac now also serves as a front end for BARD, the Braille and Audio Reading Download service offered by the National Library Service (NLS) for LBPH patrons. Patrons can now run a search in the WebOpac and access BARD items for download. During December, 2080 downloads from BARD were initiated from the LBPH's WebOpac which is about 26% of the library's normal BARD usage. This is a good sign that patrons are recognizing the WebOpac as a one stop source for local materials in various formats and NLS downloadable materials.

The Raleigh Parks/Library VIP (visually impaired persons) monthly book discussion group, administered jointly by Raleigh Parks and Rec and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, will be held at LBPH facilities beginning in January. Previously held in Raleigh Parks and Recreation locations, participants were surveyed and indicated a preference to hold the discussion at the library. Library staff select books and lead discussions and are looking forward to the first group meeting in the library in 2015.

On December 3, 2014, DCR issued a press release announcing the State Library's new digital collection of historic issues of *Our State Magazine*. With funding from the U. S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, the State Library of North Carolina, in collaboration with *Our State* magazine, N.C. Digital Heritage Center, East Carolina University's Joyner Library and Caswell County Public Library, digitized issues of the magazine from 1933 to 2011 and makes them available for free public access in the North Carolina Digital Collections online at <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/home/ourstate>. Issues may be browsed a page at a time, or in two page spreads using the page flip view. Articles and advertisements are full text searchable. The articles and images are still under copyright, so while an issue cannot be downloaded in its entirety, it can be read online cover to cover through the digital collection. In recognition of the benefits of the magazine, Gov. Pat McCrory issued a proclamation declaring December 2014 to be "*Our State* Month."

NCpedia piloted and published a new interactive educational feature, an interactive timeline for state symbols and other official adoptions. The timeline presents each symbol or other official designation (e.g., state Seal; official festivals) chronologically and links it to the NCpedia article that describes it. <http://ncpedia.org/north-carolina-history-timeline-state-symbols>

The joint State Archives/State Library NC Family Records Online site/collection made the *Family Tree Magazine's* list of the 75 Best Websites for US State Genealogy again for 2014! This list honors the best websites that specialize in genealogy research for one of the 50 US states and represents the go-to bookmarks for tracing American ancestors, state by state. The NC Family Records Online collection includes State Archives' bible records, and some of the Library's published genealogy volumes (those out of copyright), select vertical files, and headstone images from the Raleigh Hebrew Cemetery in Oakwood. It

also includes the published indexes that Carrie Broughton did of marriage and death notices from earlier NC papers. The full list of best websites is at <http://familytreemagazine.com/article/2014-best-state-genealogy-websites>.

Kay Tillotson, Beth Hayden, Marie Jones, and Cheryl McLean conducted a genealogy research workshop for 12 researchers on December 1 at the State Library.

Rebecca Hyman provided a tour of the Government Heritage Library and State Archives for 4 genealogy and local history staff from the Cumberland County Public Library on December 15.

Rachel Trent, Digital Collections Manager in the Government & Heritage Library, coordinated a North Carolina Digital Collections Open House in which she provided training for 48 staff in the State Library and State Archives on how to best search and use the North Carolina Digital Collections online. She held two training sessions to accommodate all the interested staff! Rachel's slides from the training workshop can be found on the website at <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/home/tutorials>.

An 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at South Davidson Middle School posted a picture of students researching NC musicians on NCpedia on Twitter. It is awesome to see that NCpedia is a responsive site and works well on the tablets the students are using to conduct their research! In looking at the projects for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> period classes posted on the class website at [http://sms.davidson.k12.nc.us/departments/finearts/carolhinson/collaborative\\_projects/](http://sms.davidson.k12.nc.us/departments/finearts/carolhinson/collaborative_projects/), we see that that most are from articles in NCpedia, including those on American Idol contestants (written by a NCpedia project librarian) and musicians such as Charlie Daniels, Randy Travis and Tori Amos (written by people another NCpedia Librarian knows). Other musicians were covered in articles from the *Dictionary of NC Biography* and the *Tar Heel Junior Historian* magazine and, all these sources are brought together in one wonderful resource, the NCpedia!! This shows the library is doing something right here!



**SouthDavidsonMiddle** @southdms · 15h  
8th graders working on #northcarolina musicians presentations using @haikudeck and @ncpedia!



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Expand

Beth Hayden, Data Services Librarian in the Government & Heritage Library (GHL), submitted the library's information for the NC State Data Center annual report. The GHL provides training and

instruction to users across the state related to finding and using demographic and other state data resources. The library also assists users with data requests. According to the annual report, the NC State Data Center, a network of about 45 affiliate agencies across the state that assist data users in connecting with and understanding data, answered a total of 74,451 data requests from businesses (49.1%), the general public (34.9%), government (5.4%), community-based organizations/non-profits (3.2%), academic institutions (2.6%), media (2.5%), and other areas (2.2%) in 2013.

### **Notable Statistics**

Train Station (webpage of continuing education events) - 2,809 views

### **Self-Paced Learning**

- 23 library staff from around the state enrolled in self-paced courses and experienced 20 hours or course content.
- 1 State Library Update webinar offered with 10 library staff attending.
- Hosted 1 webinar for DCR's Historic Preservation office with 39 attendees from across the state.

### **LD Blog**

800 Visits

1,358 Pageviews

Top Three Posts

- *Our State Magazine archives digitized by the State Library* (100 views)
- *3 New PLA Leadership Fellows from NC* (58 views)
- *Continuing Ed Opportunities: January 2015* (50 views)

### **GHL Blog - 14 posts for December**

1,321 visits

1,158 unique visitors

1,945 page views.

Top 3 posts

- *Our State Magazine Goes Digital – Now Part of the North Carolina Digital Collections* (423 views)
- *Caswell County, North Carolina County of the Week* (201 views)
- *State Doc Pick of the Week: Growing Christmas Trees in North Carolina* (114 views)

### **Personnel**

Debbie King, Administrative Secretary III, retired effective December 31.

### **Comments**

Received from the Director of Communications at Duke University libraries "I LOVE *Our State Magazine*. And I love the fact that you've digitized all the back issues! What a valuable service to everyone in NC. You have much to celebrate. The site looks wonderful."