

State Library Report December 2015

Activities / Accomplishments

Kelly Agan continued work on enhancing the North Carolina state parks content in NCpedia to co-incide with the 2016 state parks centennial. So far approx. 30 new articles on individual state parks have been added along with links to documents and images in NC Digital Collections (and other state agencies), a timeline of state parks history, and a Pinterest page that includes more than 140 historical images (with contextual metadata) from state parks history. This collection will be completed in the coming weeks.

The Government and Heritage Library (GHL) [intentionally] lost 2000 lbs in just two years! The weeding project for microfiche received through the Federal Depository Library Program was successfully completed. More than 2,000 pounds of microfiche was recycled.

Library Development (LD) staff offered 3 workshops including 2 sessions on NC LIVE resources for community college and public library staff. Comments from participants: "I remember NC LIVE from the past but today's workshop was totally informative and I found that there were many sources that I now know that I can carry back to the library and use with homeschoolers and other students and parents." "I enjoyed learning about the various features of NC Live that I did not know existed or how to use properly."

UNC Law School librarian Jesse Griffin contacted GHL staff member Denise Jones about the catalog records for the *Employment and Wages in North Carolina* serial publication in the UNC Law School library. Some titles were cataloged and some were not and even the ones that were cataloged had confusing records. In addition, there were quarterly publications and annual publications – on two separate records. In order to make the catalog records less confusing, the quarterly and annual publications were given the same call number and the records were linked in WorldCat. The UNC Law School staff questioned whether the quarterly publications were needed. GHL staff determined that the quarterly issues had more detail than the annual issues and should be retained. Jason (from UNC Law) replied: "Thanks very much for checking on this matter. Your comments are extremely helpful. I think we will follow the State Library's example in this matter."

GHL blog statistics

1,463 sessions, 2218 pageviews and 1,310 unique users

Top three new posts for December:

1. Census Tips: 1790 Census (270 views) posted 12/14/2015 - <http://wp.me/p17ckJ-4zR>
2. Digital Collections: World War II Posters (62 views) posted 12/7/2015 - <http://wp.me/p17ckJ-4zo>
3. Using JSTOR for research (40 views) posted 12/28/2015 - <http://wp.me/p17ckJ-4AL>

LD Blog Statistics

1,180 Sessions, 3,583 pageviews and 1018 Users

Top Posts:

1. North Carolina Library Director's Association Announces its Annual Awards Recipients;
2. Monthly Report: November 2015
3. We're hiring!

Draft data tables from the FY14-15 statistical report is now available on the State Library's webpage. Final data will be available in late spring.

Elizabeth Acevedo, a Library and Information Science student at University of North Carolina Greensboro, completed and presented her final report on the usability testing she conducted on the North Carolina Family Records Online digital collection. The Family Records Online collection is a joint project of the Government & Heritage Library and the State Archives of North Carolina. The Library and Archives will make changes to the interface of the NC Family Records Online collection in the coming months based on the results of Acevedo's testing.

Compliments from patrons

- Library researcher to Kay Tillotson, "I learned more here talking to you about research than I did in history class. Thank you!"

Comments posted to NCpedia:

- this helped me with my research paper! thank you!
- Thank you for this wonderful and enlightening information about Robert Robinson Taylor. I became interested in his life achievements because of a postage stamp.

Center for the Book - Thirteen public libraries are hosting Let's Talk About It series for spring 2016. Let's Talk About It is a scholar-led reading and discussion program targeting out-of-school adults and is provided in NC through a partnership between the NC Center for the Book and the NC Humanities Council.

One hundred and thirty four Youth Services staff members from public libraries across the state participated in a 5-week online learning community to explore eight research-based early literacy concepts, and specific strategies for intentionally and creatively reinforcing those concepts for kids, parents, and caregivers during library programs. The inclusion of these concepts (which include phonological awareness, alphabetic knowledge and vocabulary) in story time has been shown to help children develop early literacy skills. North Carolina is one of 5 pilot states for this ground-breaking program.

New Director Orientation - Ten new public library directors came to Raleigh to attend a two-day orientation to the services and resources provided by the State Library. The orientation provided opportunities for new directors to interact with State Library administration, library development consultants, GHL staff, LBPH staff and each other around topics identified by the directors in a pre-orientation needs assessment. Their evaluations scored high, 9.7 out of 10 points, and included many positive statements, such as, "Great topics – enjoyed being able to share openly with other directors," and "Very welcoming and informative and so glad to speak to everyone on a one-to-one basis."

Certification Commission - The NC Public Librarian Certification Commission met on December 16, 2015, to evaluate 29 applications for certification; 20 applications were approved and 9 denied.

The NC Cardinal Project was the subject of an article titled "State program helps public libraries share books" which was published on Dec 25, 2015 in the News and Observer.

Personnel

Stephen Gibb, Circulation Assistant at LBPH, resigned effective December 15, 2015.