

State Library Report April 2016

Activities / Accomplishments

National Library Week was April 10 - 16, and Preservation Week was April 24-30! Additionally, the Government & Heritage Library has special social media campaigns to celebrate. We shared an old picture from the NC Digital Collections, "African-American children line up outside of Albemarle Region bookmobile" (<http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p249901coll36/id/195>) on Facebook that officially went viral! It was shared 73 times and reached over 9,000 people.



In response to a frequent request from educators, NCpedia developed and published two new topics pages, pulling together articles and activity plans by topic:

- Exploring North Carolina: African American History <http://ncpedia.org/exploring-north-carolina-african-american-history>
- Exploring North Carolina: The Civil Rights Movement <http://ncpedia.org/exploring-north-carolina-civil-rights-movement>

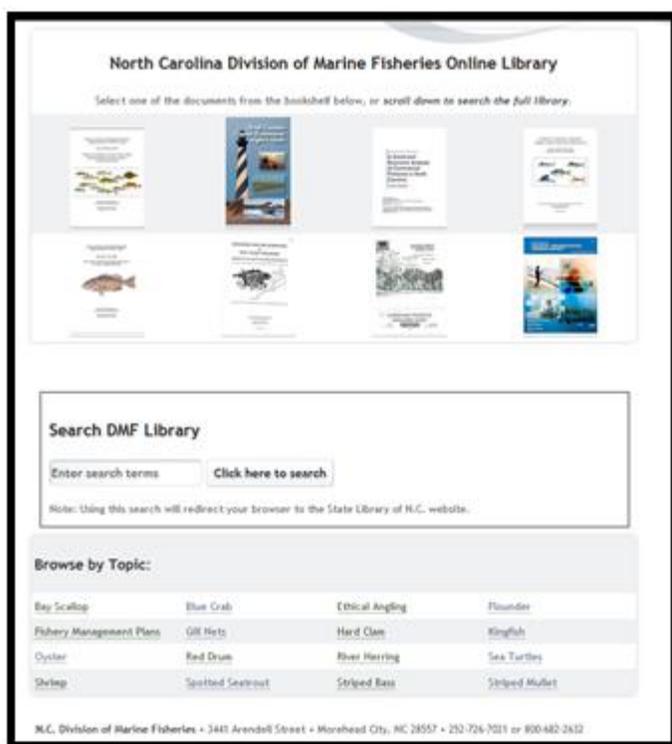
Rebecca Pigg—a library student from NCCU—completed her Spring semester practicum with the GHL. She digitized several books, created metadata about them, and uploaded them to the NC Digital Collections. She also assisted GHL staff with updating metadata and scanning guidelines.

Rachel Roos—a Family History student from Brigham Young University—completed her internship at GHL. On her last day she gave a presentation to staff on locating North Carolina Native American genealogical resources. She also prepared two handouts and a blog post featuring these resources.

GHL staff in conjunction with the State Archives completed a draft report about test findings for Preservica—a digital preservation product. The report was an outcome for a grant project that enabled testing of the product by GHL and the State Archives. Anyone interested in the draft report may email digital.info@ncdcr.gov to request one.

GHL Web Team conducted an informal survey with on-site library users about genealogy and database web pages. The GHL Web Team is revising the content on the page based on this feedback.

GHL staff is working with the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) to create a searchable collection of DMF publications which can be accessed through the DMF Portal website. This growing online collection—more than 1,000 items—is the result of more than two years of collaborative work with the DMF. The DMF publications are part of the North Carolina Digital Collections.



A Preservation Assistance Grant for Smaller Institutions application was submitted to the National Endowment for the Humanities by Jennifer Davison, Monica Figueroa, Becky Forbes, Eve Grunberg, Denise Jones, and Marie Jones. The grant narrative was reviewed by Tom Claeson at Lyrasis who commented **“it is one of the best Preservation Assistance Grant proposals I have had the opportunity to review.** It is so well-written and to the point. What you have done in Section C about how the Humanities Collections are used is a model which I wish I could show to other grant-writers. The way you show the use of the collection for so many activities is excellent.”

The 2015/2016 Edge Initiative report was released. Developed by a national coalition of library and local government organizations, the Edge Initiative is a suite of tools including a self-assessment to help public libraries identify areas for improvement in technology and digital literacy. Overall total scores were 9% higher than last year showing that demonstrable change is possible even in today’s challenging environment, however, results showed a need for improvement in strategy and evaluation, devices and bandwidth, and technology inclusiveness. You can read the full report here:

http://plstats.nclive.org/reports/The_Edge_Initiative_in_North_Carolina_2016_Final.pdf

Molly Westmoreland, Director of the NC Center for the Book, attended a two-day meeting at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC on April 25-26, 2016. Directors of State Centers across the country attended to discuss topics of interest, to hear plans for the 2016 National Book Festival on September 24, and to meet the new LOC Center for the Book director, Pamela Jackson.

On April 18 Cal Shepard attended a meeting of Library and Information School Deans at NCCU in Durham to discuss collaborative endeavors.

Presentations

Kay Tillotson and Rebecca Hyman presented a workshop called, "Finding African American Ancestors" at Stagville State Historic Site on Saturday, April 16.

Michelle Underhill provided a "State Library Update" at the Azalea Coast Library Association's inaugural conference on April 22.

Andrea Green was part of a career panel on April 26th, for graduate students currently enrolled in the Library Science Masters program at North Carolina Central University.

Several staff attended the Public Library Association Conference. Amanda Johnson was a facilitator at the PLA pre-conference, Think, do, show: Practical Techniques for Analyzing, Using and Visualizing Data to Improve Practice and Demonstrate Impact.

Molly Westmoreland spoke at the Northeast Area Friends of NC Public Libraries Spring Workshop at the Pasquotank County Library, East Albemarle Region, on April 9, 2016. She provided a presentation on advocacy at the Friends Mountain Area Spring Workshop on April 23 at the Macon County Library in the Fontana Regional Library System. Molly also facilitated a regional Friends event for the Craven-Pamlico-Carteret Regional Library and provided trustee workshops for Richmond County Library in the Sandhill Regional Library and the Cumberland County Library trustees, as well as their Friends and key staff members on April 18 and 21 respectively.

The International Evergreen Conference was sponsored in Raleigh by the State Library. Tanya Prokrym and other Cardinal staff did a fabulous job lining up presentations, exhibitors and sponsors! Cal Shepard provided a short welcome/keynote. Approximately 240 people attended the conference from over 28 different states and Canada. Eight GHL staff attended the conference while six staff had the opportunity to attend pre-conferences. Sponsorships and exhibitors contributed \$20,000 plus to help support the conference. The week before the conference, Iredell County Public Library migrated to NC Cardinal and was able to send a representative to join the other 26 NC Cardinal Scholarship recipients.

Multiple staff from the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped attended the 2016 Biennial Conference of the National Library Service which provided a preview of the upcoming 7 year period.

Gina Powell of LBPH was invited to the Fontana Regional Library's annual in service training day, where she presented to public librarians from Jackson, Macon and Swain County. She made presentations on library services, with a focus on technology; to two groups. Fontana Regional Library posted on the LBPH Facebook page, how much they appreciated the presentations. Gina and Margaret Evans also attended the Annual **Beeping Egg hunt** at Governor Morehead School, where they were able to talk to parents about the library service. They took two applications at the egg hunt.

In cooperation with the Museum of Natural Science, LBPH (for the first time) offered a program which enabled statewide live access. The program, entitled **Travelling the World with Visual Impairment**, included a presentation on cruise travel for the visually impaired, a presentation on travelling in Japan

and Central America and a presentation on the Museum's new Navigation system for visually impaired visitors. The Museum recorded and made the program available as a live stream. Along with the 24 patrons who attended the program, 7 additional patrons streamed the program in real time. To date, 44 people have streamed the program

Amanda Johnson hosted the workshop, "What's New with the Public Library Survey" on April 29 in Rocky Mount.

GHL Blog:

1,512 sessions, 2,170 pageviews, 1,365 users

Top blog posts (published in April):

1. **New NCpedia collection: Exploring North Carolina: The Civil Rights Movement**, <http://wp.me/p17ckJ-4HU> - 119 Views
2. **New additions to NCpedia: African American History and Civil Rights in North Carolina**, <http://wp.me/p17ckJ-4Hy> - 89 Views
3. **State Doc Pick of the Week: Adding Value to Local Food**, <http://wp.me/p17ckJ-4GY> - 54 Views

LD Blog:

1,326 Sessions, 4,009 Page Views, 1,067 Users

Top Posts: (published in April)

1. **Continuing Education Opportunities: May 2016**, <http://statelibrarync.org/ldblog/2016/04/29/continuing-education-opportunities-may-2016/> - 198 views
2. **Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped**, <http://statelibrarync.org/ldblog/2016/04/19/library-blind-physically-handicapped/> - 154 Views
3. **LSTA Stories: Outreach to Hispanic residents in Gaston County**, <http://statelibrarync.org/ldblog/2016/04/05/lsta-stories-outreach-hispanic-residents-gaston-county/> - 140 Views

Compliments to staff

- Federal Programs Consultant Raye Oldham received the following comment from a public library director after consulting on their grant application..."You and the staff at State Library rock. It is often the work of the State Library and staff that elevates the librarians in the field giving us back the zest and passion we have for libraries and communities. Many thanks."
- Comment received from New Jersey State Library LSTA Coordinator: I did want to tell you that I have enjoyed reading the North Carolina LSTA Highlights blog posts (on the LD Blog). I receive the updates via RSS feed and I find it so interesting to read about the great projects that NC's libraries are doing! Thanks for sharing the information.
- Comment from patron to Marie Jones on finding a Revolutionary War record: "Wow. This is a great find. I appreciate this very much. I had been struggling locating his service and this is greatly appreciated."

- Comment to Beth Hayden from Wake County Public Libraries: “This afternoon I met with this patron to show him some of these resources, and wanted to let you know that he was beside himself at everything that is available to him, and how easy it is to access. I made sure to credit your assistance, both in talking to him and my follow-up email. Once again thank you so much! Everyone here speaks very highly of you.”
- Note to Kay Tillotson and Rebecca Hyman: “The staff of Historic Stagville State Historic Site would like to thank you for your hard work during our African American genealogy workshop. The workshop received positive feedback and the participants stated that they learned a great deal. We hope that our organizations can collaborate again on future programs.”
- Reply to Kelly Agan from patron requesting copy of a news article from the Charlotte News, 1942-3: “WOW, Kelly, You blew me away. How wonderful to receive such kind and efficient help. Just can’t thank you enough... How many ways can I say thank you”
- Comment to Denise Jones from a librarian at NCSU libraries: “Thanks for all your help with this. I really appreciate it.” Denise helped Beverly track down a copy of a recent DOT report *Comprehensive transportation plan, Pender County, January 2016*.

NCpedia Comments:

-- this was so helpful for my history project!

--Thank you so much, this helped with my literature course

---i had no idea this was the state sport [Stock Car racing article]

--This is a wonderfully written article that I both learned from and enjoyed thoroughly

Thank you and keep up the good work!! [American Indians entry]

--This is the best, most concise biography of my grandfather I have ever read. I shared it with my mother today as I discovered it while trying to find out whether he was a member of the Di-Phi and if so which one. [Edwin Jeffress article]

--This site really helped with my work thanks.

-- (The “Royal Cake Company” entry in NCpedia sparked quite a discussion! Multiple readers posted to ask where they could find the oatmeal cookies they remembered from their youth.) I just found the Southern Home Oatmeal Cremes at BiLo on Albemarle Rd. in Charlotte. "Just found", as in I bought them 15 minutes ago and smearing one right now. This IS the Royal Oatmeal Cookie. They're probably sold at every single BiLo in NC. Go get you some! :)