Activities / Accomplishments

A preview of NCpedia’s redesigned interface was released in October! Feedback was collected through November 11th and additional changes may be made based on that feedback. Here is the new look:

![NCpedia redesign](image)

971 library staff across the state participated in filling out the Statewide Continuing Education Survey. This is an increase of 155 people over last year. Continuing Education Consultant, Lauren Clossey, also partnered and collaborated with CREST to organize free courses on wet recovery training. Courses will be available in three (3) locations around the State. Fifty (50) training scholarships were also provided to Library Staff around the State.

The LSTA grant application window opened last month and the applications have a new look. Raye Oldham streamlined and revised the application with positive results. Cati Montgomery, Director of the Harold D. Cooley Library, stated “I feel like you’ve made a great effort to make this document easier to work with, and I thank you...I can definitely identify my due date the way this is now organized.”

Five (5) NC Cardinal Library Systems are participating in the first round of the Candid Critters project in partnership with the Museum of Natural Sciences, North Carolina State University, and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. The 5 libraries are Beaufort-Hyde-Martin Regional, Neuse Regional, Bladen County,
Farmville, and Wayne County. In addition to these NC Cardinal Libraries, Currituck County, Hertford County, and Pender County will also provide North Carolina residents the opportunity to engage in citizen science and wildlife management. NC Cardinal is distributing the kits and providing circulation instructions. NC Cardinal Catalogers created a cataloging record for the camera kits which is available for any participating library to use. The Government & Heritage Library is providing barcode labels for each of the participating libraries.

Molly Westmoreland, liaison to the statewide Friends of NC Public Libraries (FONCPL), and Chilton Rogers, Director of Economic Development at the NC Rural Center, served as keynote speakers for the statewide Friends of the Library Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon on Saturday, October 22, 2016. The theme of the meeting was “Friends and Libraries: Helping Communities Thrive.”

Presentations (aka Staff Out and About!)

Jeffrey Hamilton provided a day long LibGuides workshop to 17 staff members at Northwestern Regional Library.

Lori Special conducted a 3-hour Outcome-based planning and evaluation training to Alamance County Public Library youth services staff and director.

Amanda Johnson attended the Research Institute for Public Libraries sponsored by Library Research Service in Englewood, CO. The workshop focused on evaluation methods for library services and programs and best practices for communicating and using data.

State Librarian Cal Shepard presented the Keynote speech at the North Carolina Library Association-sponsored Fabulous Friday conference held in Asheville on October 7. She also attended the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies meeting October 23-26.

The State Library Commission meeting (rescheduled due to Hurricane Matthew) met October 31. Section Directors Carl Keehn and Michelle Underhill presented the State Library Update and Consultant Molly Westmoreland facilitated a lively discussion of the recently completed Regional Library Assessment.

Kay Tillotson and Rebecca Hyman presented on "Finding your African American Ancestors" at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Durham, NC on 10/8/2016. The threat of Hurricane Matthew didn’t keep attendees away!

Kay Tillotson gave two presentations titled "Tips and Tools for Genealogy Research." One was at North Regional Library in Raleigh on 10/20 and the other was at Eva H. Perry Regional Library in Apex on 10/19.

Rebecca Hyman, Kelly Agan, Laurie Reeves, Denise Jones and other Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources staff presented sessions at the NC School Library Media Association conference in Winston-Salem on October 21 and 22.

Our Virtual Family History Fair on October 15th was a huge success! Over 500 people tuned in that date, and over 1300 people have watched the presentations to date. A special thanks goes out to the fifteen public libraries across the state who hosted viewing parties and other programming for it! Videos may now be viewed on the NC Museum of Natural Sciences Livestream channel at https://livestream.com/naturalsciences/events/6483615.

Denise Jones and Kelly Agan participated in Educator’s Night Out! at the N.C. Museum of History on October 25th. They shared information about a variety of resources available to educators and students from the Government & Heritage Library.

In the news


UNC TV filmed at the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped for their NC Now program. As a result, they produced an informative 5-minute piece on the library, which included interviews with patrons and volunteers along with the general operation of the facility.
Notable Statistics
LD Blog:
1330 Sessions, 1018 Users, 4278 Page Views
Most popular posts:

GHL Blog:
1,353 sessions, 1,965 Page Views, 1,238 Users
Top Posts:
1. New Look for NCpedia! Help us test a preview! http://wp.me/p17ckJ-4OZ, 190 views

Compliments to staff
This feedback came from attendees at Kay Tillotson’s “Tips and Tools for Genealogy Research” workshops: "The presenter was very knowledgeable and friendly! Great job!,” “Speaker really knew her stuff. Great Workshop!”, “Information was great. I Enjoyed the program”.

Compliments left in the Government and Heritage Library feedback notebook included:
- Everyone was wonderful. Found numerous things & thank you staff for reminding me I can get a copy of the original marriage bond upstairs. So excited. Thanks to all, I spent two entire days here. -CA 10/5/16
- This is my first visit -I was overwhelmed in a good way at the knowledge and resources available on hand. Staff was excellent in the way they offered their help, and answered my questions. I will definitely return, with more time to absorb the vast information. Great experience! Thank you! -Mt. Holly, NC 10-26-16

NCpedia comment highlights
--Doing project for school and this site is very helpful. (:  
--I enjoy this website - its so useful and helpfull.
--Thank you for the info! It really helped with my AIG assignment!
--very helpful with 10th grade geography, thanks NCpedia! everyone should use this website

Personnel
Anita Stack, Patron Services Assistant at the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, retired effective October 1.

Nitin Arora’s day with the Government & Heritage Library as the Digital Collections Manager was October 15th. We appreciate his hard work and wish him well in his next chapter!