

Docs Prescriptions



The Newsletter of the Government Documents Round Table of Ohio

Issue 57

Spring 2003

To the Members

Sherry Engle, President
The Ohio State University

For the past few months, it seems as if all news is bad news. War, strained diplomatic relations, and budget woes dominate the mass media. With the addition of concerns about the implications of the Patriot Act, these are the hot topics in the library world as well.

Recently Robin Haun-Mohamed (Chief, Depository Services, Government Printing Office) sent an email message to the GOVDOC-L listserv stating that in light of increased security concerns the Government Printing Office's Library Program Services no longer prohibits depository libraries from requiring patrons to show identification before being permitted to use depository materials. That this reversal of policy sparked no discussion on the list is, perhaps, an indication of the pressures librarians face. No one said thank you for recognizing that we do not control library policies. Nor thank you for understanding that our parent institutions are insisting that we must know who enter our buildings and use computer resources. Nor were there cries of outrage. Just silence. Open access to materials is a concern. For many libraries, however, the fundamental issue has become how to continue providing access and services to

patrons when funding is shrinking and in some cases disappearing.

On the positive side -- At our fall meeting we extensively discussed the State Plan. Suggested revisions were incorporated and earlier this spring, each depository received a copy of the plan. Library directors were asked to review the plan, and to sign and return a statement of agreement (Appendix A) to the State Library of Ohio. Audrey Hall (State Library) reports that as of April 4th, thirty library directors had signed on. We have reached the majority needed for the plan to take effect. Thank you, State Plan Committee -- Mary Prophet (Denison University), Dawn McCleery (Marian Public Library), Audrey Hall, Coleen Parmer (Bowling Green State University), and Charlene Willey (Malone College).

The Spring Ohio GODORT Meeting will be held at the State Library of Ohio on Friday, May 2nd. Our Program Chair/President Elect, J. Peter Thayer (Marietta College), has organized the morning program. Ms. Laurie Gemmill (Ohio Memory Project Manager, Ohio Historical Society) will tell us about the Ohio Memory Project. Coleen Parmer and I will discuss U.S. Census related activities at our respective libraries. In the afternoon we will have a business meeting and discussion. We will elect a new Program Chair/President Elect. Thank you, Doreen Hockenberry (Ohio University)

for agreeing to run, and Nominating Committee -- Carol Singer (Bowling Green State University) and Coleen Parmer. At the conclusion of the meeting, I will step down as president. Peter Thayer will pick up the gavel.

I look forward to seeing you at the spring meeting.

Audrey Hall Appointed to State Library Position

Audrey Hall has been appointed Library Consultant in charge of Government Information Services at the State Library of Ohio. She replaces Barbara Kussow, who retired last spring. Audrey is well known to us in Ohio GODORT for her excellent work. We offer her our heartiest congratulations and look forward to working with her in her new position.

John Graham Appointed to Depository Library Council

Ohio documents people were proud and excited last year when Mary Prophet (Denison University) was appointed to the Depository Library Council. Now comes news that another of our Ohio colleagues has been appointed to this important body. John Graham, Manager of the Public Documents & Patents Department at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County joins the Council this year. Congratulations to John and thanks to both of our Council members for their willingness to serve in the documents community.

Docs Prescriptions

The Newsletter of the Government Documents Round Table of Ohio

Issue 57 • Spring 2003

Sherry Engle, President
126 Main Library
The Ohio State University
1858 Neil Ave.
Columbus Ohio 43210
(614) 688-8778
engle.53@osu.edu

Peter Thayer, Program Chair/President Elect
Dawes Memorial Library
Marietta College
Marietta, OH 45750
(740) 376-4361
thayerp@marietta.edu

Jan Marotta, Secretary/Treasurer
Serials/Government Documents
Ashland University Library
Ashland, OH 44805
(419) 289-5410
jmarotta@ashland.edu

Karen Kimber, Editor
Dunbar Library
Wright State University
Dayton, OH 45435
937-775-2533
karen.kimber@wright.edu

The Web page of the Government Documents Round Table of Ohio is at:

<http://www.maag.ysu.edu/ohgodort/>

Minutes

**Fall Meeting • November 8, 2002
Cleveland Public Library**

Twenty-eight individuals attended the Fall meeting. The group received a welcome from Sari Feldman, Deputy Director of the Cleveland public library. The Keynote Speakers for the meeting were:

Curt Witcher, Manager of the Historical Genealogy Department of the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Sharon Bliss, Community Information Specialist, Northern Ohio Data and Information Service, Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio.

After lunch on our own, Sherry Engle called the business meeting to order at 1:45 pm. Sherry thanked Robin Gray, her staff, and Cleveland Public Library for hosting our meeting.

Minutes from the Spring Meeting were approved.

The treasurer's report was reviewed and accepted.

Committee reports followed:

Newsletter

Karen Kimber reported a distribution of the Fall 2002 Newsletter to members only for a cost of \$33.28. The lower cost was due not only to the distribution to members only but also because the newsletter was smaller than usual. Karen encouraged the group to submit information for the newsletter to her. Heidi Gauder, U. of Dayton, has volunteered to act as a stringer to gather information and write articles. Other volunteers are welcome and should contact Karen. Karen will post a

deadline for articles to be submitted for the newsletter to the listserv.

OhioLINK

Jeff Wanser is the Chair of this committee but was not in attendance. Karen Kimber reported for the committee. She informed the group that there is an OhioLINK subject listserv for documents for interested people at OhioLINK libraries. It hasn't been used often and there is a question as to how effective it was. The OhioLINK CIRM committee would like subject groups to contribute more to their group. It is also good for documents people to keep in touch with their CIRM representative. Coleen Parmer expressed concern to the group that with the budget crunch at OhioLINK, databases will be on the chopping block and as an organization it is important to band together. She expressed concern that PAIS and Congressional Universe may be targeted for deletion. Karen will be sending out the Listserv address for OhioLINK librarians interested in joining in the discussion.

Constitution

At the Spring Meeting a proposed amendment to the constitution was presented. The amendment would change the constitution so the CLYDE AWARD would be housed at the STATE LIBRARY rather than with the last recipient. The amendment passed unanimously. Nicole informed the group that the CLYDE AWARD from now on will be displayed in a case at the State Library.

NEW BUSINESS

Sherry asked those who attended the Depository Conference in October to report to the group. It was reported that the junior Senator from Minnesota, Senator Dayton, addressed the group. He is the chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing. He

updated the group on the Executive Branch's attempt to have each branch of government publish their own documents. He explained to the attendees that the Executive Branch does not have the authority to change the law which requires all printing be done by the GPO. There is still much controversy over this and it appears that the Judiciary Branch will be making a ruling on this issue. Those from our group who presented were acknowledged. They were Coleen Parmer and Suhasini Kumar.

Audrey Hall from the State Library brought to the attention of the group Senate Bill 265 which has grown out of a court case. This bill will mean that the State Library, Cleveland Public, University of Toledo, Cincinnati Public Library and a library in the South Eastern part of the state to be named later will become depositories for regulations. There will be further information on this coming later.

Sherry asked for volunteers for the nominating committee. Coleen Parmer and Carol Singer will serve on that committee.

Sherry brought to the attention of the group that there appears to be 3 inactive committees. They are the Legal Action Committee, the Constitution Committee and the Committee to create a list of Special Collections. Carol volunteered to head the Constitution Committee. She will act as the liaison and review the Constitution to see if she feels we need to make changes. She will report back what she discovers. Barbara Kussow, who is no longer at the State Library, headed the Special Collection Committee. It was decided that the list that was made long ago by Mary Prophet should be updated. Joe Salem will head the committee. He informed the group that Kent has a program which will make preparing a survey form very easy. Karen and Mary will assist him in this project. They will report back at the Spring meeting.

Sherry informed the group that every committee should have reports prepared for the spring meeting.

Coleen invited the group to Bowling Green on December 4th from 1-3pm for a celebration of their Canadian Depository status.

The last part of the meeting was spent review the proposed State Plan. Coleen and Mary presented the plan and took notes on changes suggested by the membership. They will update the plan and post the new version on the GODORT web site.

Sherry asked the group to make sure to let GPO and Ohio GODORT know if your Congressional District changed with the new census.

The State Library of Ohio agreed to host the next meeting to be held in early May.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Marotta
Secretary/Treasurer

Passport Service Up and Running

John Graham
Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County launched a new service on January 2, 2003. We began accepting Passport applications in the Public Documents and Patents Department at that time. This new service was months in the making. I am pleased to report it was the product of exemplary cooperation from all parts of my library.

As a bit of background, the State Department's Passport office is actively recruiting libraries as passport acceptance facilities. Demand for passports is increasing, and customer-friendly libraries, with night and weekend hours, are a logical expansion beyond the traditional post office locations. One of my administrators saw a Passport office booth at PLA last spring. We decided to sign up and become an acceptance facility.

Training and preparation are important first steps to launching a Passport service. I've sent several of my staff, myself included, to a full-day workshop presented by the Passport office. In addition, all involved staff has read the PARG, the Passport Agents Reference Guide Manual. We put together a passport acceptance station in our workroom, with all the forms handy. We are also required to seal the applications. So we are now using old book embossers. The Library used to emboss each book that came in, but that practice ceased at least 40 years ago. However, we now make use of the embossers to seal the Passport applications instead.

The benefits for us have been terrific so far. We bring lots of people to downtown Cincinnati and to the Main Library who don't often come here. They like the service they receive, and many have asked about getting library cards. The staff enjoys offering this level of personal and helpful service. Finally, the Passport agent facilities collect (and keep) a \$30 execution fee for each and every application we process. Since we have done over 250 applications, this service has become a large source of income. This has led to some very substantial revenue thus far. We have made almost \$8,000 so far in just the first few months of service!

In short, I recommend getting involved in this service. Contact me if you'd like any more details. (513) 665-3358 or John.Graham@cincinnati.library.org

Around the State

Heidi Gauder
University of Dayton

Author! Author! **Sherry Engle**, Ohio State University, has published two articles recently: "Compiling legislative histories: an analysis of a course-integrated instruction unit," *Research Strategies* 18 (2001): 239-249; and "U.S. government publications about the Internet: a review of recent titles available on-line," *Communication Booknotes Quarterly* 34:1 (2003): 7-18.

Joe Salem, Kent State University, has also published an article: "Public and private sector interests in e-government: A look at the DOE's PubSCIENCE." *Government Information Quarterly*. Volume 20, Issue 1, pp. 13-27.

Jan Schnall, Youngstown State University, has been serving as the interim director for Maag Library since Fall 2002. She will resume documents responsibilities July 1, 2003. We hope that Jan will have a chance to take a well-deserved vacation before July!

Coleen Parmer, Bowling Green State University, and **Audrey Hall**, State Library, served on an OhioLINK task force to write an RFP for Ohio government information products. Ohio LINK documents people deeply appreciate their willingness to work on this project.

The **Dayton Metro Library** has initiated cataloging subscription services with Marcive. Look for government documents in their online catalog.

The depository librarians of the reformed **17th Congressional District** held a meeting on March 28. Attendees included Youngstown Public Library and Kent State University.

Dues Time Again

Our membership year starts with the spring meeting, so it's time to renew your membership. If you will be attending the spring meeting, that is a good time to pay the annual dues of \$20. If you can't be there, please renew (or join for the first time!) by sending dues to Jan Marotta, Serials/Government Documents, Ashland University Library, Ashland, OH 44805.

All Are Welcome at the Spring Meeting!

Friday, May 2, 2003
State Library of Ohio

