



Attendance:

Michelle Conte (RCSC), Amy McLaughlin (APL), Jennifer Ward (APLB), Michele Reilly (VOOR), Lois Papp (EGRN), Rebekah Jarvis-Girtler (COLN), Jane Chirgwin (RENS), Sue Hoadley (WSTR), Anne Pitlyk (UHLS), Deanna DiCarlo (UHLS)

Digital Resources Update:

Mango and Flipster are up and running for everyone. Some locations with non-static IP addresses may still be waiting for Ancestry links to be added to their desktops. Please contact Rawdon Cheng if that is the case.



Trainings

- Thanks to those who attended Mango Webinars. For anyone who could not attend live, the archive link has been emailed.
- NYSL is hosting an Ancestry for Libraries training this afternoon, and 14 staff members have registered.
- There is a Flipster webinar scheduled for January 26th at 2:00pm.

D. DiCarlo asked if anyone has received patron feedback about Flipster. General feedback was that it is much easier to use than OverDrive was.

- S. Hoadley suggested that a more inviting interface would add value. Downloading magazines in the library is a great option for WSTR patrons, who might not have internet access at home.

Boopsie is currently in the data collection stage, and is expected to launch this spring.

ASAC Talks Back:

D. DiCarlo asked everyone to share any feedback for UHLS.

- M. Conte said that online registration is going well. She suggested making the language more clear so that people will remember to bring photo IDs and proof of address when they come to pick up their cards in the library.
- J. Chirgwin asked for a nicer looking version of the flier that UHLS provides with contact information for all member libraries. D. DiCarlo stated that UHLS can work on one to be distributed in early 2017.

Operation 451:

D. DiCarlo encouraged attendees to check out a website/Facebook group called [Operation 451](#), created by Sarah Houghton of ALA. Its intent is to provide information to a community of librarians looking to uphold the Library Bill of Rights and the First Amendment of the constitution.

ASAC Leadership Jam:

A new segment for ASAC that highlights leadership at every level. D. DiCarlo began the discussion by stating that by making the professional choice to attend an ASAC meeting, attendees have demonstrated they are local leaders, whatever their level of employment at their libraries.

Attendees discussed “How to Future Proof Your Library” ([Computers in Libraries, Jan/Feb 2017](#)), an article about how libraries are adapting to changing landscapes. Attendees were asked to think about the strategies for future proofing that resonate with them.

- S. Hoadley spoke about building partnerships, not transactions. She spoke about the importance of reaching out to other organizations and determining how to work together. This can take time in small towns, but it is worth the effort to magnify impact.
- R. Jarvis-Girtler spoke about going flatter in terms of work charts. COLN has been putting together teams with members from multiple apartments to work on problems like digital services and marketing and it has been very effective.
- M. Conte spoke about the idea of an experience, not a product. She gave the example of a patron coming to the library to use the fax machine and being surprised by the friendliness of the service.
 - S. Hoadley gave another example of a woman coming to the library to print a resume while the library was closed.
- M. Reilly spoke about the partnerships that they have established for a series of programming on diversity and tolerance. They have had a diversity themed book discussion group and have partnered with an area church that is hosting a presentation on what it means to be a Muslim for cross promotion. VOOR created a round table group to get the partnership rolling.
- A. McLaughlin suggested that libraries should partner together more. M. Conte suggested joint programs at events in Washington Park. A. McLaughlin pointed out that APL is currently looking for other libraries to table with them at the Tulip Festival this year.

Spotlight on Fake News:

D. DiCarlo distributed a number of articles on dealing with fake news. Attendees took a fake news quiz on Buzzfeed and scored 5 out of 7. Great job! Discussion included addressing how the library take on a leadership role on this issue:

- M. Conte suggests taking some programs to high schools. She is planning something for adults in the spring, but has not gotten into many details about what would be included in the program.
- R. Jarvis-Girtler has been able to incorporate educating patrons on how to spot fake news into related programming. She inserted a media literacy component into a social media sampler workshop and it was very well received.
- M. Conte asked about how libraries can market it impartially. S. Hoadley suggested calling it a less politically charged term, like clickbait.
 - J. Chirgwin suggested being gentle when you tell people that they have fallen for a fake news story. R. Jarvis-Girtler compared it to letting people know if they have fallen for an online scam (paying for fake virus software, etc).

Program Go Round:

Don't forget to check the [UHLS programming blog](#) for ideas, and for a log of programs highlighted during the go round.

VOOR: M. Reilly spoke about their diversity and tolerance programming. It will be a year-long series. A graphic designer at the library created a logo for the series, she will share it so that other libraries can use it. VOOR has also begun offering parenting classes. They have been showing recorded videos of theater performed at Lincoln Center on the weekends, which are free for libraries. VOOR has begun repeating their fiction book discussion group in the afternoon every other month to encourage new people to join.

VOOR also hosted an ugly sweater cookie exchange. They gave out prizes for sweaters and had a photo booth set up. They plan on making it an annual holiday program.

- R. Jarvis-Girtler asked how they got the photo booth. She looked into it for Dr. Seuss related programming, but it was too expensive.
- VOOR used a DIY setup. Patrons used the props provided and took pictures on their phones.
- M. Conte spoke of a DIY green screen setup at RCSC that they made using PVC pipe and green felt.

RCSC: M. Conte is interested in planning some kind of speed dating with books program but has not yet finalized any plans.

- M. McLaughlin suggested she reach out to librarians at Delaware and Pine Hills, who did something similar.
- Albany Foundation's Books and Bites was also similar.

RCSC will have a new program for every hour on Take Your Child to the Library Day, including a build your family tree component that will highlight Ancestry. Kids will get coloring sheets while adults learn to use the website. Love Yourself and Your Health, in partnership with the Honest Weight Food Co Op and St. Peters Hospital, will feature health education and self-pampering.

RCSC will be hosting a calligraphy program next month. They also received a generous donation of card making supplies that are available for patrons to use whenever they'd like. They have been hosting a granny square challenge since July and patrons are now taking the granny squares home to make blankets for the local food pantry.

EGRN: L. Papp said that EGRN is gearing up for its third annual Day before the Awards Film Festival. They warmed up their patrons for it this year with a movie trivia event that was attended by 27 people. Staff advertised outside of the library by bringing fliers to local businesses. The Society for Creative Anachronism came to EGRN and hosted a medieval dance. It was very popular and they are planning on coming back to the library to give talks. This year's Winder Reading theme is "It's a Brand New Year" and it continues to be popular.

EGRN has transformed adult coloring programs into crafternoons. Patrons bring their own supplies. The program has attracted knitters, crocheters, as well as die hard adult colorers.

APLB: J. Ward also runs a popular adult reading program and lets adults take prizes from a basket, just like kids get to do. The final prize will be a drawing for dinner and a movie. APLB is planning an Ice Cream for Breakfast day event. Last year they got ice cream from Stewarts and made homemade toppings. She has partnered with NNORC and Jewish Family Services to bring chair yoga and medical programming to senior patrons.

The longstanding Adult Art Group at APLB will present a printing workshop.

COLN: R. Jarvis-Girtler will be hosting a Flipster class to help patrons get the app on their phones and tablets. Her Facebook class has been so popular that she is adding Instagram and Pinterest classes. An all-ages Star Wars program is being planned in May around a Jedi Academy theme. COLN will be adding 3-4 new music programs. The women's self-defense class, run in partnership with the Albany County Sheriff's Department, is full. The department also offers a class for seniors. A recent news article detailing how to be a good ally has inspired R. Jarvis-Girtler to create a program like this at COLN. She will share the article.

General Programming Discussion

A. McLaughlin would like to see more programming using the new databases. For example, serving tapas and learning Spanish in Mango.

J. Chirgwin spoke on the difficulty of creating programs that do not attract much attendance. For an upcoming Downton Abbey themed tea, she is advertising heavily with her library's Friends group.

M. Conte suggested encouraging patrons to dress up for this event.

Next meeting: 2017 Schedule: Wednesday, 3/16/2017 at 9:30 am.