

State Librarian's Report



Missy Lodge
Interim State Librarian

Mobile Library Service. It conjures up different images to different people. For many of us it is the memory of the large Gerstenslager bookmobile. Yet for children in Type-B daycare settings in Cincinnati it is the arrival of the Early Literacy express van. For homebound residents in Geauga County it is the arrival of a volunteer from the Library's Homebound Service. For children in Kenya it is the arrival of a camel laden with books and for avid mystery fans it is the arrival of a new Ian

Sansom title. But no matter the image mobile library service brings to mind, one thing is constant – mobile library service is the delivery of library materials and services directly to the user. And it is a beloved service. [more...](#)

Call Me, Ishmael, on Vocera: OSU Libraries Test New Communications System

Communication within a large, dispersed organization presents challenges, and by any rights and measures, The Ohio State University Libraries (OSUL) is just such an organization. Our Science and Engineering Library (SEL) covers five floors; the newly renovated Thompson Library (THO) covers eleven publicly accessible floors, not counting mezzanine levels in our stacks tower. Department library locations are scattered across a campus the size of a small city, and branch campus and affiliated libraries are located in six sites throughout the state. [more...](#)



Ohio's Mobile Library Services Past & Present



John Philip inspects State Library of Ohio bookmobile ~1986

While preparing this issue of *The News*, I collected a potpourri resources and information about the history of bookmobiles and best practices for today's mobile library services. There are numerous websites and photographs, newspaper articles, reports, and various other materials in our own files and collection about bookmobiles and other mobile library services. [more...](#)



Wood County District Library bookmobile ~ 2010



Stark County Library bookmobile (date unknown)

Virtual Reference Services at Ohio Dominican University Library

Ohio Dominican University (ODU) Library has been offering virtual reference for several years via email and also indirectly via text. We are currently experimenting with a trial IM reference service. The primary aim of our virtual reference services is to better serve our non-traditional students, including those who do not visit the main campus at all. We do not offer on site library services at our satellite campuses and therefore promote our virtual services to them. We also feel that even our traditional students expect us to have an online presence that might include such services. [more...](#)



Ohio Library bookmobiles from our online Image Gallery <http://library.ohio.gov/image>

Libraries and the SEO Mobile Lab

Although we do have 14 PCs for public internet use, they are usually in use. Patrons become upset if the computer lab is closed for an hour to an hour and a half for a class, especially if they have made a special trip just to use a computer. Having the MCL made it possible to offer a variety of classes without closing our lab. [more...](#)



Sunbury Community Library Outreach to Under-served Area



In the summer of 2007, Community Library in Sunbury started making weekly visits to the Westerville Estates. Westerville Estates is a mobile home park located in the southeast corner of Delaware County. In addition to being impoverished, its population is isolated in that it is located on

the outskirts of Delaware County between Sunbury, Westerville, Johnstown, and New Albany. Residents in the park, especially children, do not have easy access to library services. [more...](#)

Saying Yes to Schools

Building a relationship between a public library and a school is like dating. It takes time and hard work to build a sense of mutual respect and trust, but only an instant to lose it. To best serve the youth in our area, we must get over the idea that collaboration between public libraries and schools will be easy merely because it makes sense. It is imperative that public librarians make an effort to initiate this partnership, even if at first teachers or school librarians seem disinterested. [more...](#)



Taking Ready to Read Outside the Library and into the Community



The Columbus Metropolitan Library is a transformational agency focused on changing the lives of young children for the better. In November 2009 we launched an innovative community program, the Ready to Read Corps, based on the national program Every Child Ready to Read @Your Library. One of the library's key strategies is a focus on "Young Minds," or children, birth through the teen years. Part of a continuum of services which includes Ready to Read, Summer Reading Club, Homework Help Centers and Teen Services, our new Ready to Read Corps team works in the community making connections with at risk parents and caregivers. [more...](#)

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