SLRLN NET NEWS

Summer 2015

ST. LOUIS
REGIONAL
LIBRARY
NETWORK

Free Legal & Government Resources Event

Friday, September 18, 2015
2:30 pm, Saint Louis University School of Law, 100 N. Tucker Blvd., 63101 Room 116

SLRLN and the St. Louis Metropolitan Chapter of the Special Library Association will co-host a workshop covering free resources available to you and your patrons. Lynn K. Hartke, Reference and Educational Services Librarian at SLU's Immel Law Library, will present on free legal research websites and Rebecca Hyde, Research, Instruction & Government Documents Librarian at SLU's Pius Library, will present on free government resources. In the spirit of free resources, there will be no charge for the workshop.

Seating is limited http://slrln.org/welcome/workshops/

StoryCorps in St. Louis
Christa Van Herreweghe

The Ferguson Municipal Public Library has teamed up with The University City Public Library for StoryCorps @ Your Library, an oral history project sponsored by StoryCorps and the American Library Association.

If you're not familiar with StoryCorps, the 12-year-old organization is dedicated to gathering the stories of everyday Americans. Storytellers are interviewed by someone they know well (such as a friend or family member) about some aspect of their lives. These stories are recorded and participants receive a copy of the interview. Interviews are also archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress and a small portion are edited and aired on Friday mornings on NPR's Morning Edition. The stories gathered at the Ferguson Library and UCPL will also be made available through each library's website, to be referenced and used by our communities. The stories will also be featured in "listening day" events at both libraries when the grant wraps up in October.

Kara Krekeler is managing this project at University City Public Library and will be making a presentation with Ferguson Library Director Scott Bonner at the joint MLA/KLA conference "Libraries without Borders" this fall. For those who won't be attending that conference, Kara is happy to discuss ways to start oral history projects at libraries. She can be contacted at 314-727-3150 or kkrekeler@ucitylibrary.org.

For more information about StoryCorps, including examples of recorded stories, visit http://storycorps.org/your-library/. To make an appointment to record YOUR story, visit http://www.fergusonanducity.org/.

This project is funded by a grant from the American Library Association, the Institute for Museum and Library Services, and StoryCorps, with additional funding from MOREnet.

Disaster Planning – June 23, 2015
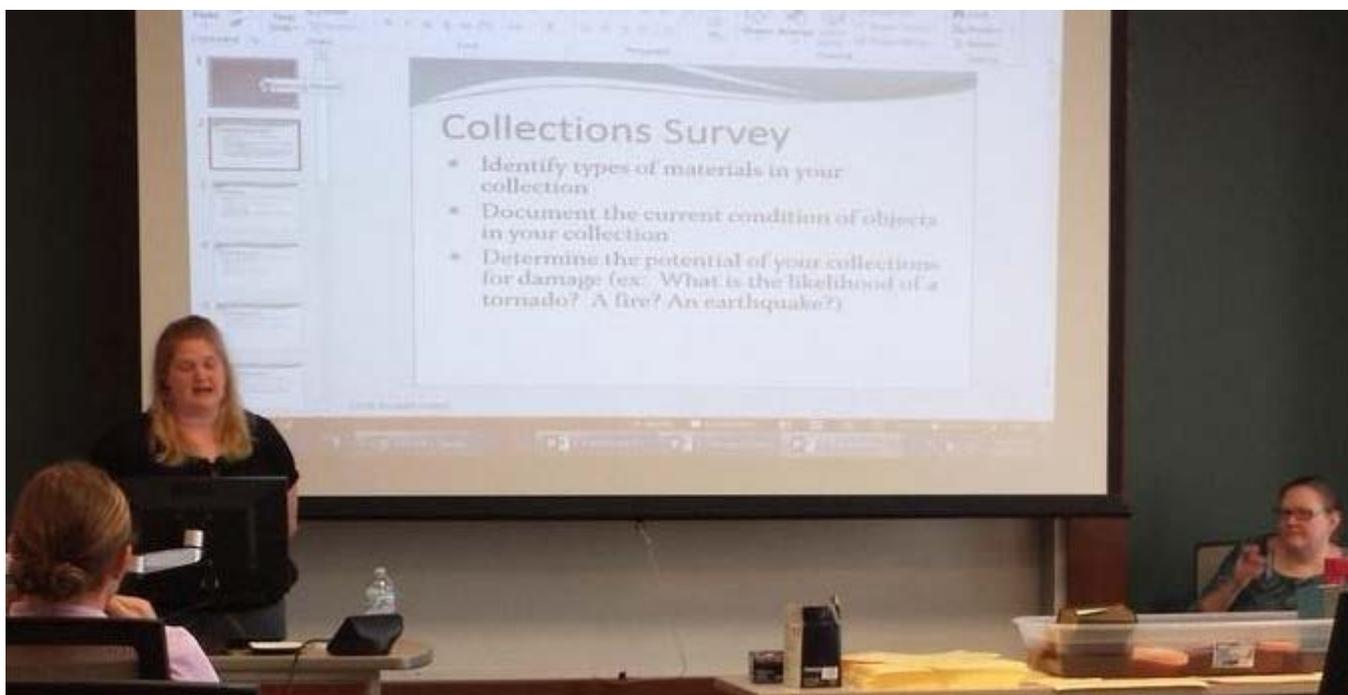
Sara Holmes and Gretchen Shoemaker of the National Archives and Records Administration presented on disaster planning this past June. They covered the potential disasters for our area, how to prioritize your collections, health and safety measures during and after disasters, salvaging and drying methods for materials, and even included a case study. The attendees were able to see first hand how various materials react to water damage and the best methods for handling each. The depth of information and accompanying PowerPoints and handouts will allow attendees to share the knowledge and implement what they learned at their own libraries.

Thank you to all those who attended.

SLRLN History Timeline
Heidi Vix

Over the past year, the council has received several inquiries about the Network's history. It seemed that much of the knowledge of the organization was held by past members and old *Net News* issues. I have compiled a brief history and timeline from these resources to share with you.

The St. Louis Regional Library Network was made possible through the work of The Missouri Library Association. They approved a State Network Plan in September of 1977. One month later, a regional library committee representing all types of area libraries was formed. This committee drafted our original bylaws and mission, which were approved in January of 1978. The original purpose of the St. Louis Regional Library Network was "to enhance the development and accessibility of library resources in the St. Louis Metropolitan area." The primary intent was to provide activities and projects, such as cooperative acquisitions, joint bibliographic control, cooperative programs, and to provide greater access to resources for individual library users.

The Network received federal funding through the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA.) This was distributed through the State Library. Additional support came from user fees and local dues. The grant helped pay for personnel and projects, such as INFO-PASS, Directory of Libraries, Co-operative purchasing, document delivery, an interlibrary loan service, professional development workshops, newsletters, and bibliographic access services.

Over the years, St. Louis Regional Library Network added services and resources based on the needs of the group.

- 1979, February: The network started a document delivery system with same-day or next-day service. After the early success of the system, SLRLN expanded the system statewide in November of 1979.
- 1979, Summer: The network began the INFO-PASS program. This program provides a one-time card, which allows patrons to have access to all libraries within the SLRLN network who agree to participate.
- 1979, Winter: The network started providing an Emergency Door-to-Door service for all libraries within a specific route. Same-day service was guaranteed if a request was submitted by 11:00 am that day.
- 1981: The network provided supplemental Interlibrary Loan services to network member libraries. The idea was to enhance the ILL search process in the event items are not available elsewhere. The Network office staff assisted libraries by searching 26 catalogs for requests received for verification and where the items were available.
- 1983: The network took over the creation and distribution of their own St. Louis Area Libraries Directory. Before Google, this was a valuable resource for identifying departmental contacts within the regional libraries.
- 1988: Due to the economic downturn, the federally funded LMAA grant was no longer available. The council at the time decided to lay off the personnel and continue with most of the services through volunteers and independent contractors. Dues and workshop fees covered our expenses, which is how SLRLN operates today.

- 1998: To better communicate with its members, the network began the SLRLN-L listserv. This allowed members to disseminate information to the network in a faster and more economical manner.
- ≈ 1999: The network began the Free Copies Program, which allows participating libraries to use an ALA form to request a small number of photocopies under 20 pages at no cost.
- 2002: SLRLN began the Technology Expo as a workshop to give librarians a chance to hear about technology in libraries of all types as well as connect with colleagues from the area. Since then it has grown into a full conference and is attended by librarians, paraprofessionals, and students.
- 2007: SLRLN's website opened a free JOBLINE page for member libraries with open positions. This is now part of the listserv.
- 2010: *Net News* moves to digital delivery.
- 2014: The network teamed up with local library organizations to provide a shared calendar to display local and national library events to increase cross-organization awareness as well as to aid in event-planning purposes.

Today, we are proud to offer numerous benefits to the network individual and institutional members, including INFO-PASS, Cooperative Purchasing Program, and discounted registration rates to our workshop and events including the Tech Expo and Spring Speaker Series.

Contact Us

St. Louis Regional Library Network
c/o Amigos Library Services
1190 Meramec Station Road, Suite 207
Ballwin, MO 63021-6902
800-843-8482 x2895
Fax: 636-529-1396
slrln@amigos.org

SLRLN

St. Louis Regional Library Network is a non-profit membership organization that provides opportunities and forums for local libraries and librarians to share resources and knowledge. The Network began in 1978 and includes members from public, academic, school, and special libraries.

Editors: HV, LGM, RvK