

## Message from the State Librarian

In July, the State Library Board had a retreat at the Toledo Lucas County Public Library's beautiful main location—a special thanks to that staff for being so welcoming! As part of that meeting, the Board approved the [2025-2026 Action Plan](#). This plan sets out the necessary steps the State Library will undertake July 2025-June 2026 in order to reach our goals as outlined in both [our five-year plan for spending awarded federal funds](#) as well as other key initiatives.

A crucial part of this Action Plan is the creation of a new 2-year strategic plan. Any good strategic planning process includes gathering information from important stakeholders. If you're reading these words, that includes you! As we move through this process, I look forward to hearing your feedback about the future of Ohio's libraries and how the State Library may assist in those efforts.



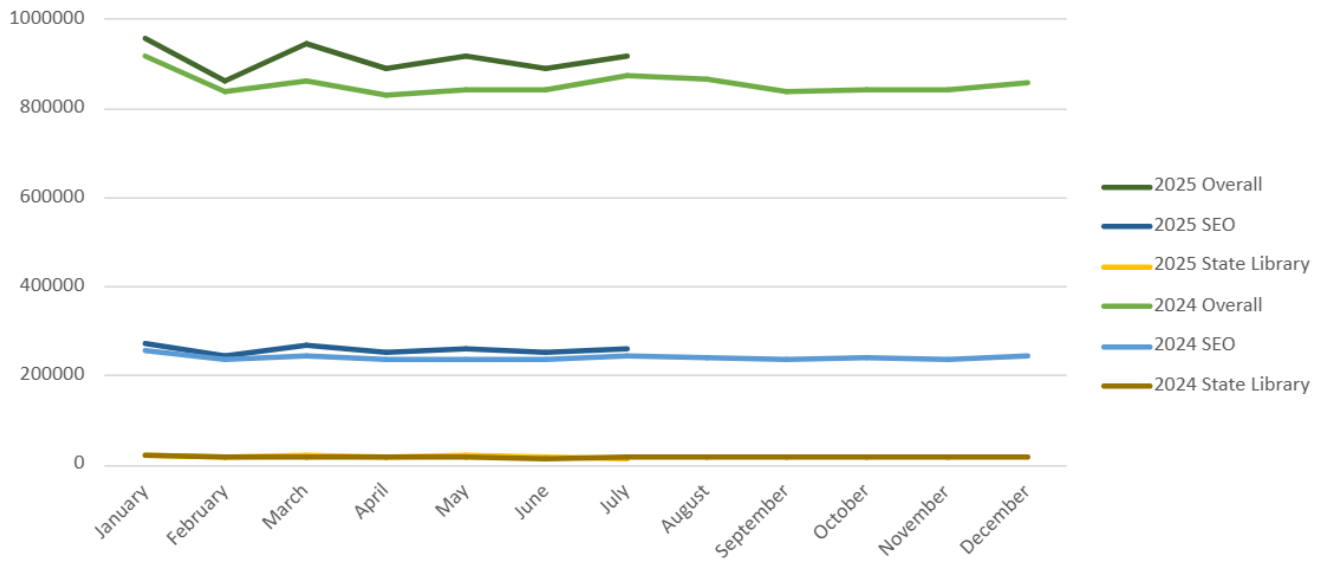
*Andi Y. Knapp*

## Highlights

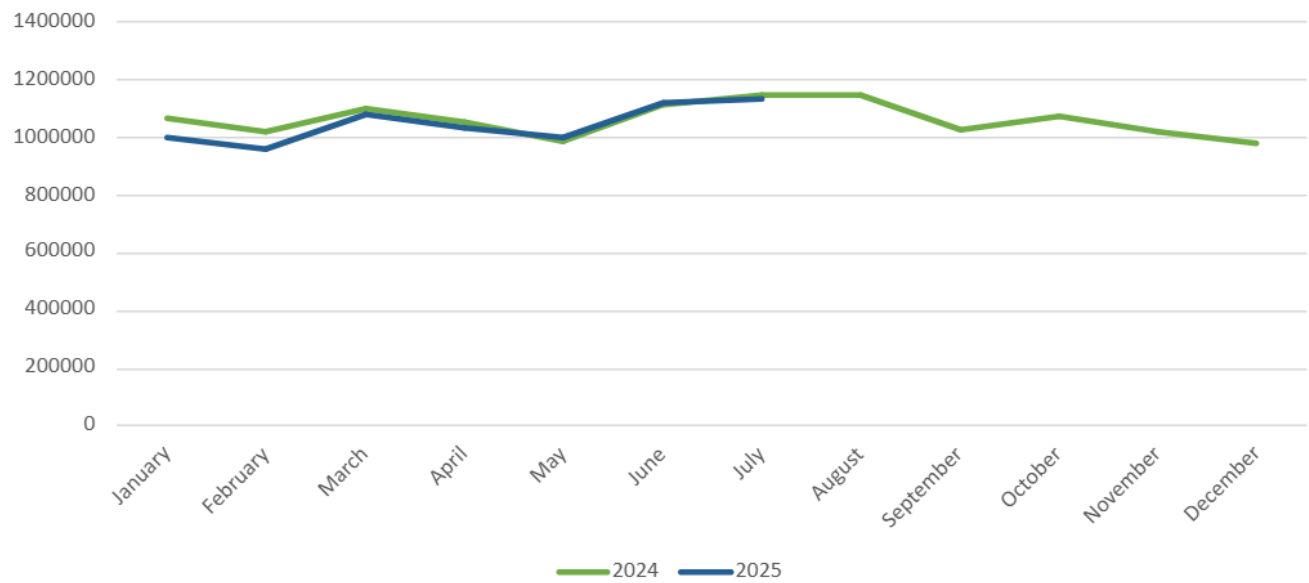
- ◆ Kirstin Krumsee was hired as a Legislative Liaison to increase our efforts to educate legislators at both the state and federal level on the important work the State Library does.
- ◆ State Library staff began meeting with partners to discuss recent legislation on cybersecurity and strategizing what assistance State Library is able to provide.
- ◆ In July, there were many more stops on Mandy's Listening Tour. This included staff at the Huron County Community Library, Ohio Library Council, Madison Public Library, Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, Cleveland Public Library, Lorain Public Library System, Amherst Public Library, and Cuyahoga County Public Library.



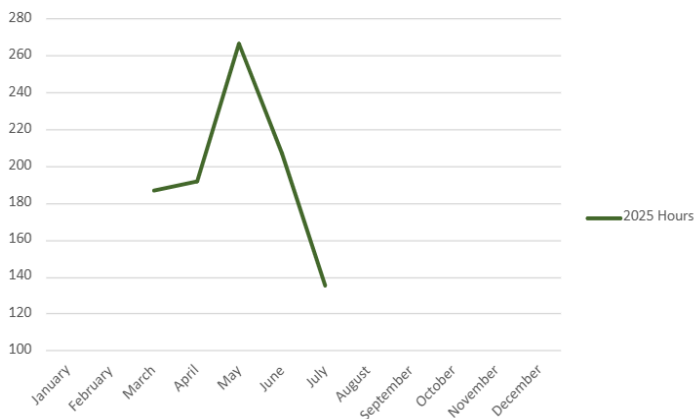
### Ohio Digital Library Circulation by Month



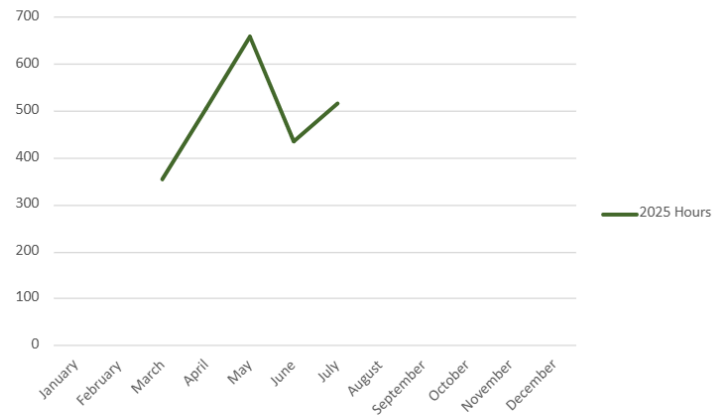
### SEO Consortium Physical Circulation by Month



### State Library Staff Training by Month



### Cooperative Partnership Meetings by Month



## Library Services—July 2025

### OhioLINK LSP migration

In July Library Services entered the post-migration world after our successful migration to our new LSP system in late June.

Library Services staff worked tirelessly to assist customers and troubleshoot issues as they adapted to our new LSP system which includes a new catalog interface and new login method for OverDrive/Libby.

One of the big successes of the migrations is that we were able to work with the Department of Administrative services to give accounts and seamless access to the over 50,000 State of Ohio employees, giving all state employees an unprecedented level of access to the State Libraries resources.



Thanks to you, we live in a post-migration world!



*Thank you card from OhioLINK celebrating the LSP migration of 115 Libraries in their consortium.*

**“Thank you so much for your help! I’m getting older and can’t get to the library as easily so eBooks are a godsend!”--State Library ebook user**

### Meeting Rooms

In July state agencies held over 500 hours of meetings in our meeting rooms. These agencies included the Department of Administrative Services, Department of Education and Workforce, Department of Health, Department Of Job And Family Services, Public Defender Commission, and many others.

### Facility Maintenance

In July we continued working with the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and JDS/CITYSPACE to address maintenance issues with our Columbus facility including weekly meetings. We placed 16 service requests due to roof leaks, HVAC issues, and

fire panel system trouble alarms. We also worked with DAS and JDS/CITYSPACE to get the specialized HVAC systems replaced in the Ohioana Library Association’s book area.

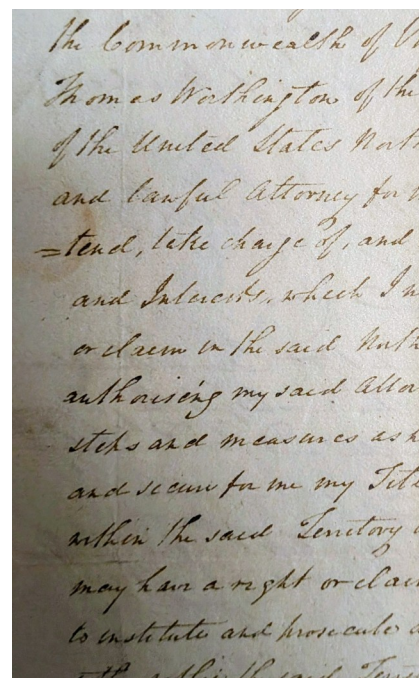
### Customer support

Library Services staff also responded to hundreds of emails and phone calls providing our patrons with assistance with using our new catalog interface and new login methods for OverDrive/Libby.

### New Library Accounts

This month we processed over 700 new Ohio resident account applications.

*This month our Digital initiatives Librarian has been hard at work digitizing our collection of early Ohio Governor's manuscripts . The letter pictured below is from the from the Thomas Worthington Collection.*





## Library Programs & Development—July 2025



*Left: Library Consultant Jeff Regensburger witnesses robotics programming in action as part of Selover Public Library's Summer Library Program, with Selover staff Alan Wall (left) and Abby Hawk (right) hosting. Right: Library Consultants Katy Hite (center) and Janet Ingraham Dwyer (right) visited and received a tour of Brumback Library, led by Director Nellie Schmidt (left).*



### Summer Library Program

Just announced: the 2026 [Collaborative Summer Library Program](#) theme will be Dinosaurs, Archaeology, and Paleontology, with the theme **Unearth a Story / Desentierra una Historia** and artwork by [Tom Bonson](#). The 2026 CSLP programming manual access code will be distributed to all Ohio public libraries in early autumn 2025.

As current summer programming is winding down, please note that the [2025 Ohio Summer Library Program evaluation survey](#) is

**open until September 8.** All Ohio public libraries are asked to complete this survey after your summer program ends.

### ODNFest Registration Open

[Registration is now open](#) for **ODNFest**, held at State Library on September 30. Join us for a day of digital collections programming, with a keynote presentation on vicarious trauma and trauma-informed care in archives, and ample networking opportunities.

### LPD Staff On the Road!

Library Consultant Katy Hite, along with other State Library staff, promoted State Library services, including the Ohio Digital Library and OLBPD, as part of the Ohio State Fair Healthy Aging Expo on July 29. An estimated 2,000 seniors took part in the event.

On July 18, Library Consultant Jeff Regensburger gave a presentation to 40 attendees at the SWON Leadership Day event in Cincinnati. Jeff offered an introduction to the work of the State Library of Ohio that included a history of the agency, service highlights, and information on recent events impacting libraries in Ohio.

Library Consultant Jeff Laser led a workshop with the Board of the Ashland Public Library on July 10. Feedback from the workshop will be incorporated into the library's final strategic planning report.

### Buckeye Children's & Teen Book Awards

The Buckeye Book Awards Council met at the Bellville Branch of the Mansfield-Richland County Public Library for its regular summer meeting. The Council includes representatives of State Library, Kent State University iSchool, Ohio Educational Library Media Association, Ohio Library Council, Ohio Council of Teachers of English

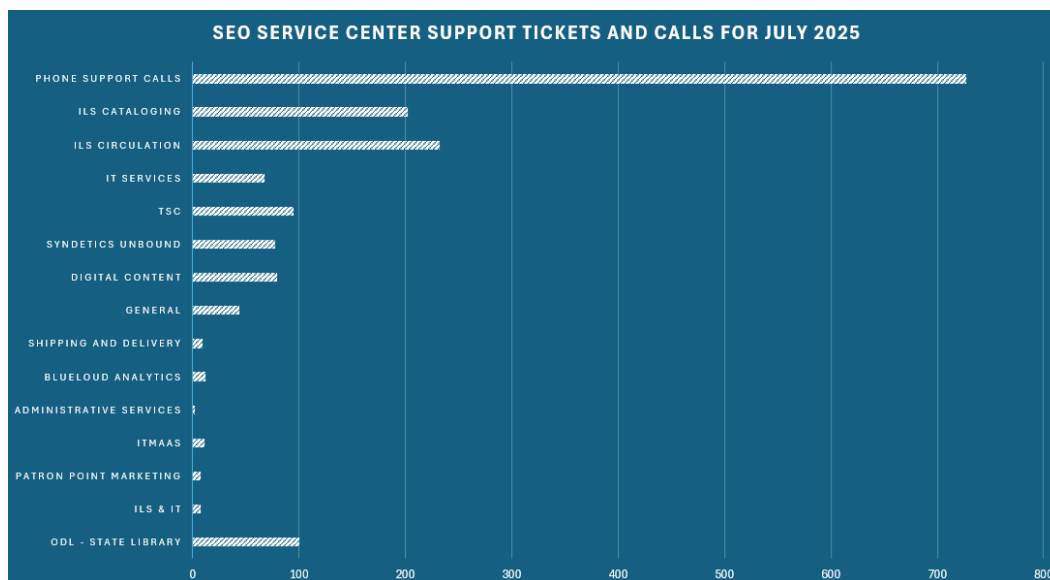
Language Arts, and Ohio Literacy Association. In addition to Buckeye Book Awards business, the Council enjoyed the festive summer décor at this bright, busy, resource-packed branch.

Pictured (right; l-r) are Council members Stephanie Michaels, State Library of Ohio; Kristine Konik, Westerville City Schools; Liz Deskins, Kent State adjunct /

OCTELA; Sarah Granville, Barberton Public Library; Janet Ingraham Dwyer, State Library of Ohio; Nancy Boone, Ohio School for the Deaf; and Christina Getrost, Stow-Munroe Falls



## SEO Service Center—July 2025



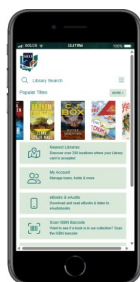
*The SEO Service Center team answered over 1,675 tickets and customer calls during the month of July.*

### Key service highlights include:

- **Visits** were made to 2 member libraries.
- SEO Newsletter Engagement—648
- SEO DigiHub—2 training sessions, 754 digital scans, 9 hours
- Patron Point Marketing training provided to 3 member libraries

### For the past 30 days, the Consortium experienced significant activity:

- Over 1.1 million items were circulated.
- 8,120 new users were created.
- 188,769 holds were created and 194,001 holds were filled.
- 469 interlibrary loan requests were initiated.
- 951 support tickets were created, with 18 relayed to the software vendor.



### Mobile App Stats

	2024	2025	% Change
New Devices	3,278	2,172	-34% ↓
Holds Placed	27,926	31,748	14% ↑
App Launched	81,399	94,448	16% ↑
Searches	85,155	93,705	10% ↑

### Niche Academy usage showed:

- Medium engagement with **staff tutorials** (842 views) and the **online catalog tutorial** (1,438 views)
- Lower engagement with the **Technical Services Committee** (1 view) and **ASL Storytime** (2 views) tutorials



Patron Point

### Patron Point Marketing e-mails showed:

- Heavy use in **Announcement and Newsletters** being sent (344,742 emails)
- Medium use in **Birthday/Anniversary** campaigns (3,219 emails)
- Light use of **Winback** (149 emails) and **Coming of Age** (1,535 emails) campaigns



### [Drew Wichterman is Now State Library Board President](#)

July 8, 2025: We are pleased to announce Drew Wichterman is now the Board President for the State Library Board. Drew ascends to the role with over a decade of experience in public libraries, including his current position as Director of the Pickaway County Library. He is known for his dedication to all community members, demonstrated through innovative programming at his library and professional development initiatives for library staff.



### [State Library of Ohio Announces IMLS LSTA Grant for Literacy Project](#)

July 21, 2025: The State Library of Ohio is pleased to announce that Toledo Lucas County Public Library (TLCPL) has been awarded \$48,000 in federal [Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) (IMLS) LSTA funds for a multi-year collaborative project titled "The Science of Reading: A Guide for Ohio's Public Libraries to Help Raise Literacy Achievement." This project aims to enhance Ohio's third-grade reading scores and promote literacy as a vital life skill. The State Library of Ohio Board approved the grant following a recommendation by State Librarian Mandy Knapp and a presentation by TLCPL Youth Services Coordinator Nancy Eames during its July meeting. Support for this project demonstrates the State Library of Ohio's dedication to assisting public libraries as community partners in implementing Ohio's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement, which was developed by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce.



### [Kirstin Krumsee Ziegler Promoted to Legislative Liaison](#)

July 30, 2025: The State Library of Ohio is pleased to announce the promotion of Kirstin Krumsee Ziegler to Legislative Liaison in the State Librarian's Office. In this role, she will coordinate public and legislative affairs on the state and federal level for the State Library. Kirstin's responsibilities include developing and implementing state and federal legislature outreach plans and coordinating activities with legislators, government agencies, and library advocates. Kirstin will research existing and proposed legislation to assess potential impacts, monitor legislative movements throughout the legislative process, as well as prepare reports, correspondence, and articles for outreach and publication.