

Message from the State Librarian

In July, the State Library completed our relocation project from our 1st Ave. facility. Materials were delivered to the new book depository in Gahanna and the staff offices on Chestnut St. Additional materials were sent to Caldwell. Our staff are settling in to our new locations, and we ask for your patience as our research library begins the process of reopening.

I am also please to let you know that our Library Board has also approved a two-year strategic plan. Over the next two years, our organizational focus will be on four key areas: Reimagine the Physical and Virtual Future of the State Library of Ohio; Champion our Distinctive Mission and Impact on Ohio's Libraries; Serve as the Central Hub for Statewide Collaboration and Efficiency; and Advance Services to Meet Ohio Libraries' Contemporary Needs.



Highlights

- In July, State Librarian Mandy Knapp visited the Minerva Public Library and the American Association of Law Libraries conference.
- Mandy, along with the State Library Board, visited with participants in the Library Leadership Ohio (LLO) cohort.
- The State Library was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant to digitize the letters of Arthur St. Clair, Governor of the Northwest Territory.
- On July 29, directors of libraries in the SearchOhio consortium passed bylaws to govern operations.

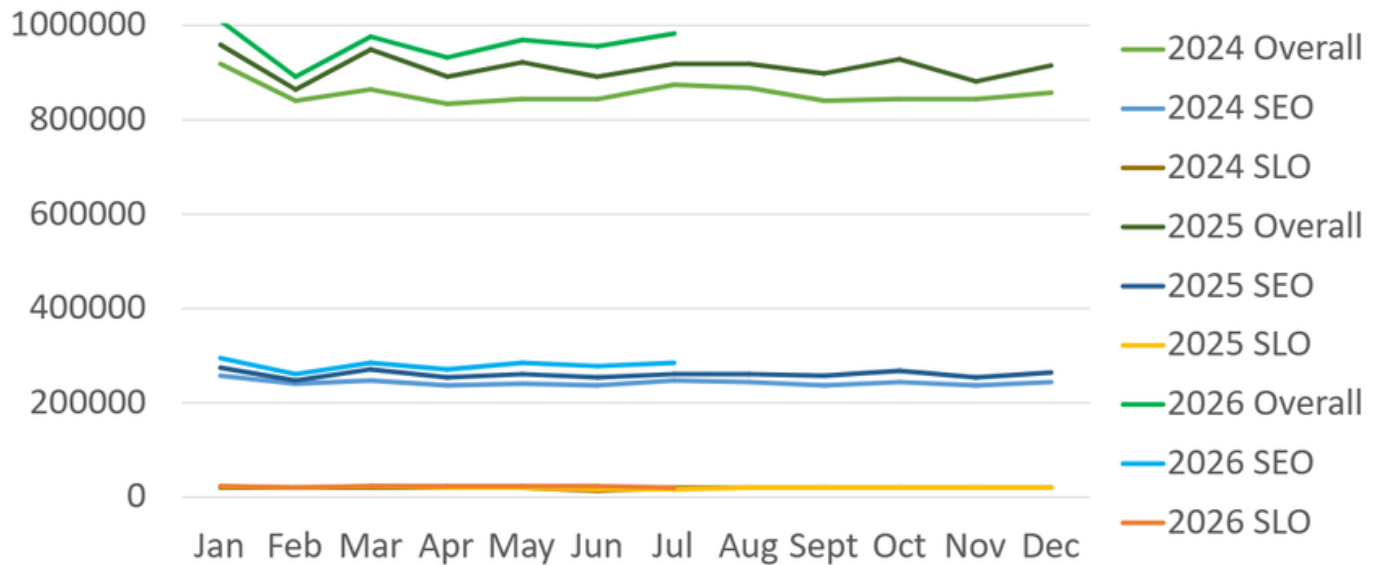


***State Library's SEO Consortium staff
Heather Miller and Michael Postlewait with
Minerva Public Library Director Jason Bumbico and
State Librarian Mandy Knapp.***

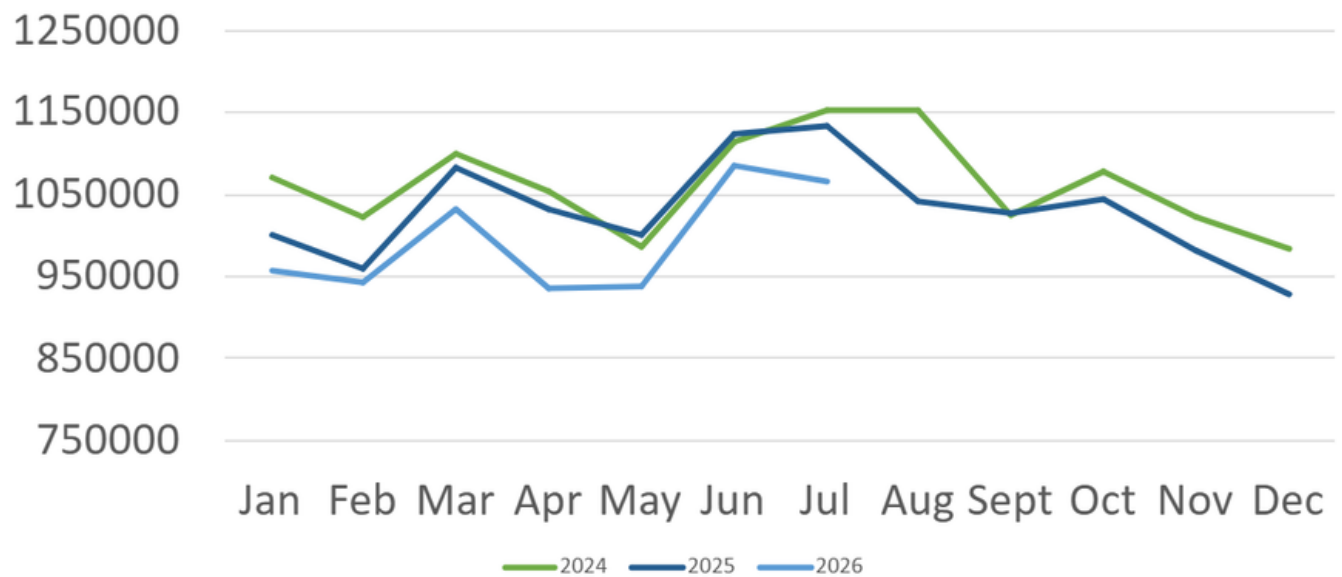


***State Librarian Mandy Knapp visits the
American Association of Law Libraries conference***

Ohio Digital Library Circulation by Month



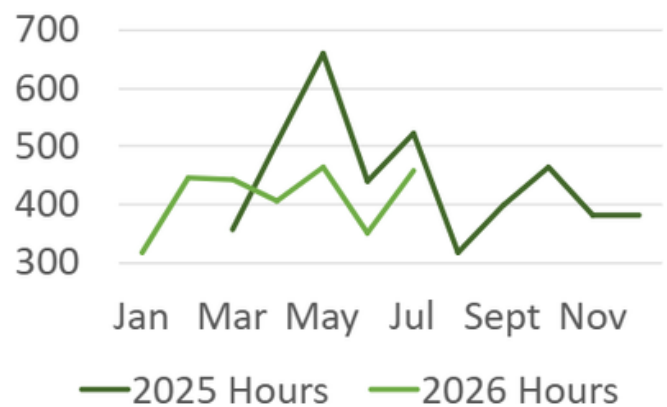
SEO Consortium Physical Circulation by Month



Staff Training by Month



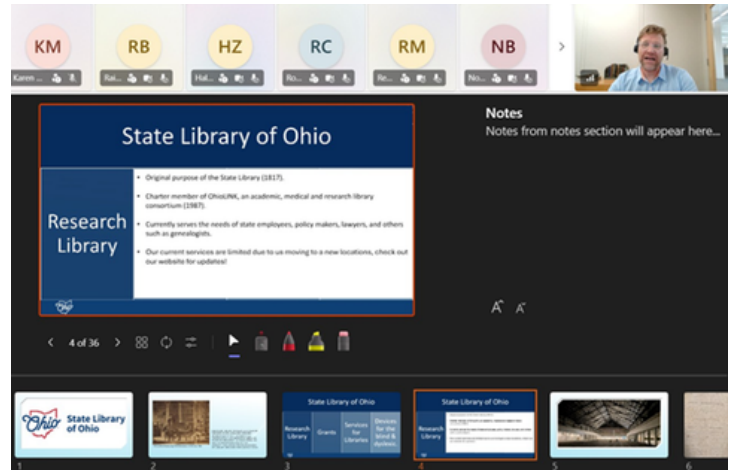
Cooperative Partnership Meetings by Month



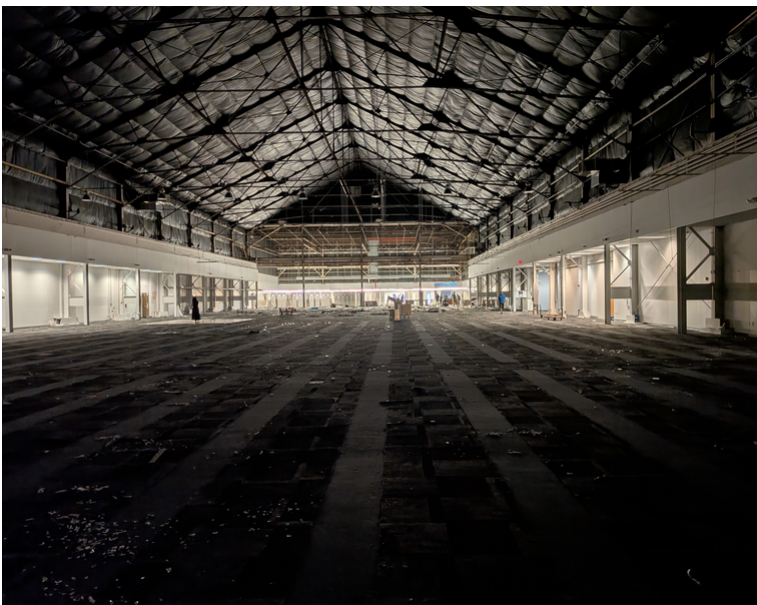
Library Services—July 2026

Presentation to AG staff

On July 23, Director of Library Operations Ryan Burley gave a one-hour long online presentation to over 50 staff members of the Attorney General's Office from across the state of Ohio. The presentation covered the History of the State Library of Ohio and our current programs and projects. Ryan also presented on the history of the rare manuscripts held by the State Library of Ohio, including the St. Clair papers which include several letters written by George Washington.



Director Ryan Burley presents to AG staff



Our very empty old location

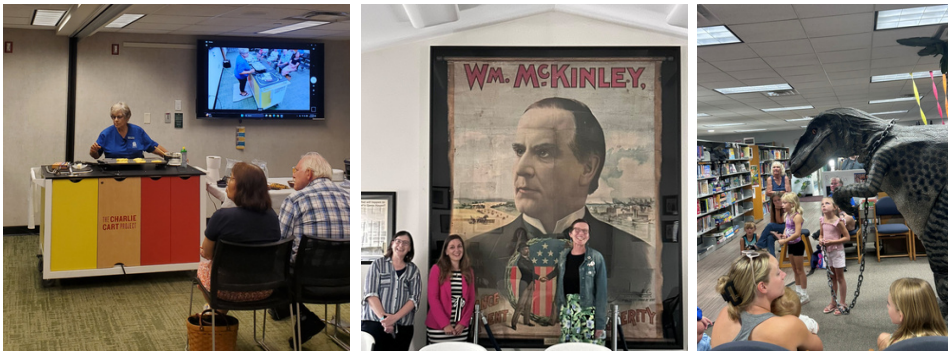
Goodbye, 274 E 1st Ave

On July 15 the State Library of Ohio said goodbye to our 274 E. 1st Ave. location after being in the space for over 25 years! Over 40,000 boxes of materials, furniture and other items were moved out of the space into our new Chestnut offices and Gahanna facility. Library Services staff are now working on the organization of our materials at our new archival storage space in Gahanna.

Databases for State Employees

The State Library of Ohio offers access to a variety of databases for State of Ohio employees, including Nexis Uni, O'Reilly Online Learning, ProQuest Nursing & Allied Health Premium, and many others. In the past three months, these resources have been used over 2,100 times by state employees.

Library Programs & Development—July 2026



A Way Public Library staff member demonstrates its LSTA grant-funded Charlie Cart for cooking and nutrition education (left); Library Consultants Katy Hite, Penelope Shumaker, and Janet Ingraham Dwyer (l-r) visited the McKinley Memorial Library (center); young patrons at Washington County Public Library are amazed by larger-than-life dinosaur puppets (right).

Library Consultants on the Road

State Library staff had the opportunity to visit several libraries in July to see how their LSTA Summer Library Program Grant-supported activities were going. Library Consultants Katy Hite, Janet Ingraham Dwyer, Penelope Shumaker, Jeff Laser, and Anne Kennedy visited more than 20 libraries and got to observe or take part in summer library programs that included dinosaur puppetry, Highland cows, baking competitions, candle-making, artwork, composting, and more!

Additionally, Library Consultant Jeff Regensburger visited several libraries that received an LSTA Competitive Grant in December to learn more about the various projects' progress. Libraries visited were: Way Public Library (Charlie Cart community cooking/nutrition demonstration); Akron-Summit County Public Library ("Build a Book" program allowing children to create their own picture book); and Muskingum County Library System (outreach initiative featuring the library's bookmobile at an event called Coopermill Block Party).

Registration is now open for **ODNFest 2026: Authenticity in the Digital Age**, a day-long in-person education opportunity for library and museum digitization staff to explore current relevant topics, including Artificial Intelligence and how it pertains to authenticity in digital collections. The event will be held on October 8 from 9:30-4:30

at the Dublin branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library. Registration is \$35 and includes coffee, pastries, and lunch. Key speakers include: Doug Peterson, who as part of the Digital Object Authenticity Working Group, will cover the three pillars of authenticity: provenance, visual accuracy,

and context; Evan Miller, who will speak to assessing legacy digital collections as part of his work at Indiana University; and Lara Friedman-Shedlov (University of Minnesota) and Andrew McDonnell (University of Kentucky) will demonstrate practical workflows for born-digital collections.

ODL By the Numbers

Let's take a deeper dive into the Ohio Digital Library (ODL) for the month of July:

Total checkouts:

981,487 (6,707,882 YTD)

Format preference:

Slightly more audiobooks (roughly 447K) than ebooks (424K) circulated in July. Magazines clocked in with 109K.

Support:

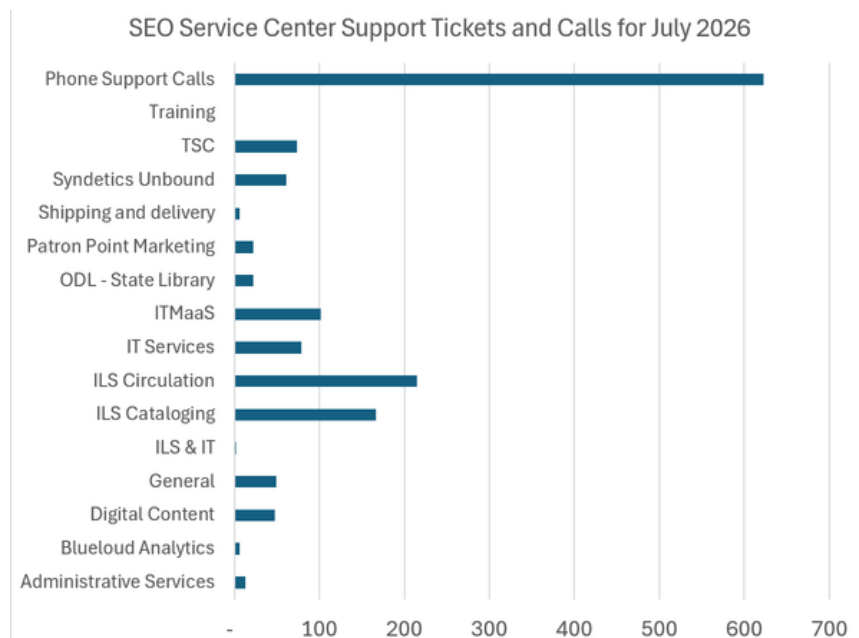
71 support tickets were submitted and answered in July.

Most popular book title:

The Calamity Club, by Kathryn Stockett (audiobook)

Curious about what's being checked out? Take a look at the [real-time checkouts and holds](#).

SEO Service Center—July 2026



Quick Takeaways:

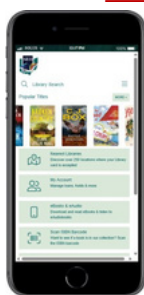
- Phone support calls (622) dominated overall volume.
- ILS work (Circulation + Cataloging 382) represented a major share of operational demand.
- IT Services + ITMaaS (187) and TSC (74) continue to be significant service drivers.

Key service highlights include:

- The SEO IT Team launched - IT Management as a Service (ITMaaS) for public libraries.
- **Three library visits** – Kate Love Simpson Library, Carnegie Public Library – East Liverpool, and Minerva Public Library

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

- Over **1,065,203** items were circulated.
- **176,605** holds were created and **181,646** holds were filled.
- **7,171** new users were created.
- **520** interlibrary loan requests were initiated.
- **868** support tickets were created, with **3** relayed to the software vendor.



Mobile App Stats	2025	2026	% Change
New Devices	2172	2147	-1%
Holds Placed	33,460	34,435	3%
App Launched	90,312	102,983	14%
Searches	89,585	91,541	2%



- Serving Every Ohioan Staff Tutorials views - **1481**
- Online Catalog Patron Tutorial views - **588**
- Technical Services Committee - **13**



- Heavy use in Announcements and Newsletters being sent (**407,822 emails**)
- Medium use in Birthday/Anniversary campaigns (**3,399 emails**)
- Light use of Winback (**443 emails**) and Coming of Age (**1,212 emails**) campaigns



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

State Library of Ohio Awarded \$146,615 NEH Grant to Preserve Arthur St. Clair Papers

July 22, 2026: The State Library of Ohio is delighted to announce that we have received a \$146,615 federal grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) through its Rediscovering Our Revolutionary Tradition program. This award will support the preservation, digitization, and expanded public access to the Arthur St. Clair Manuscript Collection, an important collection documenting Ohio and early American history.

State Library of Ohio Digital Initiatives Librarian Shannon Kupfer-Trausch will lead the multi-year effort to digitize approximately 4,000 pages of manuscripts documenting the life and public service of Arthur St. Clair. “Arthur St. Clair played a pivotal role during the nation’s formative years,” said State Librarian State Librarian Mandy Knapp. “This grant allows us to preserve these extraordinary documents while making them freely accessible to researchers, students, educators, and the public for generations to come.”