

Message from the State Librarian

November saw the loss of one of Ohio's greats, former State Librarian Beverly Cain. When I reflect on Beverly's legacy, I am reminded of this quote from acclaimed author and thinker George Bernard Shaw:

"This is the true joy in life, being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one. Being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances, complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy. I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it what I can."

Beverly was one of those rare leaders who was truly kind and truly giving. It was our privilege to know her, and Ohio's great blessing to have her leadership shape our libraries. It is my honor to try to follow in this example and to work for the great people of our state.

Highlights

- ♦ Strategic planning with OhioNet began, including introductory meetings and shaping the community survey.
- ♦ State Librarian Mandy Knapp attended the Academic Librarian Association of Ohio (ALAO) conference, the Ohio Educational Library Media Association (OELMA) conference, and the Ohio Library Council (OLC) Convention & Expo. It was a joy and a pleasure to meet so many librarians and learn about the great work being done in libraries across the state.
- ♦ Mandy, along with Associate State Librarian Evan Struble and Library Relations and Training Development Manager Heather Miller, presented an update on the State Library at OLC Convention.



Former State Librarian Beverly Cain

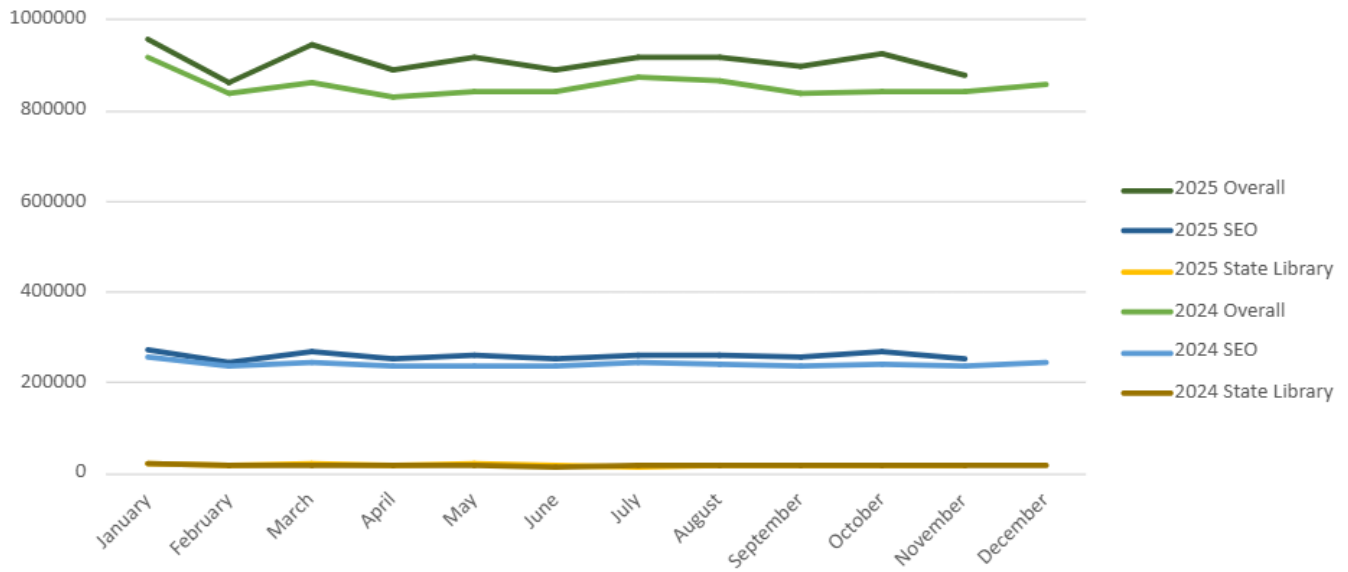
To this end, the State Library has started our strategic planning process. Please take a moment to fill out our [survey](#). This feedback allows us to plan how we may best serve you.



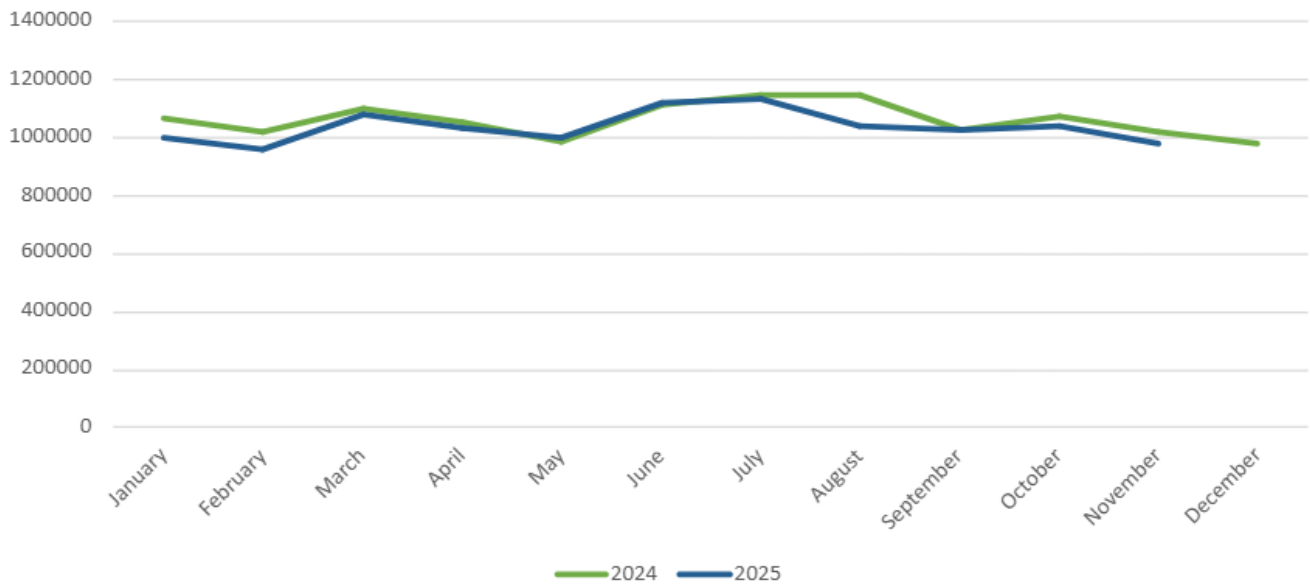
Thanks so much for the update and for all you and the State Library employees are doing to move things forward. We really appreciate your communication and all the support you provide. We're glad to hear the good news and are happy to wait a little longer as things get sorted out.

Lina Hall, Director, Oak Harbor Public Library

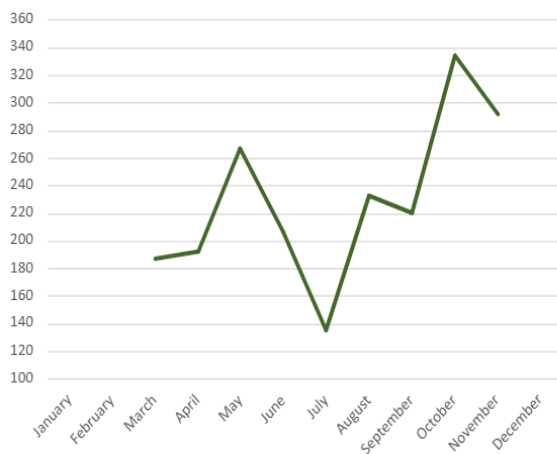
Ohio Digital Library Circulation by Month



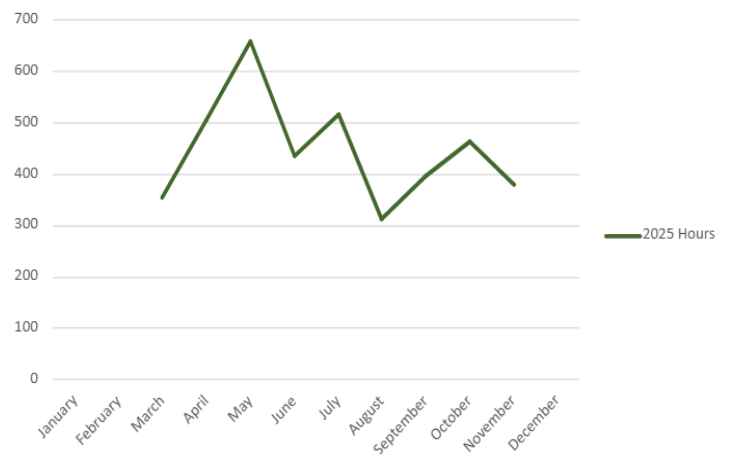
SEO Consortium Physical Circulation by Month



State Library Staff Training by Month



Cooperative Partnership Meetings by Month



Library Services—November 2025

Meeting with Senator Kristina Roegner

On November 10 Legislative Liaison Kirstin Krumsee, State Librarian Mandy Knapp, and Director of Library Operations Ryan Burley had the honor of meeting with Senator Kristina Roegner at the Statehouse.

The Senator serves as the Chair of the Senate's General Government Committee and the Vice Chair of the Higher Education and the Ways and Means Committee.

We spoke to her about the State Library of Ohio's positive impact on the State and showed her a variety of rare items from our collection. The Senator, who is currently running for Treasurer of Ohio, was very excited to examine a Treasurer's report from 1827 and other items. She was so excited to see all these materials, including books from the 17th century and letters written by George Washington, that she took several pictures of the documents and books to share with her family and friends.



Senator Kristina Roegner with Treasurer's report from 1827

"I need to text a picture of this to my Dad right now!" said by Senator Roegner upon viewing a government document that we shared that had a personal connection to her.

Historical Society visit

On November 10 the Franklin County Genealogical & Historical Society held their annual meeting at our location. Director Ryan Burley was a featured speaker for the event and spoke to the group about the State Library of Ohio's history, our research library, our services to libraries, and the Talking Book program. He also gave them a tour of our facility.

Talking Book Outreach

This month supervisor Angelyn Hellman promoted the Talking Book program at the OLC and OELMA conferences. Angelyn also spoke to the Columbus Low

Vision support group and gave a presentation to the 18 attendees of their November meeting. Angelyn was able to check out three of the new DA2 Talking Book machines to attendees.

OhioLINK Ex Libris Migration

This month, Library Services and Information Systems & Technology started the implementation and migration process for several new Ex Libris products including Alma Digital, Library Mobile and Leganto which will allow us to improve access to materials and the sharing of resources with our patrons.



Franklin County Genealogical & Historical Society members viewing some of our materials on their tour

Library Programs & Development—November 2025



As part of the State Library's strategic planning services, library consultant Katy Hite (center in photo above) leads the staff of the Orrville Public Library in a future-focused activity to help staff imagine how the library can grow and change over the next three years.

LPD staff had a strong presence at the Ohio Library Council's 2025 Convention & Expo, held in Cleveland on November 19-21, 2025.

Library Consultant **Jeff Regensburger** and Associate State Librarian **Evan T. Struble** co-presented a session titled, "Grants for Ohio Public Libraries: LSTA and Beyond," with more than 60 people in attendance. Additionally, **Evan** co-presented a session with State Librarian Mandy Knapp titled, "State of Ohio's Libraries," with more than 120 people in attendance. Both sessions had robust Q&A portions.

Library Consultant **Katy Hite** led the session, "All Things Library of Things: A Facilitated Conversation of Non-Traditional Collections," with more than 50 people in attendance. Additionally, **Katy** staffed the Gadget Gallery, showcasing the newest in technology to convention attendees.

Finally, library consultants **Katy**, **Erin Kelsey**, and **Jeff Laser** held dedicated time in the State Library's Expo booth to discuss the State Library's strategic planning services, and answer questions from current and prospective clients.

LPD at OELMA

Library Consultant **Janet Ingraham Dwyer** co-presented a [session on Ohio-based book awards](#) with KSU iSchool adjunct professor Liz Deskins at the Ohio Educational Library Media Association (OELMA) Conference on November 14, with eight in attendance. Will Hillenbrand, author-illustrator of 2025 [Floyd's Pick Book Award](#) winner ***The Voice in the Hollow***, attended the session and did an impromptu reading for the attendees!

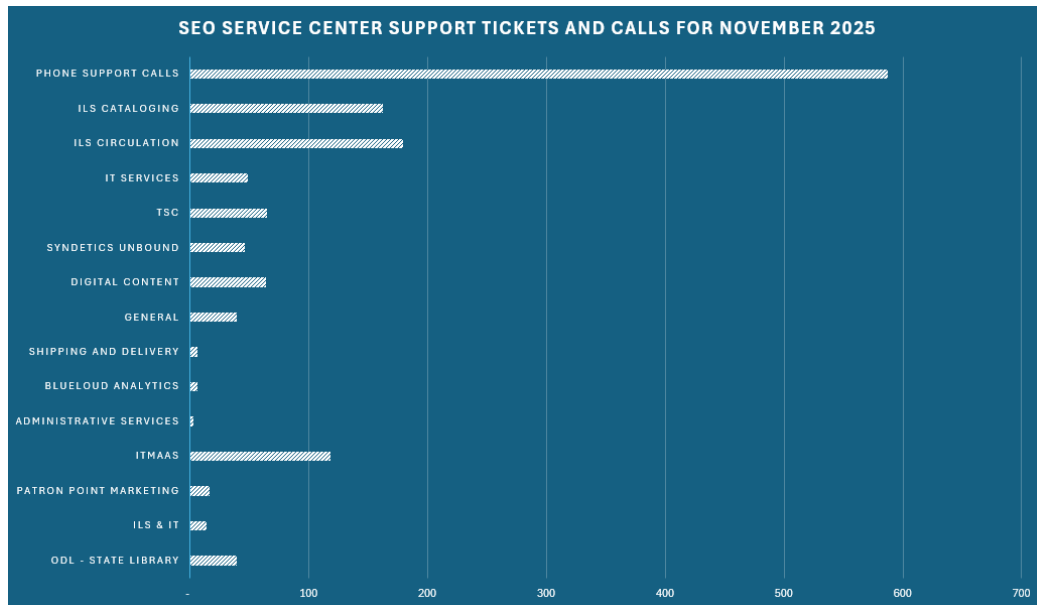
Library Consultant **Erin Kelsey** presented a session spotlighting the State Library's [Ohio Collection Analysis Initiative](#) (OCAI) titled, "Building Community With Inclusive Library Collections," on November 14 as part of the 2025 OELMA Conference, with ten in attendance. Additionally, Erin spent time at the State Library's vendor booth to answer further questions about OCAI and how it can best be used in a school library setting.



Library Consultant **Janet Ingraham Dwyer** and fellow Ohio Ready to Read trainers Alice Mackey (Delaware County District Library/DCDL) and Annamarie Carlson (Westerville Public Library) cofacilitated two [Early Literacy 101](#) workshops in November (pictured, left). The host libraries were Liberty Branch, DCDL, and Main Library, Pickaway County Library. Participants learned

how brain development impacts how young children learn and explored effective, research-based early literacy resources and activities. Early Literacy 101 covers the Six Early Literacy Skills and Five Early Literacy Practices presented in the [PLA/ALSC Every Child Ready to Read® initiative](#), along with other early literacy concepts, storytime tips, and a brief overview of science of reading.

SEO Service Center—November 2025



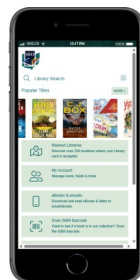
The SEO Service Center team answered over 1,393 tickets and customer calls during the month of November.

Key service highlights include:

- **Visits** to Garnet A. Wilson Public Library of Pike County and Normal Memorial Public Library
- **Hosted** a Patron Point Info Session for 32 attendees
- **Hosted** the annual SEO Directors Meeting

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

- Over 980,805 items were circulated.
- 5,346 new users were created.
- 179,584 holds were created and 167,545 holds were filled.
- 658 interlibrary loan requests were initiated.
- 806 support tickets were created, with 8 relayed to the software vendor.



Mobile App Stats

	2024	2025	% Change
New Devices	3,668	1,982	-46% ↓
Holds Placed	28,544	34,435	21% ↑
App Launched	75,499	85,438	13% ↑
Searches	88,000	87,191	-1% ↓

Niche Academy usage showed:

- Medium engagement with **staff tutorials** (943 views) and the **online catalog tutorial** (626 views)
- Lower engagement with the **Technical Services Committee** (44 views) and **ASL Storytime** tutorials (27 views)



Patron Point Marketing e-mails showed:

- Heavy use in **Announcement and Newsletters** being sent (329,808 emails)
- Medium use in **Birthday/Anniversary** campaigns (2,789 emails)
- Light use of **Winback** (163 emails) and **Coming of Age** (793 emails) campaigns

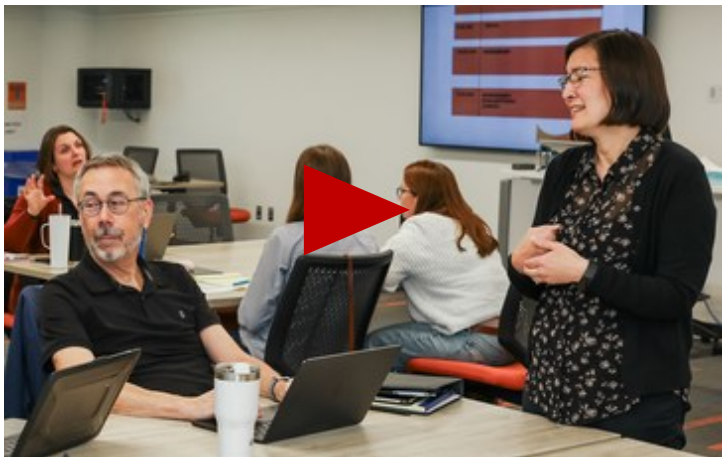
News—November 2025



November 18, 2025: [Former State Librarian Beverly Cain Passes](#)

It is with heavy hearts that we announce that former State Librarian Beverly Cain died on November 18 following a recent medical emergency and subsequent end-of-life care. Beverly is remembered for her unwavering commitment to service, dedication to mentoring library professionals, and passion for the role of libraries in providing access for all. She was an inspirational role model that led with compassion and grace and fostered agency with a steadfast determination that everyone reaches their highest potential.

As State Librarian, Beverly made over 100 visits to libraries throughout Ohio where she met with library managers and staff, toured their facilities, and then wrote summaries of her visits. These summaries were posted with photos on the State Library website and recently compiled in a booklet titled *A Collection of State Librarian Beverly Cain's Visits to Ohio Libraries* available to [read as an online magazine](#) and [as a PDF](#).



[Heterick Memorial Library](#)

November 21, 2025: [Spotlight on IMLS LSTA Grantees Way Public Library and Ohio Northern University Heterick Memorial Library](#)

Our spotlight videos this week feature an academic library and a public library that received federal funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) through Ohio LSTA Grants awarded by the State Library of Ohio.

In 2024, the Ohio Northern University [Heterick Memorial Library](#) was awarded \$14,250 in federal IMLS funds through an Ohio LSTA Competitive Grant in the Literacy category.

The State Library of Ohio has awarded federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) as Guiding Ohio Online (GOO) Grants to [Way Public Library](#). The library utilizes these federal dollars, along with their local matching funds, to hire a technology trainer.



[Way Public Library](#)

[View more videos](#) submitted by Ohio libraries showcasing how they utilized federal IMLS LSTA grant funding.