

State Librarian's Report



As we begin 2010, I'm encouraged that all types of libraries in Ohio continue to be strongly supported by their patrons and communities. The number of levies that passed in 2009 demonstrates just how much Ohioans value their libraries. Difficult situations often lead to creative and innovative solutions. Libraries are exploring new sources for funding, reducing expenditures, forming new partnerships, joining ILS consortia, and working together to raise awareness about library funding issues. [more...](#)

A Different Allocation Formula: Lessons From the 2009 Public Library Fund Crisis



To say that 2009 was a challenging year financially for public libraries would be an understatement and the Tipp City Public Library faced challenges like never before in its history.

By December 2008 it was clear that deteriorating economic conditions were going to have a significant impact on library funding. Projected decreases to the Public Library Fund and in interest income were projected to result in a shortfall of about \$57,000. [more...](#)



State Library of Ohio and The Ohio State University Extension to Offer Program for Public Library Employees

The State Library of Ohio and Ohio State University Extension are planning an informative program for public library employees in early 2010 on opportunities to further develop collaborations with area Extension offices through programs and projects. [more...](#)

Public Library Boundaries and Library Levies

The decrease in state funding through the Public Library Fund has caused many libraries to consider going to the public for local levy support for the first time. There were a number of new library levies on the ballot this fall and more libraries are considering going to the ballot in upcoming elections. [more...](#)

Other news & updates from the State Library

- \* [News You Can Use](#) for State Employees.
- \* [New Books](#)
- \* [Recent Press Releases](#)                      \* [BlogJunction Ohio](#)

Positive News in a Difficult Budget Climate

With the abundance of news releases about cuts to personnel, business hours, materials, programming, and entire branches in Ohio's libraries, positive news is very welcome. Here is a sampling of the excellence that keeps Ohio's loyal library patrons coming through the doors, voting for local support levies, and telling their stories to their elected representatives. [more...](#)

Community Library in Sunbury Passes Levy



In 1944, the YWCA, along with members of literary clubs of Galena and Sunbury, established the Community Library in Sunbury. Housed in a former grocery store, the library provided approximately 1,336 books that had been donated to start the original collection. Now, in a 14,000 sq. ft. facility with more than 100,000 circulating items, numerous programs, and over 500 daily visits, Community Library is a community asset valued more than ever by area residents. [more...](#)

SaveOhioLibraries.com: A Grassroots Effort



SaveOhioLibraries.com is a grassroots effort that promotes library funding issues and involves librarians and library supporters across the state of Ohio who maintain the site. [more...](#)

Joining SEO Will Help Our Budget Crunch

Library Directors all over the state are



familiar with the process I went through in late summer and early fall of 2009. We reacted with shock and horror to the latest devastating round of state budget cuts. The next moment we found ourselves rethinking every aspect of our libraries in order to make the necessary cuts and still be able to deliver basic services. [more...](#)

A Blessing or a Curse? Coping with Library Budget Cuts



A director I once worked for would often reiterate the quote "May you live in interesting times." Upon researching this phrase I find that it is often referred to as an Ancient Chinese proverb and curse. The actual authorship is actually open to debate. Nonetheless, I have found myself reflecting on those words many times throughout the last year. [more...](#)