

Virtual Snacks with Council – Audio transcript

Please stand by for realtime captions.

Our first question is very broad. We encourage you to share answers in the chat that we will read aloud. And that question is how does your -- document information? So just for an example while you are typing I have small displays that I create throughout the year. They have an interactive display that is permanent when they come into the connection area because arguments are kept separately. That has that sign that what is the ferment document? And just has some examples from across the collection that people can pick up and see without having to answer the stats fully. But how do you promote government document information in your library?

Hi Jen, this is Jennifer. While we are waiting for people to type, I would like this place too. The most recent one was called all the presidents words. I pulled out quotes from president to highlight our residential documents collection with a weekly compilation with the presidents. So people are starting to type now.

Yeah, someone -- could you give a little more information? The person who wrote college app, that seems super fascinating. Sunday of course, website guides, display cases, exhibit social media, I would like to know a little bit about that too. Special events. Welcome back voter registration date, concentration day, and -- a couple of display cases, it is kind of like one of those -- and for ideas promoting digital items. I'm sure some news will be revealed. Our college has its own social media app so the students can interact further. Okay, thank you, amelia.

Amelia, I might be in touch. Are you watching those social media apps? Are librarians integrated with this yet? I've been told TBD. So library social media outlets, great, we are going to circle back to that in a little bit. So hopefully we will be able to share some links.

Does anyone in the audience promote government documents when you are doing displays on broader topics, and kind of, you know, squeeze in a government document little public service announcement here and there? Or in classes? Sometimes they promote them when setting up. They exhibit -- someone has a guide and would love to promote better. The regional is still on a physical format. I will say that I was involved in fundraising efforts for a new library building. And so I to give many, many, many doors, which was outside of my comfort zone in some ways. Because I was talking about libraries, I could have some genuine enthusiasm for what I was trying to do. But I always included government documents in that. So that's an unusual way to promote the collection, but it certainly made people who would otherwise be unaware of our collection you know, aware of what we had.

So they shared in the stat composition 20 class. That is great, you're probably reaching students, right? When they are integrated fully with that. That's awesome. And then Carolyn, she shares that they have broader displays. And part of the purpose is to promote library collections. So they are always included if they are applicable. Lori shares that they had a monthly display with the team. That's great. I am going to ask a follow-up. Constitution Day, Batman day -- what is Batman day? While we are waiting for Kathy, they share the they have a display area set aside for public publications. That is great. Especially the callout Native American and native heritage month. Library website. Perfect. So now let's get into more

specific questions. I'm going to hand -- I'll introduce the next question as well. We got some specific questions. Kathy has responded real quick. It's today, Batman day is the day to celebrate Marvel comics, but it may include -- comics. That's off some. That's really great. I just recently found a scruff McGruff comic. I was very tempted to pull it out. Hence why I did from the collection.

Hey, Jen, I wanted to ask Carolyn at the Department of Interior library. Carolyn, if you could put in the chat, is your library open to the public? I was wondering about your audience for your displays. And at your library, do you have really old documents or historical documents that you would like to showcase? And who can look at those? Well on a related note, many of us featured a Department of Interior --

Our displays, right? Those are some of my favorite ones too. In fact, we have a big exhibit that is full of them. Oh, Carolyn says yeah, they are open to the public but not right now due to COVID.

Which I agree. Department of Interior usually feature being in the Mountain West, we've had a lot of trips and apartment interior activities. So I am going to move us on to the next question. Continue to, and the chat especially if you have things that you haven't had a chance to say yet. But just to be more specific, if your library creates an image, which was seen many of you do, what has been some of your most popular topics?

Carolyn finished her answer. Her display cases library interests and they have historical documents that they use for library tours and studies. I bet those are great. So here is someone. Andrea, their government documents are fully integrated into regular collection using LC. These the stickers and folders to shelf materials. Oh, good idea on the folders.

Yeah.

I never thought of that. We use the stickers for sure, but I always wondered what we use those folders for. It shows the document from the shelf and house alert. The material need special handling. I love that. U.S. since his history with the timeline. Carolyn said that interior docs are available to the public. Marian, can you tell us a little bit more about that? Do you have copies of the senses, or are they specific to your region? Do you have other state senses? Stats, or is that all in one permanent display? That seems interesting. I like that idea. We have done census displays normally when the census is taking place. The citizenship, oh yeah, I like to use the flashcards and I just realized after Constitution day that you can order updated citizenship material, you know, they used to be sent out through the FD LP, but now you go to the site to order new ones. I don't know if anybody else already knew that. I had no idea about that, so I did that right after Constitution in citizenship day. I sent off for updated materials.

She has historic volumes for the U.S. only. It is really interesting. Sorry, Jennifer.

I was just going to say that Alan is here and he recently did a display on election law. Fairly popular. This is interesting. Publications and posters from the new deal.

That sounds amazing.

Yes.

That must be a great historical collection.

Maria, what library are you at? What do you know from the new deal? I am jealous.

Got some really detailed looking 1990 posters. Those are amazing.

If we scroll back up to the top of that chant, did we get everybody? Vicki put in a link to her guides on docs topics.

Yet, but at the top of the page are those the current displays that we have going? We have one on scaring things because of hollowing. Towards the bottom we have a list of all of the bibliographies that we have done for the displays and it took the last three years only. There is quite a number there.

That is really great for ideas, Vicki.

Yeah, that's wonderful. And I like the bibliography idea. I tend to have a lot of different boxes on the guides with government information resources. But, you know, not a bibliography. So I love that.

That is real handy. I'm going to bookmark that, Vicki. Thanks for sharing. She has a exhibition in place in the rare books department. Fantastic.

And are you open currently or have limited access due to COVID?

Carolyn, at the department, Indian boarding schools. And in the East Potomac golf course, which is on national parkland.

The Gettysburg address anniversary, I never thought of that. That is a wonderful idea. Especially since you are in the area. We have maps, documents specific to tribal affairs, posters, right? The gorgeous blue ones. We have those right now on display too. Military went on area 51. That is a fun one in NASA. That is a great idea.

We also did an Apollo exhibit 50 years ago. I think back up to the top of this conversation I think I will catch up with this last one. Kathy Hilson that they include both state brochures for a summer travel display and national history Day.

That's great. That's really fun.

I once did a display on government documents or publications. Ephemera, so you know those materials you get that you don't really catalog. I did a whole display of those things. And a lot of those pictures are like one sheet kind of poster things.

Yeah, those are the things most commonly not found based on slides.

My guess is that Constitution day is kind of based on all the photos I saw from this year from the popular display event exhibit. What were some of the things that you did during Constitution day celebrations? While people are thinking about that, Kathy says we don't do too many displays, but a couple of recent ones have included docs with the night 10th amendment and the survival of the Alaskan natives. Jen, did you put a link in?

Yeah, I did. It goes with what you were saying about the president's words. We did a regular exhibit that I put up two years to get students who talked about presidential records. It kind of distinguishes between the national archives and public papers of the president. Because that is a hard thing for undergraduates and history students to understand. Well, you have everything, right?

Well, we have the public things. Let's talk about records. I feel like presidential records is something that people have enough understanding of. So to get, you know, into that conversation.

And my display and all the president words -- I would like to know more about, okay, so there is Apollo 11, Constitution day, and pocket Constitution. What is dining and drawing with uncle Hamm? Please elaborate. Another shouted to voter registration, the swing with the county board of elections. So that is a great, great demonstration of partners to help your outreach go -- another partner, Kathy Hill local law professional talk about the Constitution.

Black history, women's history, Constitution citizenship day --

Andrea reports they have a Dean who dresses up like a doting father and -- Constitution. That is wonderful.

And then amelia before that, a student worker dressed up as Washington pre-COVID. Last year for Constitution day in our student newsletter, I worked in the University. I made it difficult, I think too difficult to get a pocket Constitution, because I wanted people to come and sing the preamble. Allah Schoolhouse Rock, and only one person took me up on that.

That is a bummer. I did that the first year and actually no, I did it the second year, because the first-year people did it without me asking. And then COVID hit. So we haven't really been doing one on ones outreach. But the Schoolhouse Rock is becoming phased out. I have a little cartoon version of Schoolhouse Rock that we have and since we were undergraduates. They do not know who it is. Okay, so she followed up on diving and drawing Uncle Sam. She said that their staff is phenomenal. They come up with the idea and found recipes for coloring pages and federal documents and put coloring pages for people to pick out on the guide. That is amazing. If you have a chance to share that guides, we would love to see it.

I want to ask Kathy, or Kate. Kate says that they currently have a senator by a lysing commitment documents. Kathy, Birch, where are you? Birch five Indiana Center from -- and he's an alum of our law school. I met him, he came to speak at the law school it a while ago and this is back when we had this massive display case. In the law school lobby, and it was a huge display on his life and he was able to borrow campaign posters and buttons from the University of archives. We have those papers here, so -- Kate, I would like to know about -- he is awesome. Oh. Indiana state. Back to the preamble. Andrea said that they tried several times to start of the day with someone from the presidents office reading the preamble to a gathering. One day they tried the outdoor quad. Yeah. Reading it, singing it, it just doesn't draw an audience.

Well, at least you tried. That's the important thing, right? She has shared a link to the guide. Thank you. And Kate, I would love to follow up. We just did it to empathize the variety of documents that people can be a part of. That is a fantastic approach. When she went out there, we have this in the next question about creating videos and created few videos. A part of our next question, maybe? So it is not part of the --

We can talk about it.

Or it can be part of five.

That's true. We can wait till then. Regarding the signing -- a dimension. Oh, that's great. I wonder if that is on YouTube.

This seems like a great discussion on this topic. Should we move on to the next slide?

Yeah, we can do that.

So this is our next question.

That is my question. So how do you promote government information in your library instruction? And when I was thinking of this, so, about how if you teach a class, how you use it in your class, or even just like instruction in your library. One on one instruction, or one-shot instruction. I was thinking also too about preference of interaction. Because I love to promote CRS reports, and I teach an advanced legal access course. Instead of having a textbook, I always find reading from CRS reports. I teach federal legislative history research and -- research. And then I have a professor in France, and she gets -- she is like the expert on American government where they are General assembly. I always send her a CRS report on topics. Recently they are investigating voting by mail in France. So I'm getting some resources like that. For everybody else, how do you promote government information and materials and instruction or reference? Jessica says it is good to know because she in several library and spend plenty of time cataloguing CRS reports. Yeah, and you know, now they have the official CRS database. I don't know if it says how far back they go, which you can get almost all of the most recent CRS reports there. We have congressional, which is RS database back to 1915. So if there are any reports that haven't been updated recently, you could go there and also the University of Texas library digital collection and some other sites too. I have the list. She says the link to celebrating national nutrition month. That is interesting. Bernadette says that we generate docs for when the space professor specifically asked for it. Kathy teaches a class of legal research for nonlawyers. All include U.S. stocks. Yes, it is important that you can use government info for researching congressional documents. If you need regulations, or statutes. Andrea says we don't have specific information for the information. Our libraries are assigned to divisions and library liaisons. Andrea is assigned to the social science division and she is embedded into -- excellent.

Professors get a couple of days of library help to a specific project. She participates as much as possible. That is great. That's research. We have something similar that sound similar here, but yours sounds more intense we have assignments around Tourette's where professors can come around and meet the folks. It is really cool. So here's a question for you, Jennifer, what sites for reports do you do?

Akamai put in the official CRS database, and let's see if I can -- the University of North Texas libraries, ENT. I just put that link in. As well. So that you can go find it on what may not be the official site. And then protest congressional. If you have that and the module with the CRS is separate if you just have the CRS or the request for the database. I see Carolyn, they have regular training sessions for on specific topics. Especially legal subjects, category docs, or features heavily -- Katie is at a state library. Not a ton of instruction, but to promote use in reference, she had a short series of short, professional development sessions for reference staff on -- yeah, that reminds me, Katie, the Indiana state library,

they do a webinar series that can be used -- it is open to the public, but it can be used by librarians during the state as professional development. In the colleague we did -- a two part series on -- and dockets. Judicial dockets. And I gave a lesson on using pay service.

So she shares that they have in-house sessions for our librarians. They participate in classes -- that sounds similar to what we do here. That one is the traditional liaison librarian. Integrate of docks. So if there is a course that you know, discipline and law, usually there is some component of that.

Maria says class visit demonstration showing the kinds of information included with an annual report. Serial said, declassified documents --

That's great. Getting into the details. I love it.

We have a database. It used to be called declassified documents reference system.

I think we recently got that. Definitely declassified. Well, thank you, Carolyn, to sharing your guide to legal research.

Yeah, she says it varies.

And then Tabatha says that they do library instructors. They also do a blog to share information. The display is a process for how a bill becomes a law and links to current legislation process.

Tabatha, do you use Congress.gov for that? They have a little video tutorial on legislative process. Here's the link on the processing videos at Congress.gov. Y'all have never seen that. Alan, yeah, just put in the link to -- the declassified documents database. Yes, now it is called U.S. declassified documents online. Tabatha's displays featuring the bends guide information. And a couple of the -- Andrea says a former paralegal professor always used to come to me in the library for copies of the how a bill becomes a law to hand out to the class. Is that the one that we have got from GPO, Andrea, that you can get social materials? I used to take this to class when I teach government information. And when class met in person, I would take the folders and I would design handouts in them. It's been online for a few years now. -- Class.

If you are new to ordering promotional materials, here is the link for how you can do that. You log in here. With your library login.

I just got some green highlighters from their promotional materials.

I saw those in our processing room and I forgot that that's where those came from.

We have some instructors. I met at a community college, so these are entry-level survey classes, but some of our instructors, in order to encourage the use of better sources, they restrict students to things that they can get to the library's databases, or government sources that students have found with the help of a librarian. So -- and for those things like statistics or information on you know, a particular topics and then themselves to government information and then in our introduction to college class we cover government sources and when they can be something you can use in class versus politician website. Or even like Whitehouse.gov and try to talk about the differences between the two. And it's so important to remind students, I think, at any level -- community college, undergrad level, about primary

sources. When I am meeting with, you know, second or third year law students and somehow are on constitutional law, they are always researching the secondary sources. You know, this is an hour book, which is important. I feel, you know, you have to show them the primary sources as well. You know, legislative history -- look at these hearings. You know, that they in the Congressional record and things like that reported for students to be able to look at the actual source in the information. So here at -- I'm part of the archive. So the government information collection is part of -- that makes it pretty easy to get into primary source feature classes where we have -- I attempt to take manuscript collections but my colleague complains that tells another part of that story. And that way the students can -- having a full conversation. Creation attempt in the document.

I like -- sending to the carpenter shop. Yeah, and watch the McAfee, so that is a great idea. You get a box of them. This is years ago and it only came with one sharpener. I could take those out instead of, you know, this is a carpentry shop here in -- so that is a great idea, and they are difficult to sharpen. And we had a student have an allergic reaction to the -- so I felt very badly after you know, she sharpened about 20 of them. Oh, that is good.

Can I ask a question about government information in library instruction? Has anyone encountered negativity when, you know, bringing this up as a source? Because that has something that I haven't caught in the last year and a half, but it was not uncommon to get pushback from students about government information sources, which is what led to us trying to differentiate between you know, the national Institute of health and you know, the White House site, or whatever. But has anyone else experienced that you are promoting government documents that there is some hesitancy or pushback or even flat out negativity about it? Tabatha is giving a link to her pod. Thank you, Tabatha. People are thinking about that. Yeah, I think there are resistance to government documents. Also, I know people will search our library catalog pick we have an excellent library catalog. They wanted way to read out the government document from their search for health.

Yeah, I've definitely seen, you know, both responses. I've seen some negativities like oh, that's -- blah blah blah, but then I've also seen well, the government published this, so it must be true and I can just accept it without, you know, any critical thought.

Yeah, that's the opposite.

It is all the same with all library instruction, really. There are people who accept sources as what they feel comfortable with and -- for whatever reason.

Marina posted in the chat that she said it would surprise her that there would be negativity and resistance. Well, I think we are -- where I've worked, the area -- I would say that contact that residents have with the federal government is, you know, pretty minimal. And if they've not had any, you know, had gone to Washington, D.C. or have any positive experience with that level of government and they don't really think about all the other levels of government which they interact like -- you know, districts and city councils. They just immediately have a reaction to it. And I would say it is not a majority, but sometimes it catches you off guard if you are talking about sources. So I was thinking too, with regards to negativity with regards to the government information, it could be just the way it's presented, you know? If you look at hearings, they are not shiny. There is no photos. There is really no abstract summary telling you what the hearing is about. So you know, they can be difficult to read. You know, things like that. And I guess distrust, you know, when you hear about some of the missteps or how it kind of causes some individual to question every single thing, you know, that is out there and is

produced by the federal government. Let's see -- Maria, did we touch on the public high school teachers who want their students to use school books in primary, secondary sources rather than digital versions including public publications? She introduces MIH and introductory side class as an experience. Yeah. Context is important in framing. Yep. Staid publication. Yes. Distrust in government. Oh, Eugene, postcard had orders. Needs a little more on government resources. Poor Vicki is trying to get herself -- they also show how to find hearings when there is topics. Do you use -- to do that? SCA for the Coast Guard.

I find when I introduce, you know, professional documents, I have to -- especially to early undergraduate, which was -- I have to provide context for what the hearing actually is and what information it contains or doesn't contain. I'm interested in how much additional support you have to provide in that other than finding them in the catalog.

Also talking about the whole hearing process. You know, how hearing is run and with these panels and their five-minute oral presentations, you know, and then they submit like, you know, written testimony and there's the follow-up Q and a session.

And the evidence that gets submitted. Akamai goes into the -- also how the members of the committee are allowed to invite the witnesses, you know, in support of or in opposition to the -- if they are considering legislation. So it can be very, you know, biased. Here is Tabatha's bulletin board. Great idea. Should we go to the next question?

Yeah, that is probably a good idea. So this one gets back to online tools. I am going to read this for Vicki. Unfortunately she is having some connectivity issues. So pretend I am Vicki. How does your library use online tools, like webpage is doing for social medias for information? We've been kind of talking around this. I would also add videos -- Lisa mentioned earlier, if you have any videos that you create to help promote government documents and we encourage you to share links in the chat as we have been doing this whole time. It is great seeing examples that are out there on the Internet.

Lisa, was that you had a video about --

Yeah, I can put that in the chat. We, the seat of Missouri, had its bicentennial this year. So I created a guide featuring a ton of local, state, and federal documents, including a funny little four-minute video. You will see that you don't need to be perfect to be good and you know, get something out there that will spread the word about the importance of these documents to all of us.

Just looking at the chat, just more conversation about negativity and using, you know, government documents. Tabatha says most of the people talking outside of the library were having talk of science. They want to know of more about how we can trust that government information. Here we go. Done in the bottom. Created a series of one-minute videos.

I love that framing. I definitely open that. I will watch that later.

Carolyn has shared a link to their website. That's great. At the Department of Interior. And then Bernadette shared some link to their guides of social media.

Clicking on all of these links. Andrea, that says we link videos and special topic power points to see guides. We use social media and embedded classes to help promote those guides. Those are some really

great ideas. The link, Bernadette, I am not able to get your link to work. Not connect to the server. One says a lot of traffic to them because they ranked highly --

Got to love the analytic. The algorithm works for you.

It says it still cannot connect to the server at guides Marion.edu. She gave us another link. No, it's the server.

Kate asks a question of the group. For those of you doing innovative things, do you find that the increase -- I think yes, for sure. And sometimes in ways you don't expect. We wanted to highlight indigenous tribes of Missouri. There are currently no federally recognized tribes. They were all forced out. Right around the creation of the state of Missouri. William Clark was one of the people who, you know, did that mass relocation. But there is a ton of history collection in our library. And people always ask those questions about Missouri's original tribes. So we created a live guide. And it is our single biggest, you know, hits for 20,000 hits. It has very little information on it. Just some links linking out the federal government information. But sometimes you don't know when something is going to hit a chord. I will put that in the chat. We have also just made a tiny little display of topical government documents, like sliding reports and, you know, posted those on social media and they, you know, specific to this area. And they have received a lot of comments, questions, people saying hey, can I come look at those? You know. I am interested in that. The USGS and some forms recently in the last several years about an area that is flooding, so those documents became more interesting all of a sudden. Well, unfortunately folks, we have reached the end of our 50 minutes. But I want to make sure that people have time for our break before the next session. We will keep the chat open for another couple minutes, but we will wrap up the discussion here. Feel free to get those links in the chat. They will be saved. And they will be shared with a larger audience. So thank you for participating in this discussion, both to my colleagues on counsel, and to all of you in the chat box.

Thank you, everybody. I loved all the ideas. I am definitely going to take a look at everything that you shared.

Carolyn, I believe the chat transfer will be available alongside the video recording. So you should get an email and attendee from GPU. So a link to the recording in the chat.

Well, thank you all for such a great conversation. It is really interesting. I think in this room we are going to have a session or why are the Boy Scouts in a chartered organizations. And in our virtual meeting room, the next program is LS CM update. If you want to join that program, you will need to close out of this room and use the other URL that is available on the page. And for now, we will take a short break and pick up at 1:00 Eastern time. Thank you.