



# Digital Insider

05|01 (Winter 2012) Digital Information News from the State Library of NC

The Digital Information Management Program (DIMP) works to preserve democracy by providing freedom of access to North Carolina state government information

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- [@DublinCore](#) (metadata)
- [@creativecommons](#) (copyright)
- [@digipublib](#) (Digital Public Library of America)

### NC HISTORY/CULTURE

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WE'VE SAVED THE BEST FOR LAST!  
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- [Digital Collections](#)
- [NCpedia](#)
- [State Library of NC](#)
- [digital.info@ncdcr.gov](mailto:digital.info@ncdcr.gov)

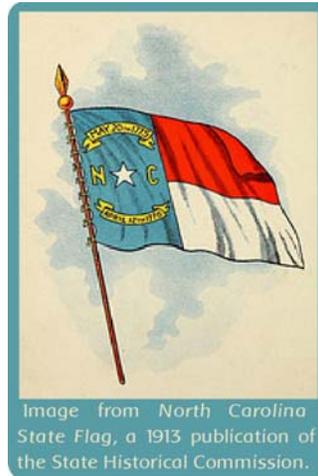


[NC Cultural Resources](#)

## 2011 Year in Review

Amy Rudersdorf

2011 was an exciting year for the State Library's [digital information management program](#). Among the great accomplishments were a national [grant](#) from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to work on



[digital preservation services](#), and the press received from our [Blue Ribbon Memories: Your History of the State Fair](#) project. Staff were especially busy this fall responding to [press inquiries](#) (including WUNC's *State of Things*) and a "tweet up" at the State Fair! These two projects, along with our award winning [NCpedia](#), exemplify the work that we do to preserve and make accessible the government information of our State.

We take those words, "preserve" and "accessible," very seriously. "[Preserve](#)," for example, doesn't simply mean to store in a box or on a server (in the case of born-digital content). We liken the care of government information to parenting a child – from the moment of birth, that child will require 24/7 care, attention, and love. So, too, the information produced by State government which, ultimately, becomes the responsibility of the State Library and State Archives.

The word "accessible" can have a great many meanings – to make *available*, to make *usable*, and to make *appropriate* are three that we think we do particularly well. We make a great many materials *available* – this year the State Library and State Archives made over 400,000 pages of content freely available [online](#). We work tirelessly with the tools at our disposal to make our

resources as *usable* as possible, too, taking into consideration user experience testing and feedback, accessibility issues (for those with unique abilities), and design standards.

Finally, we try to create resources that are *appropriate* for the users who come to our sites. *NCpedia* is our online encyclopedia of North Carolina history and culture. While the users of the site come from every background and ability, one of our major audiences is schoolchildren. As part of the standard course of study, 4th graders learn about North Carolina history in their social studies classes. Through our usage studies, near-constant user feedback, and *NCKnows* chat reference service, we interact with students and educators almost daily as they explore our State's past through this wonderful resource.

2011 was an amazing year, and the statistics below highlight the value of our work and resources. 2012, the State Library's 200th year serving the people of North Carolina, brings great changes and new faces. We look forward to these new challenges, and to preserving and making accessible even more wonderful information about our great state.

## WE'VE GOT BIG NUMBERS

- ! 527,670 unique visitors to digital collections (734,600 total), from 170 countries, all 50 states (& DC), & 350 NC cities
- ! 2.74 million page views
- ! 403,500 pages digitized & made available
- ! 31.6 million NC state government website documents captured & preserved
- ! 6.6 TB of government website documents preserved since 2005!

# Live-at-Home Program

Kathleen Kenney

## DIMP STAFF NEWS:

### Good News

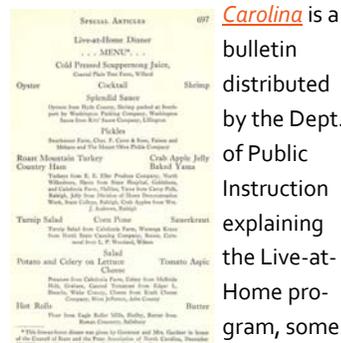
Digital Information Management Program head, Amy Rudersdorf, was recently elected to the coordinating committee of the National Digital Stewardship Alliance. More about the NDSA can be found at <http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/ndsai/>.

### Not-so-good News

Long-time colleague and digital preservation pioneer (at least in our hearts), Jennifer Ricker, has taken a new position with the NC Office of Indigent Defense Services. While we are sad to see her go and realize what a huge loss she will be to our team, we are happy for her as she begins what is sure to be an exciting and fulfilling position. Please help us thank her for her great work on behalf of the people of North Carolina!

Eat local, farm-to-table, sustainable agriculture, slow food, community-supported agriculture (CSA)—is any of this sounding familiar? It seems that not a day goes by lately without hearing one of these phrases. While the local food movement seems to be a recent phenomenon, its history in North Carolina goes back more than 80 years. The Live-at-Home program was an agricultural initiative by North Carolina Governor O. Max Gardner in 1929. In response to dwindling agricultural revenue, the Live-at-Home program encouraged farmers to grow not cash crops such as cotton and tobacco, but food crops to feed their families and livestock. Gardner urged farmers to use “pure-bred certified seeds” and “pure breeds of livestock.” He also called on the people of North Carolina to buy food grown locally.

This month, as part of *Ensuring Democracy through Digital Access*, an LSTA-funded grant, four publications related to the Live-at-Home program were digitized and made accessible online. [Public Papers and Letters of Oliver Max Gardner](#) contains speeches made by the Governor about the Live-At-Home program, his proclamations for Live-at-Home Week, and the dinner menu for the first Live-at-Home dinner given at the Executive Mansion. [Live-at-Home Week in the Public Schools of North](#)



[Carolina](#) is a bulletin distributed by the Dept. of Public Instruction explaining the Live-at-Home program, some agricultural statistics on which it is based, and ways in which teachers could incorporate the program into their lessons. Written by Charles Sheffield three years after the Live-at-Home program began, [North Carolina's Live-at-Home Program Worth Fifty-five Million Dollars](#) evaluates agricultural statistics in the years before and after the program and concludes it was a success. Finally, a [bulletin from Western Carolina Teachers College](#) describes their “Western North Carolina Live-at-Home Conference” held in October 1930. Included in the bulletin are the introductory remarks made at the conference by the college president, the program schedule, questions for round table discussions, a review of the talks, a list of exhibits, and a guest roster. For more information about the Live-at-Home program visit [ncpedia.com](http://ncpedia.com).

# What's on in the Digital World?

Jennifer Ricker

As 2011 came to a close we celebrated the progress that the past year brought to the digital information management field. As is evident from [this “best of” list](#) compiled by Bill LeFurgy at the Library of Congress, 2011 was definitely a successful year. But 2012 looks to be equally as promising. And, of course, there are a few projects that I am especially excited about.

The first is the [Digital Public Library of America project](#).



In case you aren't familiar with this project, its goal is to create a freely available open, distributed network of comprehensive online cultural and scientific resources. While the project began in 2010, it really started heating up when funding was announced in

the fall of 2011. If successful, the project will free up considerable resources at local institutions by centralizing storage and management of digitized materials with staff specifically equipped to handle the intricacies of the job. This is a huge project that involves creating and adhering to standards. In the end, the US will have something akin to [Europeana](#).

In fact, the standards are being defined in a way to make the DPLA compatible with Europeana, so users could potentially search both collections at once. Keep an eye on this project and get involved if you can. It may be a real game changer.

The other project that I have high hopes for in 2012 is the US Copyright Office's effort to digitize the pre-1978 copyright records. This project is still in the early stages as well, but it's already easy to see that it will change the face of copyright research.



To get a glimpse of what this project can offer, check out the Catalog of Copyright Entries that are gradually being made available through the [Internet Archive](#). You can follow the progress of the project and provide valuable feedback to the Copyright Office on their [digitization blog](#).

