Plinkit

Deploying Plone for
Oregon Public Libraries
and Beyond

Overview

- Introducing myself, Oregon State Library
- What's the Problem?
- Plinkit as the solution
- What's Next for Plinkit
- What's Happening Beyond Oregon

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- Over 15 years in the high-tech industry
- Graduate of the Information School, University of Washington (MLIS, June 2005)
- Currently the Technology Development Consultant, Oregon State Library
  - Mix of "development" and project oversight (technology-related grants, content licensing)

Oregon State Library

- State Agency (Salem)
  - Talking Books and Braille Services
  - Government Research and Electronic Services
  - *Library Development Services*
    - Services and Support to Public, Academic, and School Libraries
    - Provide for statewide competitive grants from LSTA (Library Science and Technology Act)

What is the problem?

- Oregon public libraries:
  - With little or no web presence
  - With poor quality web sites
  - With just plain old BORING websites

Boring…

How did this problem come about?

- Uncooperative city or county IT departments
- Lack of technical skills/resources among staff
- Lack training, time, or money to achieve skills or hire necessary skills

Why is this even a problem?

- Why should we care if our libraries have decent websites or not??
  - Patrons have higher expectations about their online experience

  "As I've discovered, online life quickly becomes a sprawling wasteland with bits and pieces of information spread out all over the vast digital landscape." Paul Bausch

  Where are libraries in the vast digital landscape?

Why is this even a problem?

- Why should we care if our libraries have decent websites or not??
  - Patrons are missing out (and probably don't even know it!)
    - Online library catalog (holds, renews, what's new)
    - Research journals/ popular magazines (licensed content)
    - Other patrons' ideas

One Answer

- "Plinkit" – **P**ublic **L**ibrary **IN**terface **KIT**
- Plone-based, pre-built websites for public libraries
  - Pre-loaded with "library" content
  - In-place editing and "dynamic" content
  - Online access to research materials
  - FREE through the Oregon State Library
    - Hosted at OSL, etc.

Designing for Two: The Patron

- Content for Patrons
  - Focus on patron needs and information that libraries have traditionally provided
    - Events and programs, materials, etc. often by audience (children, young adults, seniors, etc)
   - Expand to include online content and services, especially statewide programs (e.g. virtual reference)

Designing for Two: Library Staff

- Simplified Workflow :
  - One-step publishing
  - "Live" editing of published content
- Roles/Permissions
  - Staff who can edit everything/anything
  - Staff who can edit specific areas
  - Generic "Patron" account
- Provide content/functionality for staff
  - As needed, more important for county/district-wide systems than single, city libraries
- Stretch to meet local needs based on skills
  - CMFConentPanels used at one site

Demo – Home Page

- Library catalog online
- Highlights "eShelf & Research"
  - Online scholarly journals, general magazines
  - "Reader's Advisory"
  - "Selected Sites" (Open Directory Project)
  - Localized information, digital collections online
- L-net (7/24 virtual reference)
- OSLIS (K-12 website for online research and information literacy skill-building)

Welcome to the Tillamook County Libraries
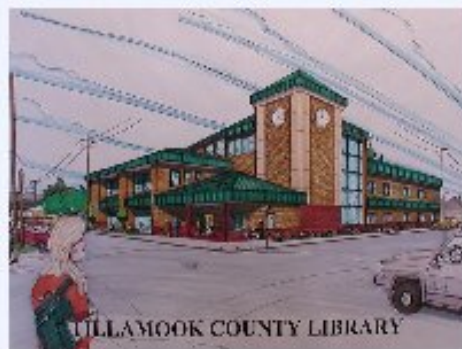
Check out new building news, pictures and video!

Search your library catalog:

Keyword ▾

[ ]

SEARCH

🌐 Library Catalog Advanced Search
🌐 Your Account

Your library resources available anytime, anywhere:

eShelf & Research - Work and research from the office or from home, anytime:

- 🌐 Materials online: books, articles, research databases, and more
- Good Reads: book reviews, top sellers, author interviews, and news headlines
- Selected sites: what's good on the Web
- Community information: local, nonprofit groups and services
- Digital exhibits: historic photos and more

Support Your Library

Have a Question?

Ask your local librarian or try 🌐 L-net, Oregon's statewide live-chat reference service.

Specially for Students

🌐 OSLIS: Bringing information to students around the state.

Demo – Interesting Portlets

- **Random Quotes** (python script & flat file of quotes)

- **Location & Hours** (editable static content)

- **Random Photos** (Reinout van Rees)

new building photos!

Concrete arrives for new foundation

location & hours

MAIN LIBRARY
1716 3rd Street
Tillamook, OR 97141
503-842-4792

HOURS
Mon-Thu: 9am-9pm
Fri-Sat: 9am-5:30pm

[branch info]

"If a man writes a book, let him set down only what he knows. I have guesses enough of my own."
—*Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)*
German writer, scientist, master of poetry, drama and novel

Welcome to the Newberg Public Library

Events @ Your Library

📅 Book Buddies October 18, 2006

📅 Third Thursday ANIME (O-TABB) October 19, 2006

📅 Teen Read Week All-Nighter October 20, 2006

📅 Art Day October 21, 2006

📅 Lap Sit/Baby Tot Time October 24, 2006

📅 Yu-Gi-Oh Tournament October 24, 2006

📅 Storytime October 25, 2006

📅 Children's Craft Program October 25, 2006

Search your library catalog:

| Title |

| | Search |

Online Catalog | Advanced Search
My Library Account | Need a library card?
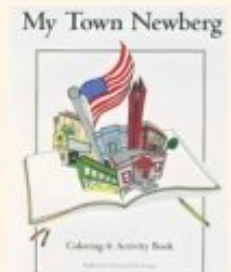
Cultural Pass

Demo – eShelf & Research

- "Good Reads"
  - CMFSin and page templates
- "Selected Sites"
  - PHP script to locally mirror / display Open Directory Project
- "Community Organizations"
  - mxmContacts Product
- "Digital Exhibits"
  - native Plone "thumbnail view"

Demo – "Good Reads"

Powell's Daily Book Reviews

A Real Fake
Sun, 15 Oct 2006 00:00:01 PST
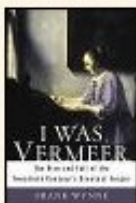
I Was Vermeer: The Rise and Fall of the Twentieth Century's Greatest Forger by Frank Wynne, a review from Times Literary Supplement by Alex Danchev.

Ghost Prawn: Sean Tejaratchi
Sat, 14 Oct 2006 00:00:01 PST

Crap Hound No. 6: Death, Telephones & Scissors by Sean Tejaratchi, a review from Powells.com by Georgie Lewis.

Mirror, Mirror
Fri, 13 Oct 2006 00:00:01 PST
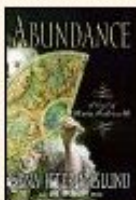
Abundance, a Novel of Marie Antoinette by Sena Jeter Naslund, a review from Washington Post Book World by Ron Charles.

Demo – "Selected Sites"

Selected Sites

The best of the Web, from the 🌐 Open Directory Project.
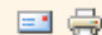
[   ] [Search »]

- **Arts**
  Movies, Television, Music...

- **Games**
  Video Games, RPGs, Gambling...

- **Kids and Teens**
  Arts, School Time, Teen Life...

- **Reference**
  Maps, Education, Libraries...

- **Shopping**
  Autos, Clothing, Gifts...

- **Business**
  Jobs, Real Estate, Investing...

- **Health**
  Fitness, Medicine, Alternative...

- **News**
  Media, Newspapers, Weather...

- **Regional**
  US, Canada, UK, Europe...

- **Society**
  People, Religion, Issues...

- **Computers**
  Internet, Software, Hardware...

- **Home**
  Family, Consumers, Cooking...

- **Recreation**
  Travel, Food, Outdoors, Humor...

- **Science**
  Biology, Psychology, Physics...

- **Sports**
  Baseball, Soccer, Basketball...

Demo – Community Organizations

Demo – Digital Exhibits

Demo – About Us

- Place-holders provided; library updates
- Contact Us / Web Forms (FormMailer)
- Director's Message
- Additional content specific to each library
  - Policies
  - Library card
  - Meeting rooms
  - Getting involved

Demo – About Us

Demo – Staff Area ("intranet")

- Staff-Only Calendar (CalendarX)
  - Vacation calendar
- Online Forum
  - Especially useful for county/district-wide library systems (PloneBoard)
- Other internal information/documents/etc.

Demo – "Staff Area"

Your Staff Area

by Editor — last modified May 15, 2006 02:19 PM

Daily Operations

- Library brochure
- Library policy manual
- Library policy manual index
- Library policy manual index arranged in alphabetical order
- Volunteer application

Workgroups and projects

- Library signs
- Revised sign list
- Library move

Staff Schedule

- Use the staff-only calendar to schedule staff meetings and desk schedules or view a text listing of all staff events.

Additional Documents

- Emergency Contact Lists:
  - Staff Directory
  - Tillamook County & City Phone Directory
  - CRSN Directory
  - CRSN Email Directory

Non-technology Aspects

- Memorandum of Understanding
- Free training, free manual (also online)
- Online screencasts (via ONE/Northwest)
- Assist libraries in marketing their "information services"
  - local business communities,
  - government officials,
  - and other constituents who make funding decisions.

The Future

- Skins!
  - Provide libraries more layout choices
- LinguaPlone for libraries with non-English speaking patrons/communities
- Increase Patron Participation Online
  - Patron book reviews
  - Online book discussion groups
    - "Everybody Reads" Programs
  - Research tutorials
    - From genealogy to how to start a small business

Beyond Oregon: Plinkit Collaborative

- Membership provides funding for joint development, marketing, and training
  - Plinkit "instance" with Products directory
- Colorado, Texas and Illinois
  - Texas has 500+ public libraries
- Colorado and Texas staff attended Portland's Plone Bootcamp last July
- First Steering Committee to meet Nov 1
- Plinkit Administrator's Manual

Texas

- Interest from public libraries is extremely high (goal of approx. 100 libraries in a year)
- Original Plinkit instance and customizing
- Ten "Technical Support" regions" in need of training
- Setting up "sandbox" for upcoming Plinkit Administrator trainings
- Waiting on Plinkit Administrators Manual

Colorado

- Has done six presentations throughout the state; very enthusiastic response
- First site to go live on Nov. 1 http://parkcounty.colibraries.org/
- Goal of having five more sites live by the end of December
- Usability testing to help with template site design

Beyond Oregon: Other Efforts

- PLOT – Public Library Online Templates
  - British Columbia
  - Pilot project with two libraries currently:
    - McBride and District Public Library http://mcbride.bclibrary.ca/
    - Fort Nelson Public Library http://fortnelson.bclibrary.ca/
  - Marie Palmer is the Project Coordinator
  - More information: http://plot.bclibrary.ca/

Beyond Oregon: Other Efforts

- PLOW – Putting Libraries on the Web
  - Iowa's Plone-based offering for public libraries
  - Training began the week Oct 17 with about 300 libraries to participate
  - Funded through Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grant, "Staying Connected"
  - One part of a larger effort to empower libraries to have an online presence
  - http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/gatesgrants/stay

Questions?

Links to interesting places:

- Plinkit: http://www.plinkit.org/
- Demo site: http://demo.plinkit.org
- Oregon State Library, Library Development: http://oregon.gov/OSL/LD/
- Colorado's first Plinkit site: http://parkcounty.colibraries.org/
- PLOT: From British Columbia: http://plot.bclibrary.ca/
- PLOW: From Iowa: http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/gatesgrants/stay