



# Bouncing Around Ohio Libraries

# Sub Heading

Hi, I'm John!  
Kent State  
University class  
of 2014



John and Mr. Frito

# Undergraduate Education

- Ohio State University (2002 – 2009)
  - Bit of a slacker
  - Philosophy degree
  - Worked part time at the library during my undergrad
  - Jumped at the chance to work full time in the library...
    - ...so they would finish paying my tuition
  - Never really considered libraries as a career path, even as I started working in one full time

# Ohio State University Libraries

- [Ohio State University Libraries](#) (2006 – 2018)
  - Academic library
  - Library Associate, paraprofessional and classified civil service (CCS) position
  - [Closed Reserves](#) clerk for Thompson Library
  - Managed ~2000 resources for ~300 classes
  - [Staff Advisory Council](#), recorder and chair, ~4 years
  - Faculty search committee
  - Graduate school between 2012 and 2014

# Upper Arlington Public Library

- [Upper Arlington Public Library](#) (2016 – 2018)
  - Public library
  - Public Services Associate, paraprofessional position
  - Worked in Media Services department
  - Helped people find music, movies, and provide device help
  - Evening and weekend schedule (“moonlighting gig”)

# Career Advancement

- Volunteering
  - OSUL Conservation Lab, 2012 – 2014
  - OSUL Digitization Lab, 2016 – 2017
- Grants
  - [Ohio Preservation Council Professional Development Grant](#) (2016)
  - [Jan Merrill-Oldham Professional Development Grant](#) (2017)
  - [Ohio State University Staff Career Development Grant](#) (2017)

# Career Advancement, continued

- Mentorship
  - Formalized: [ALCTS Mentorship Program](#)
  - Informal: Local mentor through volunteering / “on the job internship”
- Webinars
  - [OhioNET](#), if available is a boundless supply of information
  - Check on organizational membership
- Post Graduation Job Hunt: 3 years

# Toledo Lucas County Public Library

- [Toledo Lucas County Public Library](#) (2018 – present)
  - Public library
  - Supervisor Digitization Services, professional and exempt position
  - Work in [Local History and Genealogy](#) department
  - Primary duties include: digitization project management, production digitization, outreach to external organizations to digitize records, digitization team leadership, copyright review, programming, metadata generation
  - Staff Appreciation Working Group



# Certified Public Librarian

- Certified Public Librarian (or Library Staff)
  - Offered by Ohio Library Council (OLC)
  - Provides a means for demonstrating your commitment to professional development
  - Low cost means of professional development
  - Good for five years, easy to renew

# Professional Service

- [Ohio Library Council, Digital and Media Services Division](#)
  - Ohio's public library association
  - Provides programming for OLC conferences, device/gadget information
- [Northwest Ohio Cultural Heritage Group](#)
  - Didn't have a professional network in NW Ohio when I got to Toledo... so I tried to will one into existence
  - Provides a low barrier for entry networking event for cultural heritage folks in the area
- [Ohio Digitization Interest Group](#)
  - Meets every other month for professional development throughout Ohio
  - Planning committee member

# Professional Service, continued

- [Ohio Digital Network](#)
  - State hub of DPLA
  - [Outreach Working Group](#)
    - Figures out how to support those trying to get resources into DPLA...
    - ...and get people to use the things that are in DPLA
  - [Community Engagement Center](#)
    - Represents the “public library space” in Ohio Digital Network
    - Advocates for and provides the perspective of public libraries

# Future Plans

- Continued Professional Development
  - Associates Degree in studio photography from local community college
  - [Society of American Archivists, Digital Archives Specialist certification](#)
  - [Library Leadership Ohio](#) and/or [ILEAD USA](#) (via SLO)
  - [Society of Ohio Archivists](#) committee or leadership
  - A never-ending stream of webinars

# General Unsolicited Advice

- Professional Association Membership
  - State/regional level organizations will often provide more opportunities to engage
  - *Far* less costly and will see greater benefit
- Service
  - Either to external organizations or internal to your library
  - Do your homework in advance, find out the commitment
  - #librarytwitter is full of understandable venting regarding burnout when commitments pile up
  - Be willing to say “no”
  - There will literally be an infinite number of possibilities to get involved later

# General Unsolicited Advice, continued

- [#librarytwitter](#) and [#archivisttwitter](#)
  - Twitter is an excellent resource to stay informed on the larger professional discourse in real time
  - Wonderful way to network and put yourself out there if willing
  - ...being a lurker totally works too

# Questions?

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