

OPLIN Introduces New Ohio Web Library Search

On July 1, the Ohio Public Library Information Network launched a new interface for searching the Ohio Web Library database collection at www.ohioweblibrary.org.

Why the change?

When OLC conducted focus groups around the state on behalf of OPLIN, we repeatedly heard the word "Google"; librarians needed a search as fast as Google, with good relevancy ranking of the search results.

To replace OneSearch, we built a search page that handles public access to the information databases provided by the Libraries Connect Ohio partners (the "Ohio Web Library" collection) & the OPLIN-hosted information products such as "What Tree Is It?"

How does it work?

The underlying engine that drives the new Ohio Web Library search is open source metasearching middleware called "pazpar2" from Index Data. (For more info, see indexdata.com.) It is all based on Z39.50, the protocol used by libraries for sharing information.

To get to this final product, OPLIN spent time in the ScanPath usability lab at Kent State University observing people's searching habits. We hired web design professionals to do the graphic design and we did a lot of in-house programming.



When and why should my patrons use it?

From now on, this will be where the public goes to use databases.

You can see the results of all this work by trying a few searches at www.ohioweblibrary.org. The search is fast and displays useful results with good relevancy ranking (or sorting by date or title, if you prefer). If you are looking for an online document, ohioweblibrary.org is a very handy reference tool.

So what's left at www.oplin.org?

This site is now just for you. The information intended for libraries remains on the oplin.org page, and now it's much cleaner as a result of the removal of the Ohio Web Library and other "public" information.

Ask questions & tell us what you think!

OPLIN staff will be sharing information over the next few months to give librarians the tips & tricks they need to become Ohio Web Library "power users."

As always, we welcome any suggestions for improvement.

A few things to be aware of:

- You can add the new search tool as a widget onto your website. Ask us how!
- Helpful patron handouts/usage guides will be available as links on the "Resources" page.
- Make sure that you're using the correct database links on your webpage.

The correct links are listed at <http://oplin.org/databaselinks>

...an to ME?"

Discover Ohio is now Explore Ohio

The same great info...
new interface.



All of the things you would normally have found at OPLIN's Discover Ohio are still available. Because the Ohio Department of Travel and Tourism also uses "Discover Ohio," we decided to change our name to avoid confusion between the two agencies. Now, you will point your browser to <http://www.exploreohio.org> to find thousands of links to Ohio information in a new, clearer format.

After all, it's still the largest source of everything OHIO!

<http://www.exploreohio.org>



Out & About

Second Life session at OhioNet
Tuesday, 7/8

OLC Reference Conference
Thursday, 7/10

OLC Board Meeting
Friday, 7/11

OLC Small Libraries Forum
Thursday, 7/24

Second Life session at SERLS
Thursday, 7/24

Library Leadership
8/27 - 9/1

OPLIN Board Meeting
Friday, 8/8

OLC Small Libraries Conference
Wednesday, 8/13

**OPLIN Stakeholder's Meeting
at OLC Expo**
Friday, 9/12

OLC Supportive Staff Conference
Wednesday, 9/24

State-wide Database Changes

Here is the new line-up of Ohio Web Library database purchases:

- Access Science will be replaced by *Facts on File Science Online*.
- *Encyclopedia Britannica* will be replaced by *World Book*.
- *Wilson Biographies Plus Illustrated* will be upgraded to *Wilson Biography Reference Bank*.
- *American National Biography* will not be continued.
- *Learning Express Library* will be upgraded to include the Learn2 package of computer training.

All of these will stay the same:

- *EBSCO MasterFILE Premier*
- *Newspaper Source*
- *Academic Search Premier*
- *Business Source Premier*
- *Regional Business News*
- *Student Research Center*
- *NoveList*
- *Consumer Health Complete*
- *NewsBank newspaper package*
- *Oxford Reference Online Premium*
- *ART Collection*
- *American/English full text literature collections*

Aside from these changes to the Ohio Web Library collection, OPLIN will no longer provide access to *Ohio Capitol Connection*. A special search of the ohio.gov domain, where many government documents are freely available, is included in the Ohio Web Library. Note that the *Hannah Report* and the *Gongwer Ohio Report* will still be available to libraries by e-mail. E-mail Stephen <director@oplin.org> for more information.

OPLIN Board Info.

Board members Gayle Patton and Bonnie Mathies have both agreed to second terms and will hold these positions till June 2011. Ms. Patton currently serves as Board Chair and Ms. Mathies serves as secretary.

Additionally, Sandi Plymire has been approved by the State Library Board as the newest member of the OPLIN Board. Ms. Plymire comes from the Muskingum County Library System, where she has served as director since 1994. She was previously in management positions at Upper Arlington PL and OHIONET, and has been very active in OLC. Welcome, Sandi!

Leaving the board is Terry Casey, who has been involved in OPLIN activities since inception. Thank you, Terry!

New Blog for New Technology Concepts

*Did you ever wonder,
"What does this mean to ME?"*

*Let's be honest – nobody can
keep up with everything that is
going on with technology.*

*Maybe this blog will bring
a little sense to the world,
one technology at a time.*

You be the judge.

<http://www.oplin.org/meanlaura/>

*It will soon be time for the
annual **OPLIN SURVEY**.*

*Because it is crucial to our
operations, OPLIN needs a 100%
response rate.*

Watch for it in mid-August.

Due to state-wide budget cuts, we had to print this edition in black & white. If you would like to see the new logos in color, please check out the online version:
http://www.oplin.org/oplin_circuit

Also, if you would like to stop getting the printed version, let us know.
Email editor@oplin.org.