

# DOCUMENTING FLORIDA LIBRARY HISTORY 1949-2022



## Editor-in-Chief

I am honored to be the new editor. This transition marks a formal approach to publishing content, thus making the *Florida Libraries* a refereed, open-access journal focusing on library and information science. The journal will continue to be an essential resource for news and information of interest to Florida librarians, with articles of statewide or general interest in the field of librarianship also considered for inclusion. *Florida Libraries* will explore a wide variety of perspectives, including technological, social, and user. Its scope is global, covering projects, practices, and theories from information professionals in Florida.

for continuing to house the Florida Libraries Archives made possible by past (1979-1980) Florida Library President Bernadette Stork who curated the collection.

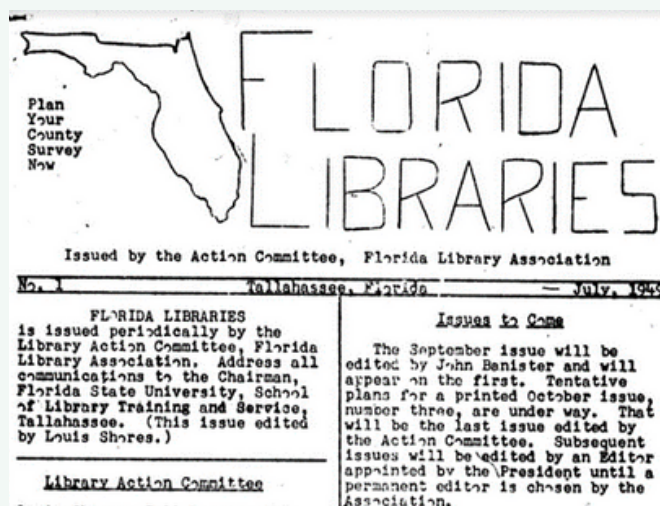


Image 1: Snapshot of the first issue of the FL Libraries, July 1949



Image 2: Past Issues of the Florida Libraries Journal circa 1959-the 1990s

When I learned the news of becoming editor, my colleague surprised me by requesting a copy of the first issue of the *Florida Libraries* Journal via the University of South Florida Libraries. Thank you, Dr. Kathleen McCook, for always being a great colleague and champion for libraries. I am grateful to the USF (University of South Florida) Libraries for making this accessible and-

Karen Urbec, the previous editor, did an excellent job of increasing coverage; I plan to build on her work. The changes are a natural progression. Since its inception in 1949, the journal has traced Florida Library History in collaboration with the State Library of Florida and The Florida Library Association as a division of the American Library Association. The journal has evolved in many ways through the years. The journal went from being a newsletter to an informative bulletin, and in some stages became a more elaborate account of what was happening in libraries throughout the state of Florida.

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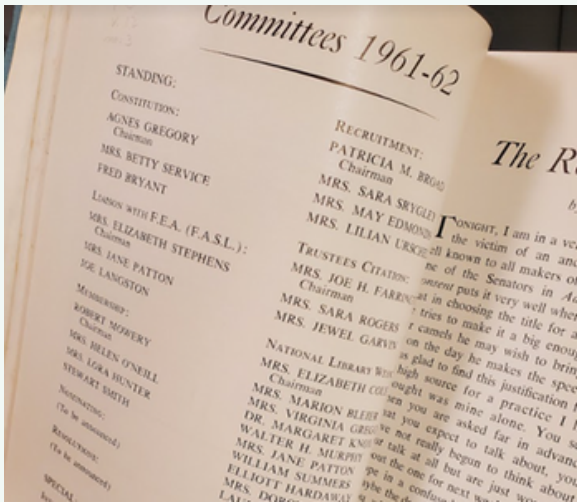


Photo 3: FL Libraries 1961-1962 Issue

The Journal celebrates 74 years since its inception. Through the years it has covered statewide library plans, shared updated resolutions, and budget advocacy statements. In the 1960s, *The Florida Libraries* brought readers a close look at what libraries were doing, to my surprise I was able to read all about the new University of South Florida Library Periodicals reading room, in an issue referencing October of 1962. It was a wonderful feeling to stand in what could have been the periodical reading room at that time looking at a photo of the first time the library opened. I captured the moment in a photo to share with you.

Inspired by all the history I uncovered, I bring you the new goal of the journal which is to provide a timely forum for refereed articles, news, and field notes from Florida Libraries. We will continue to welcome and solicit a variety of perspectives on access as well as many other subjects.



Photo 4: USF Libraries Opens New Library 1962

### Introducing the staff

Vanessa Reyes, Claudia Holland, Kari Morrell, Mary Daniels, Sabrina Bernat, and Sara Hack are the new editorial team. Take some time to explore our staff bios as we come from a wide range of backgrounds. I want to highlight that one of our copy editors, Claudia Holland, comes to us from the Division of State Libraries and is enjoying her recent retirement. I want to thank Ms. Holland for her years of service to the profession and look forward to seeing her influence in our journal. Our very own editorial assistant Sara Hack will be graduating with her master's in library science, and it is with immense pleasure that I get to see her transition from one of the best students into an advocate for libraries and our profession. I wanted to note that we have taken some time to bring you this new issue, but all good things take time. We are thrilled to move forward to bring you the most up-to-date research, news, and trends in Florida Libraries.