Taboo: Floating in the Most Peculiar Way

Joe Knueven, Germantown Public Library
Chauncey Montgomery, Community Library (Sunbury)

Consortium of Ohio Libraries

- 11 independent public libraries
- Service population of 100,000
- 500,000 items
- Using Evergreen since 2012
- Currently using version 2.9

Considering the idea of floating collections

In their 2015 presentation, Forsyth County Libraries (NC) found after a short period of time that floating within the county:

1) increased circulations per item

2) decreased number of days in transit per item

This seems to follow the reasoning of other library systems for floating collections versus not. Increase usage, decrease transiting.
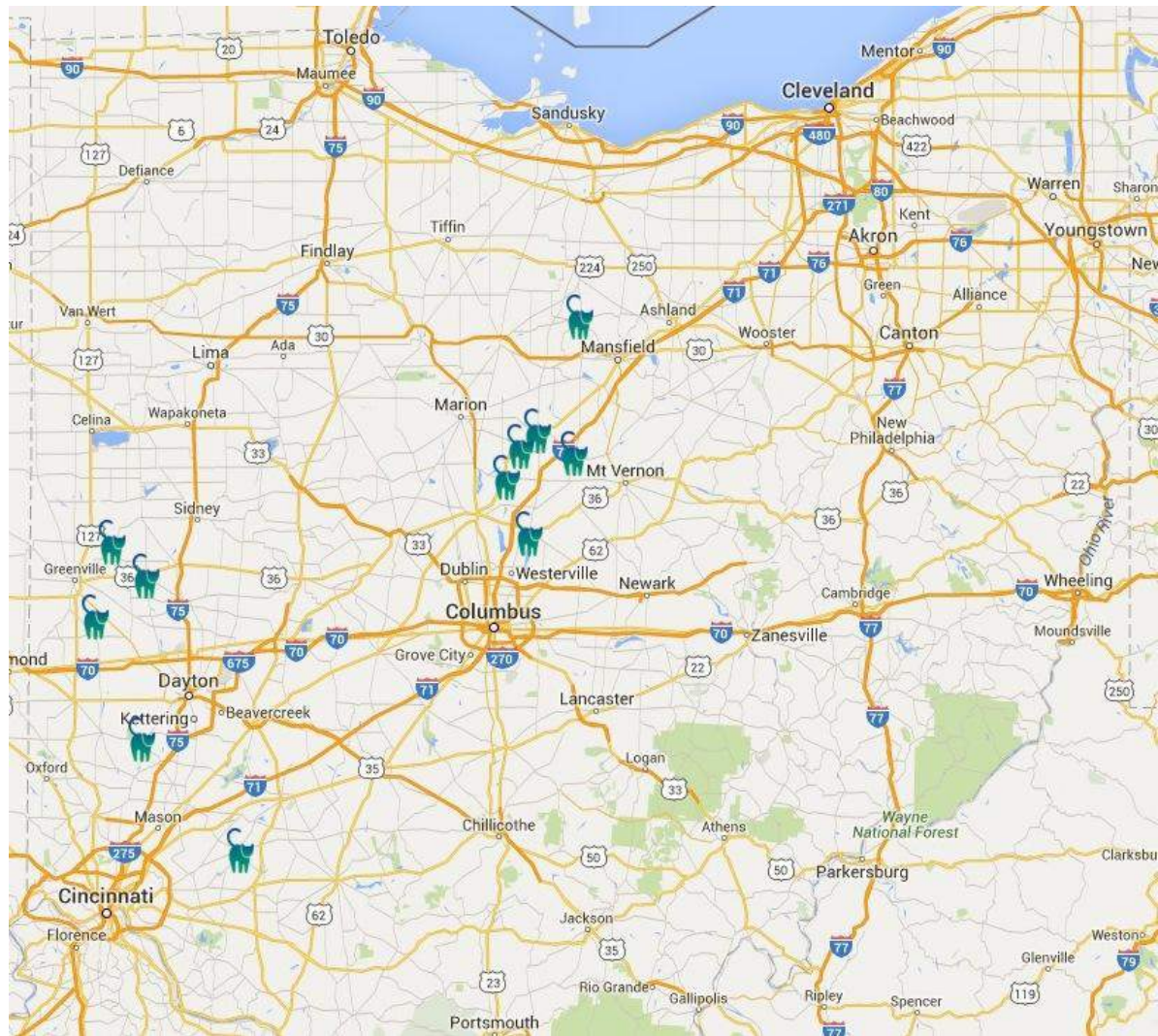
This got us to thinking…

If you can float across a library system?

Why not across a consortium?

Why Ohio?

OR

How can you all get away with this without getting crucified by the mayor, county executive, city council, etc.?
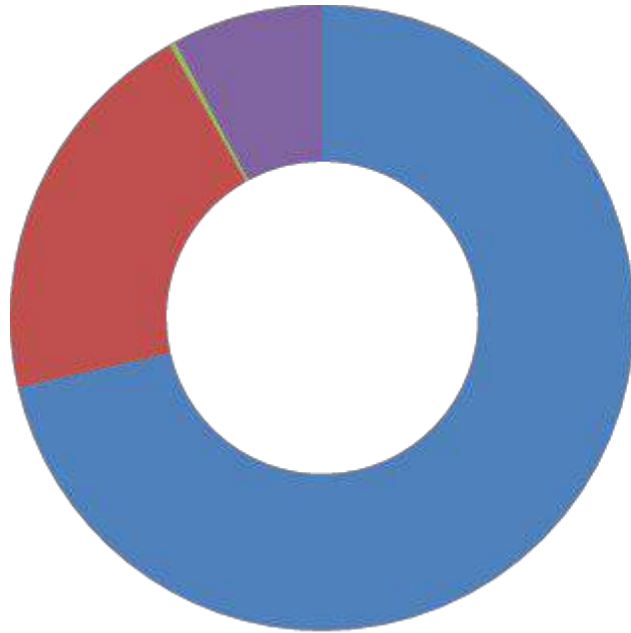
- Ohio public libraries are independent local governments

- Boards of trustees are appointed primarily by school boards. (151 of 251)

- Once appointments are made, the school board retains little or no influence over the day to day operations of the library

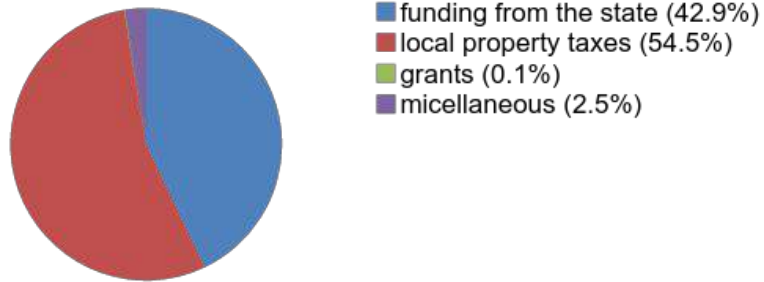# Ohio public libraries receive a large part of funding directly from the state
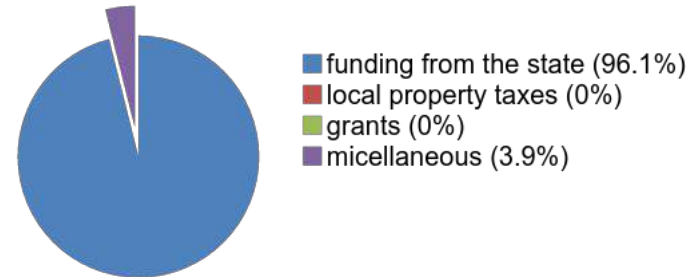

Funding sources
COOL member libraries

- funding from the state
- Local property taxes (at 4/11 libraries)
- Grants
- Miscellaneous income

Or, to take two examples...

Sunbury

- funding from the state (42.9%)
- local property taxes (54.5%)
- grants (0.1%)
- micellaneous (2.5%)

Germantown

- funding from the state (96.1%)
- local property taxes (0%)
- grants (0%)
- micellaneous (3.9%)

A legacy of sharing

Ohio public libraries benefit from several statewide initiatives, including:

- high speed internet connections
- database subscriptions
- interlibrary delivery services

Such sharing is sufficiently ingrained in the public libraries that state law requires a public library to serve any resident of their county, whether they live in the library's service area or not.

Many libraries already serve any resident of the state who comes through their doors.

Within our Evergreen Consortium

Within COOL itself, we are self-funding and self-governed, and have developed a high tolerance for unique and unusual cooperation that blurs the boundaries of where one independent library ends and another begins.

Examples:
- staff training
- on-boarding of new libraries
- lost and paid

Potential of Floating

	Population	Percent	20 titles/month	10 titles/month	5 titles/month
ARCANUM PUBLIC LIBRARY	5,857	6.15%	$307.46	$153.73	$76.86
BLANCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY	8,920	9.36%	$468.25	$234.12	$117.06
CARDINGTON-LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY	6,516	6.84%	$342.05	$171.03	$85.51
GERMANTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY	10,656	11.19%	$559.38	$279.69	$139.84
J.R. CLARKE PUBLIC LIBRARY	4,962	5.21%	$260.48	$130.24	$65.12
MARVIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY	13,056	13.71%	$685.36	$342.68	$171.34
MT GILEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY	8,073	8.48%	$423.78	$211.89	$105.95
SELOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY	10,225	10.74%	$536.75	$268.38	$134.19
SUNBURY COMMUNITY LIBRARY	18,268	19.18%	$958.96	$479.48	$239.74
WORCH MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY	6,399	6.72%	$335.91	$167.95	$83.98
WORNSTAFF MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY	2,317	2.43%	$121.63	$60.81	$30.41
	95,249		**$5,000.00**	**$2,500.00**	**$1,250.00**

The Experiment

- one year pilot project
- 4 of 11 libraries contributing material
- material floats across all 11 libraries
- contributing libraries agreed to a minimum of $3,500 of materials in the pilot year
- contributing members agreed to a standard generic set of call number ranges, labeling, label placement and bar coding
- purchases are coordinated on a "purchase alert" web page

Coordinating Purchasing

- To coordinate purchasing, we set up a section of a consortium staff website to log purchases.
- Every other week, a report is published showing items with hold to copy ratios greater than five.
- Libraries log their purchases in the column provided by editing the page, adding their info at the end of each line.

Report published: 03/18/2016

Title	Author	TCN	Hold/Copy Ratio	Current Count	Claimed By
alvin and the chipmunks		963949	8.33333333333333	3	germantown 3/23/16 (1); Community Library 3/23/16 (1)
concussion		963962	8.5	2	germantown 3/23/16 (1)
country bride		964182	7	1	germantown 3/23/16 (1)
daddys home		963958	8	2	germantown 3/23/16 (1); Community Library 3/23/16 (1)
experimenter		965132	5	1	
game of thrones		961226	9	1	Cardington 3/23/16 (1)
macbeth		964881	7	1	germantown 3/23/16 (1)
point break		964041	6	1	germantown 3/23/16 (1)
private rio	patterson, james	962445	5	1	Cardington 3/23/16 (1)
sisters		963946	15	1	germantown 3/23/16 (1); Cardington 3/23/16 (1); Community Library 3/23/16 (1)
the hateful eight		963964	7.5	2	germantown 3/23/16 (1)
the hunger games		963957	5	2	germantown 3/23/16 (1)

System configuration

- Create a unique shelving location at the consortium level

Focus Location: OH0091

Name:	Owning Library	Holdable	Hold Verify	OPAC Visible	Circulate	Checkin Alert
ABC book Translate	OH0091	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
bad shelving location Translate	OH0091	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Big picture book Translate	OH0091	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Blu-ray Translate	OH0091	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Board book Translate	OH0091	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Cassette Audiobook Translate	OH0091	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
CD Audiobook Translate	OH0091	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Computer software Translate	OH0091	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
COOL Popular Translate	COOL	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
DVD Translate	OH0091	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
DVD (TV series) Translate	OH0091	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗
Easy Reader Translate	OH0091	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗

And follow your agreed upon holdings and processing procedures

books

When a Scot ties the knot / Tessa Dare.

Dare, Tessa, author.

✔ Place Hold

Add to my list

Print / Email

Available copies

- 2 copies at Consortium of Ohio Libraries. (Show)
- 1 copy at Community Library (Sunbury).

Current holds

0 current holds with 3 total copies.

Location	Call Number / Copy Notes	Barcode	Shelving Location	Status	Due Date
Community Library (Sunbury)	COOL FIC DAR (Text)	39999009115005	COOL Popular	Available	
Community Library (Sunbury)	FIC Dar (Text)	30210312616773	New Books	Checked out	02/25/2016

Consortium of Ohio Libraries

3 9 9 9 9 0 0 9 1 1 5 0 0 5

Germantown, OH 45327

cool-cat.org
FLOATING
COLLECTION

Miss Mad... ...ed with
...men.
...be a dismal failure on the London
...Maddie did what generations of shy,
...have done: she invented a sweetheart.

...heart. One who was handsome and
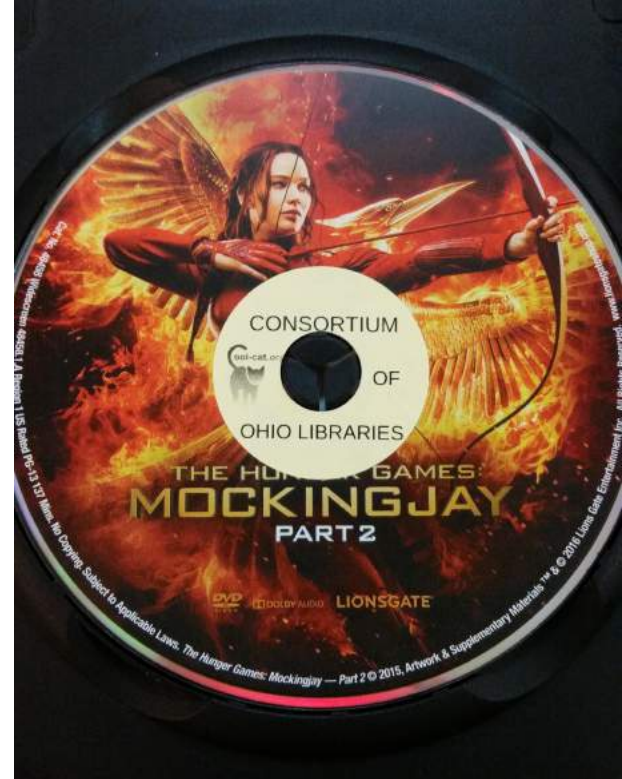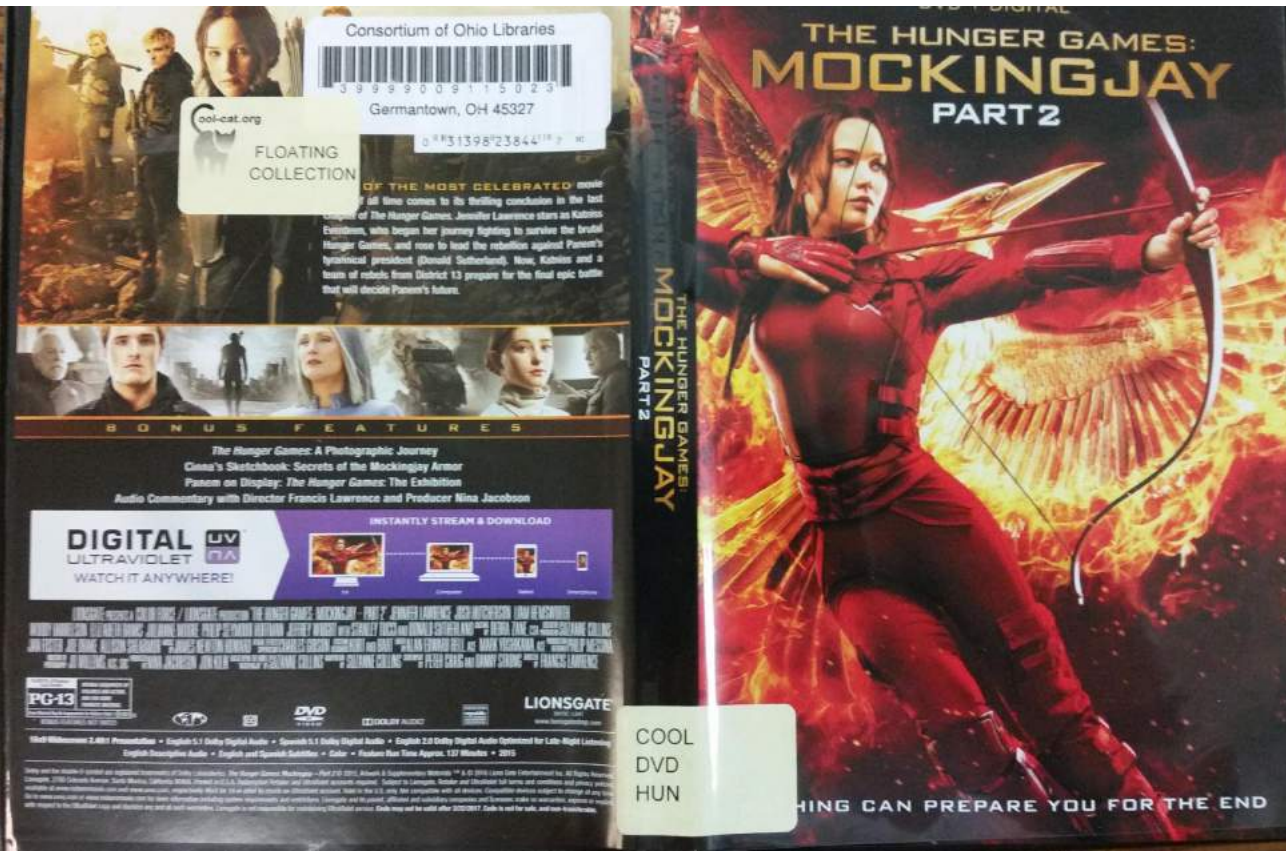honorable and devoted to her, but conveniently never around.
Maddie poured her heart into writing the imaginary
Captain MacKenzie letter after letter...and by pretending to
be devastated when he was (not really) killed in battle,
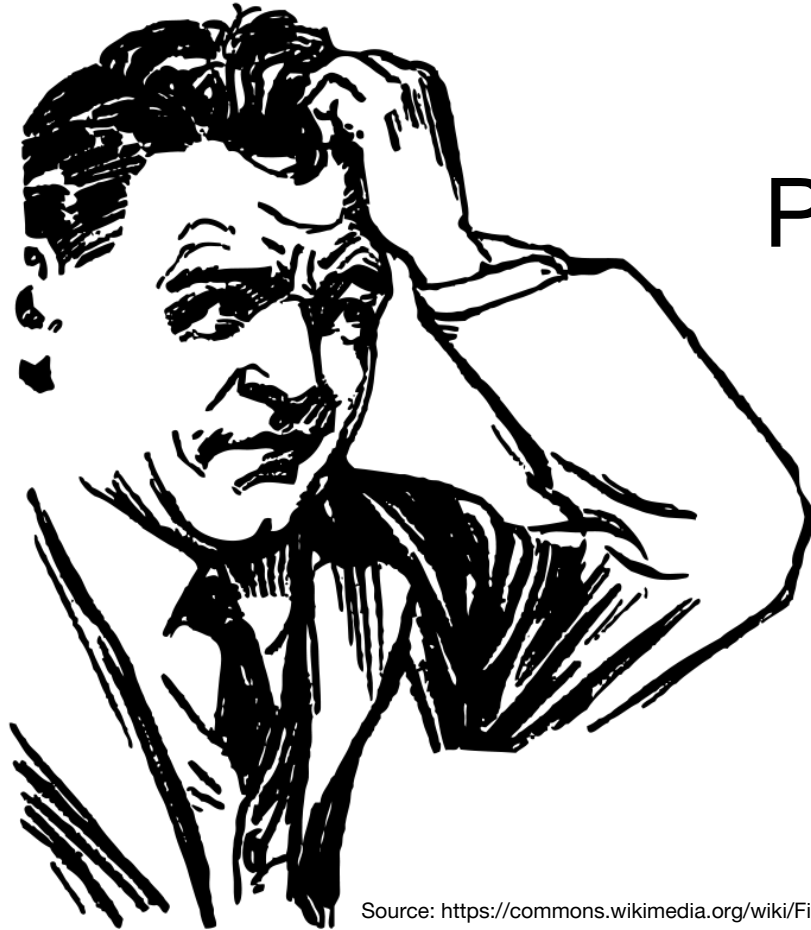she managed to avoid the pressures of London society entirely.

*U*ntil years later, when this kilted Highland
lover of her imaginings shows up in the flesh. The real
Captain Logan MacKenzie arrives on her doorstep—handsome
as anything, but not entirely honorable. He's wounded,
jaded, in possession of her letters...and ready to make good
on every promise Maddie never expected to keep.

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When a Scot
Ties the Knot

Castles Ever After

COOL
FIC
DAR

movies

Preliminary results:
Is this working?

Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Headscratcher.png

Decrease in wait times

Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Crowds_of_homeseekers_wait_in_line_for_housing_information_8b08269v.jpg

Average 12% decrease each month in titles on purchase alert report since the project started.

Check-outs across the consortium

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	
ARCANUM LIBRARY	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.37%
BLANCHESTER LIBRARY	19	12	14	5	15	65	23.81%
CARDINGTON-LINCOLN LIBRARY	0	0	2	4	3	9	3.30%
GERMANTOWN LIBRARY	0	4	8	8	11	31	11.36%
J.R. CLARKE LIBRARY	0	2	8	5	2	17	6.23%
MARVIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY	1	2	0	1	3	7	2.56%
MOUNT GILEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
SELOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
SUNBURY COMMUNITY LIBRARY	0	16	25	43	57	141	51.65%
WORCH MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
WORNSTAFF LIBRARY	0	0	1	1	0	2	0.73%
	20	**36**	**58**	**67**	**92**	**273**	

What's behind the numbers?

Tweaking the
Best-Hold Selection Sort Order

Future Considerations

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