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State Library Staff Member Carol Hull Travels to Central America with Librarians without Borders



In April of this year, I was able to participate in a Librarians without Borders service trip to Guatemala, along with 12 librarians from all around the United States and Canada. LWB has visited the Miguel Angel Asturias Academy in Quetzaltenango (also called Xela) every year since 2009. Books are expensive in Guatemala and are not widely available. Consequently, they face low literacy rates (less than half of indigenous women are literate) and do not have a culture of reading.

The Asturias Academy was a bright spot, focused on opening up education to children in poor and indigenous families. During our visit, we donated and cataloged 449 books, led educational programs for the students, teacher training, and a literacy workshop for parents. The school was able to hire a new library assistant thanks to our donations.

We also had the opportunity to visit two public libraries in Guatemala. First, we toured the municipal library in Xela, which was inside an old, converted prison. The books were literally locked away in jail cells and had to be retrieved by a staff member. A book can only be checked out for in-library use or brought home over a weekend. A large "Silencio" sign hung from the ceiling, which would light up and buzz with the touch of a button at the Circulation desk (which was also behind bars).

Although this was an extreme example, it was a reminder that the types of public libraries we are used to in the United States are fairly unique in the world. First generation immigrants may have no frame of reference for what a public library or biblioteca is and the types of services they provide.

However, not every library in Guatemala is like this. We also visited the community library in San Juan la Laguna, which was built by a non-profit called the Riecken Foundation. The library was noisy with the sounds of children, books were on display, and community programs took place frequently. The library hosts a competitive chess club along with events that celebrate and preserve indigenous culture and customs.

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to experience Guatemala's vibrant culture and learn more about its people first-hand. In particular, I was impressed by the diversity of the culture, where 21 indigenous Mayan languages are spoken in addition to Spanish. I also learned about the discrimination against indigenous people that is still too common in Latin America. All of this will inform my work as I advise South Carolina libraries on serving immigrants in our state.

For more information about the LWB program, [visit their website](#).

SC Libraries



There's Still Time Apply for the Ethel Bolden Minority Scholarship:

The Richland Library Friends and Foundation continues to award the Ethel Bolden Minority Scholarship which was established in 2010 in honor and recognition of Mrs. Ethel Bolden's years of service to the Richland County community and its libraries. The \$3,500 scholarship seeks to encourage and provide financial support to students from

underrepresented ethnic and racial groups who are working toward the completion of a Master of Library and Information Science degree at the University of South Carolina. For more information or to submit an application, use the [application document](#).

State Employees

SC Government Social Media Idea

Exchange:

Join us for our quarterly exchange of ideas! We'll hear from Sam Tyson, Social Media Manager at the Charleston County Public Library, who will discuss how he



manages the library's social media outlets. We'll also hear from Kim McLeod, Public Information Coordinator for SCEMD, about the 2018 Government Social Media Conference & Expo. To register, [visit our website](#).

New SC State Government Documents:

[The South Carolina Digital State Documents Depository](#) provides access to publications produced by state agencies and state-supported academic institutions. This month we highlight the Education Oversight Committee's [2018 Report to the SC General Assembly](#). This report gives statistics and information about the state schools, teachers, parent satisfaction, state budget recommendations, and innovative grant programs.

SC Residents



Storyfest 2018 Launches Tomorrow:

Come see award-winning author Carmen Agra Deedy at StoryfestSC 2018, the state's summer reading kick-off event! Deedy has been writing for children for over two decades. Born in Havana, Cuba, she came to the U.S. as a refugee in 1964. She grew up in Decatur, Georgia, where she lives today.

StoryfestSC is FREE to the public. Events include presentations and book signings by the author, The Jolly Lollies, Criss Cross Mangosauce, storytelling for all ages, crafts, and visits from literacy friends Cocky & the Clemson Tiger.

For more information on Storyfest, [visit our website](#).

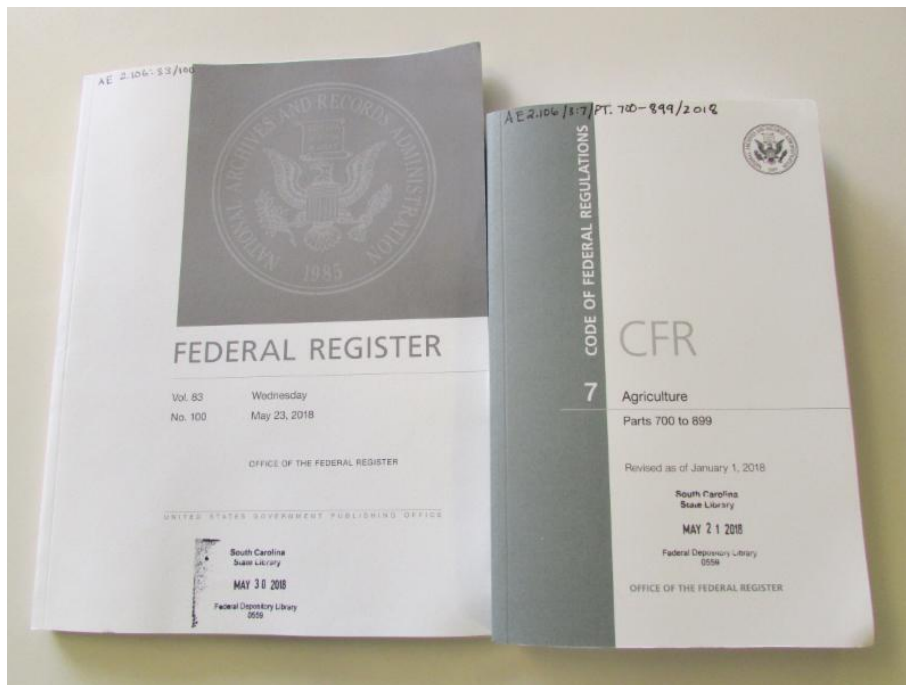
SC Center for the Book:

Join us for our next author talk and book signing at noon on June 7: *Uncompromising Activist: Richard Greener, First Black Graduate of Harvard College* by Dr. Katherine Chaddock. Richard Greener's story demonstrates the human realities of racial politics in the fight for abolition, the struggle for equal rights, and subsequent backslide into legal segregation. This is the biography of a man who exemplified America's discomfiting perspectives on race and skin color.

Speaker @ the Center is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. We ask that you [register to ensure a seat](#).

From Our Collection

Vital Publications: *Federal Register* and the *Code of Federal Regulations*



The South Carolina State Library is a member of the [Federal Depository Library Program](#), also known as the FDLP. Libraries within the FDLP serve to connect the public with Federal Government information. The State Library is a selective depository, which means we select to receive publications, in both print and electronic format, from only those subject areas which we determine will be of the most interest or help to our patrons.

FDLP member libraries have detailed legal and Program requirements. For example, every Federal depository library must have all titles in the FDLP's "basic collection" list available for immediate use. These titles are vital information sources for the public, and contribute to knowledge

about the work and activities of the Federal Government. Two of the titles on the "basic collection" list are the [Federal Register](#) and the [Code of Federal Regulations](#).

The *Federal Register* is the official daily publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of Federal agencies and organizations. Presidential documents and executive orders are also included in the Register. Congress created the Federal Register in 1935 as a means of allowing individuals to examine the regulations that affected them. Orders from Federal agencies or from the Executive Branch are not in effect until they are published in the Register.

The *Federal Register* is in chronological order. Soon after its creation, the need was discovered for a publication organized by subject. In 1937, the *Code of Federal Regulations*, or *C.F.R.*, was created to meet this need. All within the *C.F.R.* has already been published in the Federal Register as amendments. The *C.F.R.* is comprised of 50 titles representing broad areas which are subject to Federal regulation. It is completely revised at least once a year on a quarterly basis. To make for easier reference, each year's cover has a different color.

Our library's large collection of Federal documents can be found in the [SCLEND](#)S catalog. Along with displaying the availability of physical items, our catalog, when possible, will provide a link to a digital copy of many Federal publications, or to the Federal Government web page where current and past issues of the title may be found. We invite you to explore SCLEND

S, and to please [contact us](#) if you have questions or require any assistance.

Sheila Dorsey
Collections Librarian



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