



# Plinkit Websites for All

WiLS Library Open Source Webinar #5

December 9, 2008

Darci Hanning - Oregon State Library



# Overview

- What's the problem?
- What's the solution?
- Plone as part of the solution
- From Plone to Plinkit
- From Oregon to the Plinkit Collaborative



# The Problem in Oregon

- Take the Wayback Machine to 2002
- 130 public libraries in Oregon
- About 70 serving 10,000 or less
- Approximately 40-65 libraries suffered from one or more of the following:

# No Website



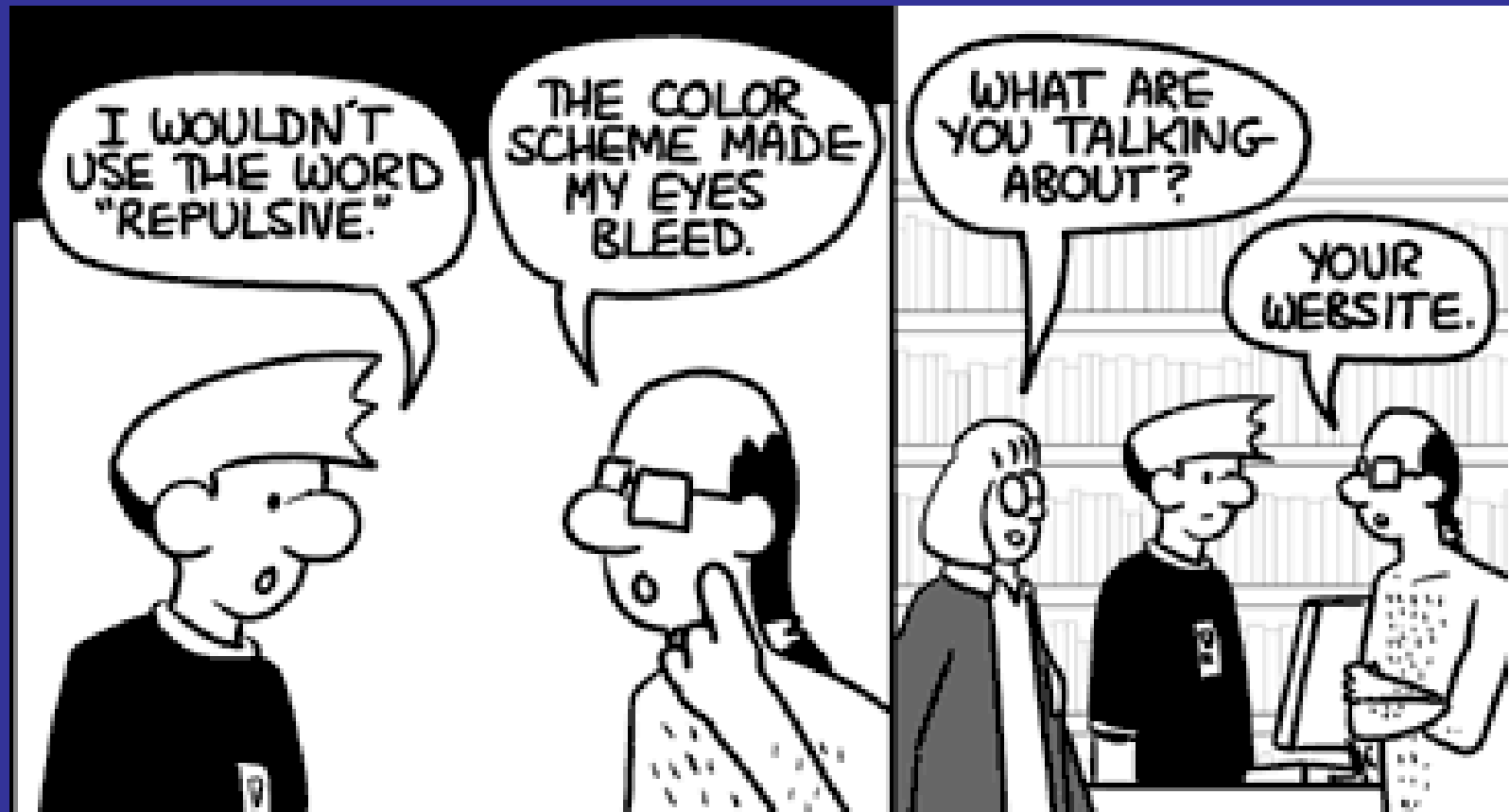
## **Server not found**

---

Firefox can't find the server at  
[www.mylocallibrary.com](http://www.mylocallibrary.com).

---

# Poorly Designed



*Unshelved*® by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum © Overdue Media LLC (used with permission)

# Inadequate

The image shows a screenshot of a public library website. On the left is a navigation menu with categories like Public Safety, Community Development, Library and Senior Services, Water and Sewer Service, and Parks. The main content area includes sections for Home, Public Library, Regular Hours, Summer Hours, Pre-School Story Time, and Summer Reading Program. A callout box with a black border and a drop shadow is overlaid on the 'Regular Hours' section, titled 'Library and Senior Services' and listing: Public Library, Borrowing Materials, Library Cards, Library Services, and Computing and Internet Access. Two lines from the 'Library and Senior Services' link in the left menu point to the callout box.

**Public Safety**

- Police Department
- Code Enforcement
- Municipal Court
- Emergency Management

**Community Development**

- Community Development
- Building Division
- Planning Division

**Library and Senior Services**

- ▾ Public Library
  - Borrowing Materials
  - Library Cards
  - Library Services
  - Computing and Internet Access
- Senior Center
- Dial-A-Bus

**Water and Sewer Service**

- New Service
- Payments
- Water Quality

**Parks**

- City Parks
- Reservations
- Street Tree Plan

**Home**

## Public Library

**Library Documents**

The Public Library, located at 626 Second Street, provides a wide variety of materials and services to patrons of all ages.

**Regular Hours**

Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	
Sunday	

**Summer Hours**

Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Thursday	11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Friday	11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Saturday	11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Sunday	Closed

**Pre-School Story Time** (September through May)

Thursday	11:00 AM to 11:45 AM
----------	----------------------

**Summer Reading Program** (June 19 through July 31)

**Library and Senior Services**

- ▾ Public Library
  - Borrowing Materials
  - Library Cards
  - Library Services
  - Computing and Internet Access

# Abandoned



*Unshelved*® by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum © Overdue Media LLC (used with permission)



# How Did We Get Here?

- Libraries part of their local municipalities
- City or County IT Departments
  - Restrictive Policies
  - Lack of Expertise
  - Lack of Resources
  - Lack of Understanding

**Public Safety**

- [Police Department](#)
- [Code Enforcement](#)
- [Municipal Court](#)
- [Emergency Management](#)

---

**Community Development**

- [Community Development](#)
- ▶ [Building Division](#)
- ▶ [Planning Division](#)

---

**Library and Senior Services**

- ▼ **Public Library**
  - [Borrowing Materials](#)
  - [Library Cards](#)
  - [Library Services](#)
  - [Computing and Internet Access](#)
- ▶ [Senior Center](#)
- [Dial-A-Bus](#)

---

**Water and Sewer Service**

- [New Service](#)
- [Payments](#)
- [Water Quality](#)

---

**Parks**

- ▶ [City Parks](#)
- [Reservations](#)
- [Street Tree Plan](#)

**Home**

**Public Library**

**Library Documents**

The \_\_\_\_\_ Public Library, located at 626 Second Street, provides a wide variety of materials and services to patrons of all ages.

**Regular Hours**

Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	
Sunday	

**Summer Hours**

Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Thursday	11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Friday	11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Saturday	11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Sunday	Closed

**Pre-School Story Time** (September through May)

Thursday	11:00 AM to 11:45 AM
----------	----------------------

**Summer Reading Program** (June 19 through July 31)

**Library and Senior Services**

- ▼ **Public Library**
  - [Borrowing Materials](#)
  - [Library Cards](#)
  - [Library Services](#)
  - [Computing and Internet Access](#)



“Volunteers do work.”

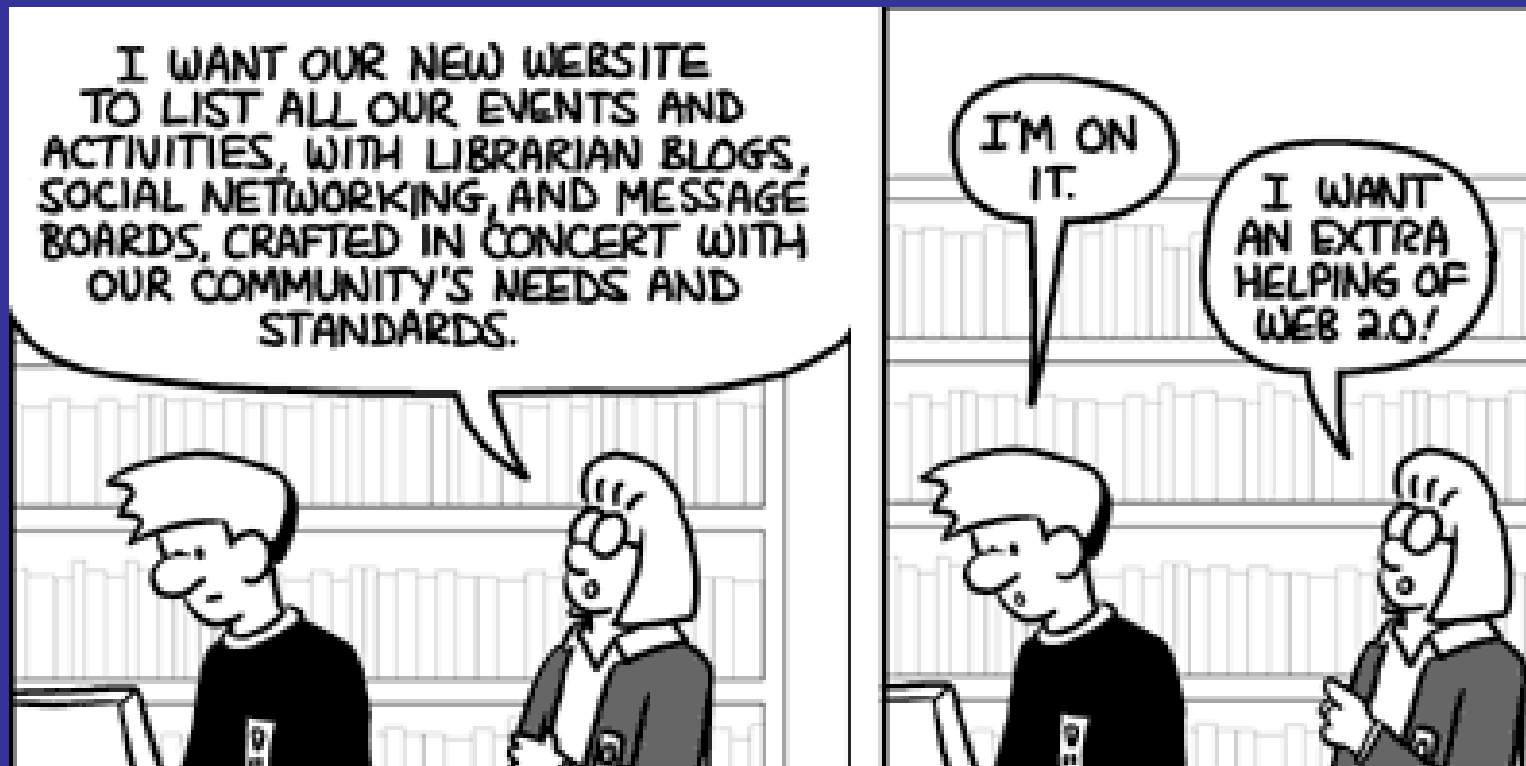
# How Did We Get Here?

Libraries:  
No better off



*Unshelved*® by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum  
© Overdue Media LLC (used with permission)

# What about Volunteers?



*Unshelved*® by Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum © Overdue Media LLC (used with permission)

December 9, 2008

Darci Hanning - Oregon State Library

# What about Volunteers?

- Mixed blessing

- Works great while it works
- Not so great when it doesn't
  - Library website developed in ColdFusion
  - No one able to fix bugs, implement new features
- Ultimately: not a sustainable approach



# Towards a Solution

- Multnomah County Library
  - Provide information resources and services to their patrons
  - Desire for “dynamic” website
  - Multiple website editors
  - Provide “localized” information



# Towards a Solution

- Grant proposal:
  - Solve their own problem
  - Share the solution with any public library in Oregon
- By Fall 2005:
  - “Template” website designed using Plone
  - Ten pilot libraries using “Plinkit”

# Towards a Solution

- Then... the County IT Department strikes
- Finished up, transitioned to Oregon State Library
- (About that same time, I was hired on)
- Minor redesign, major upgrade, HUGE learning curve ;-)
- Soft (re)launch early 2006

# Plone Features

- Explicit “content types”
  - Image vs. Page vs. Event
- In-place editing
  - No separate admin interface for editors
- Hierarchical navigation
- Navigation built automatically/dynamically



# Plone Features

- CSS to control presentation aspects
- Workflow
- Roles and Permissions
- Hundreds of “add-ons”
  - “Products”
  - Custom templates

# Plone + Content

## BREAKING NEWS

### Big Win in Whatcom County

Appeals Court agrees with Futurewise! County is now required to significantly rezone over 16,000 acres of rural lands zoned for sprawl development.

Aug 29 **Tillamook County Library Historic Photos**

### Protecting Kittitas County's Ru Land

Futurewise legal win protects over 43,000 rural acres from irresponsible development.

Aug 29

### Seattle Voters Say NO to an Elevated Viaduct

Thank you Seattle voters! You sent a clear message that a bigger, noisier elevated highway on our waterfront was the wrong choice for Seattle. On Election night more than 55% of Seattle voters opposed an elevated highway.

Mar 05

## Historic Photos



Tillamook County Photos (5)



Bookmobile Photos (24)



Library Director and Employee



Tillamook County Library Buildings (15)



Bay City Railroad Photos (6)



Photos of Ships and Docks

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### Sep 02, 2007: Spirited Speaking

Gail Larsen  
Hollyhock Centre, Cortes Is. BC

### Sep 05, 2007: Social Venture Institute

Joel Solomon  
Hollyhock Centre, Cortes Is. BC

### Sep 19, 2007: Web of Change

Jason Mogus, Madeline Stanionis, Jodie Tonita, Phillip Smith  
Hollyhock Centre, Cortes Island, BC

# Plone + Customizations

- Random quote, random photo “portlets”
- Display RSS feeds for automated content
  - Book reviews, news headlines, author news
- Weather portlet, organization contacts
- Location/Hours, announcement portlets

weather

Gold Beach, OR

Sat  
56 °F 

Sun  
55 °F / 68 °F 

Mon  
56 °F / 68 °F 

■ **El Mundo** - Información actualizada sobre los acontecimientos de actualidad (cada hora actualizado):

- [Internacional](#)
- [Economía](#)
- [Ciencia y Ecología](#)
- [Deportes](#)
- [Cultura](#)

el mundo  
(internacional)

Bhutto anuncia que volverá 'muy pronto' a Pakistán Sat, 01 Sep 2007 18:19 +0200

Chávez se verá en Caracas con las FARC Sat, 01 Sep 2007 18:19 +0200




View All  Kids  Teens  Adults  All Ages

<< previous month

September 2007


2007 Sep


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
26	27	28	29	30	31
2	3	4	5	6	7
					8

forum name	conversations	most recent comment
 Products Used on this Site Just some notes about some of the Products used to make plone4lib :-)	3	by Darci Hanning July 08, 2007
 Recommendations Recommendations or suggestions about a particular Plone Product? Post all about it here!	0	No conversations started
 Development Are you developing a Plone Product that other plonista librarians might find useful? Looking for testers? Or ideas for a Product to develop? Then this is the place to talk about it.	0	No conversations started

Community Organizations

▲ Up one level

 [Alsea Watershed Council](#)  
Alsea Watershed Council

 [Community Schools Partnership](#)  
Community Schools Partnership



# Plone + Customizations + Content = Plinkit

- Home page to highlight electronic information resources and services
- Kids & Teens (from ODE)
- Spanish section
- Expanded electronic resources
- News & Events (RSS feed, Calendar)
- About Us

# Plone: Last Thoughts

- Not easy to learn (Python, Zope)
- Hardware pig (lots of memory, decent CPU)
- “Enterprise-class” CMS
- Development framework for general web applications
- Awesome community support

# Plone: Last Thoughts

- CIA
- Novell
- Discover Magazine (very high traffic)
- <http://plone.net/sites>
- <http://delicious.com/tag/plone-site>



# Beyond Oregon

- Summer 2006, *Plinkit Collaborative*
- <http://www.plinkit.org/>
- A need for something like Plinkit beyond Oregon

# Plinkit Collaborative

- States and Networks (INCOLSA, PALINET, NEBASE) as partners, pool funds, decide how to spend (new code, documentation, training, marketing)
- Staff and deploy locally...
  - Inter-dependence & Independence
  - New version of Plinkit
  - “Knowledge Base”



# Plinkit Collaborative

- Each partner:
  - Steering Committee (high level oversight)
  - Project Coordinator (day to day work)
  - Technical Group (hands-on administrator)
  - User's Advisory Group
- Meet quarterly or monthly (teleconference)
- Mailing lists for ongoing discussions



# Plinkit Collaborative

- Colorado & Oregon
  - Hosted/managed by State Library (free, publics)
- Texas
  - Hosted/managed by State Library in partnership with their regional systems (free, publics)
- Illinois
  - Hosted/managed by regional system (cost recovery, any library type)



# Plinkit Collaborative

- Networks (new):
  - INCOLSA
  - NEBASE
  - PALINET (SOLINET)
- Provide Plinkit to individual member libraries (of any type)
- Cost recovery



# Plinkit Collaborative

- Some numbers:
  - Oregon: 50 libraries (65)
  - Colorado: 22 libraries
  - Illinois: nearing 100
  - Texas: 75+
- New members:
  - Library of Virginia, networks

# Tour of Plinkit Sites

- Hood River County:  
<http://www.hoodriver.plinkit.org/>
- Wasco County Library District  
<http://www.wasco.plinkit.org/>
- Cedar Mill Community Library  
<http://www.cedarmill.plinkit.org/>
- Waldport Public Library  
<http://www.waldportlibrary.plinkit.org/>