08/28/18 KDAC Conference Call

Attendees:

- Craig Hayward, KLAS Users' Group President
- Chandra Thornton, KLAS Users' Group Vice President
- Erin Pawlus, KLAS Users' Group Secretary
- Amy Ravenholt, Washington Talking Book & Braille Library
- Dianne Keadle, South Carolina State Library Talking Book Services
- John Phillos, Delaware Library Access Services
- Ricardo Cisneros, San Francisco Library for the Blind
- Cyndi Hammonds, California Department of Education
- Donald Salvato, The Xavier Society for the Blind
- Katy Patrick, Keystone Systems
- Andrea Callicutt, Keystone Systems

Introductions

The attendees began the first meeting by introducing themselves, as all six members are starting their term. They also briefly covered some of their interests in current and future KLAS development.

The members of KDAC are as follows:

Small TBL: John Phillos, DE1A
Mid-Sized TBL: Dianne Keadle, SC1A
Large TBL: Amy Ravenholt, WA1A
Subregional TBL: Ricardo Cisneros, CA1C
IRC/IMC: Cyndi Hammonds, CAIMC
Schools and Special Organizations: Donald Salvato, Xavier

Review and Discussion of Committee Guidelines

Erin went over the current functions of the KLAS Development and Advisory Committee as written by the inaugural representatives. She also went over general membership information and explained that there are six members comprised of four Talking Book Library administrators based on library size, one representative each for IRC and special organizations/schools, and a KLAS Users' Group officer to act as a liaison.

Andrea encouraged the group to edit the guidelines if necessary. She also was appreciative that this committee is in place as they work on the web-based version of KLAS and duplication on demand. She described everyone as representatives of a particular constituency within the KLAS Users' Group and said that they may be the contact when feedback is solicited.

Update from Keystone on Current Development and Releases

Katy prepared a report to get the committee up to date with current development and future releases.

Keystone has been at work building the back end of their database and user interface. Their priority is to make the workflow both easy and scalable. They also need to have error reporting in place.

North Carolina Talking Book Library has just received a Scribe and an alpha version of the upcoming KLAS 7.7 software for testing. Keystone will use the feedback for improvements and will add Gutenberg support. They hope to roll it out to others by the end of the year.

The next release is 7.6r2f and it is planned to be released in mid-September. It will include bug fixes and improvements to the EDoc loading process.

The next major release is tentatively named 7.7r1 though that may change. While it is invisible to users, there are essentially three databases which will be combined into one, so there will be major structural changes. UTF-8 support will be added to extend KLAS' character sets. They are building a new installer for both the client and server. They will add support for Scribe that will lay the initial groundwork for future integration with Gutenberg.

Changes that affect all parts of KLAS, like UTF-8 and database structure will require a lot of testing but they're making good progress. They will first release a beta version for 2-3 customers and, if no major issues are discovered, they hope for full availability by the end of September.

They are looking into adding another association customer. They are working on an embedded OPAC for that association, which they'd like to roll out to LBPH customers in the future.

Keystone would like to shift to a 2 week release schedule using an agile methodology as soon as possible. As such, they will not be producing server patches as bug fixes can be pushed out in the next version. The reasoning is that smaller, more frequent releases will keep the testing needed for each cycle more manageable.

They are looking ahead to future releases that will have continued support for the Scribe, Gutenberg, the WebOPAC, and more.

Deciding on Committee Chair and Secretary

Erin encouraged the members to get back to her if they would be interested in acting as committee chair or secretary. These positions will be decided upon at the next meeting.

Determining Next Steps

The group will figure out the best ways to reach out to the KLAS Users' Group, determine the preferred method to communicate with other committee members, and decide how frequently to meet.

Everyone will review the blog post on the KLAS Users website called "Gutenberg is coming!" for additional information.

Next Meeting Date

Call scheduled for 9/25/18 at 2:30 PM Eastern