

Adventures in Government Comics – Chat Log

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:03 AM

Could you send your favorites to <https://godort.libguides.com/weird> there is a place to submit suggestions. Also looking for guest bloggers

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 11:07 AM

imma be honest and say that despite being a gov docs librarian i never knew there were government comics but i am SUPER excited!

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:09 AM

@Marcos I'm excited for this too!

from Mark Kauffman to everyone: 11:12 AM

Comics *and* government documents in one presentation? Woohoo!

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 11:12 AM

@Cassandra I know right! next time my boss walks past and sees me reading a comic imma scream at him that its a gov doc! lol

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:13 AM

@Marcos :D

from Becki White to everyone: 11:17 AM

That's a cool collection to preserve!

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:19 AM

Sprocket Man! actually bought my own copy back in 1990

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:20 AM

That was my reaction! I thought the CDC zombie comic was a one off.

from Janelle Nash to everyone: 11:20 AM

I love the 9 Lives of El Gato the Cat-- a fire safety comic.

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:21 AM

May I link to recording once up? I want to add to GODORT's Weird & Wonderful guide. Attendees - send your favorites to <https://godort.libguides.com/weird> there is a place to submit suggestions. Also looking for guest bloggers

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:21 AM

+1 Janelle

from Janelle Nash to everyone: 11:22 AM

There are also tons of great illustrated children's storybooks in gov docs too.

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 11:22 AM

i love limericks!

from Bernadette Johnson to everyone: 11:22 AM
@Janelle Yes there are.

from Becki White to everyone: 11:23 AM
Anyone else remember the diary sent out by one of the agencies, intended for girls?

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:24 AM
I hadn't thought about the fragility, but that's true. I think that's one reason for the recent-ish popularity of graphic novels.

from Janis Desmarais to everyone: 11:25 AM
@Tasha can you tell us how to search for the comics in the UNT collection so we can see the titles and compare to what we have in our own collections? And also can you point us to the 262 in the digital library?

from Lux Howe to everyone: 11:26 AM
Not to step on Tasha's toes, but I had their libguide up already :)

from Lux Howe to everyone: 11:26 AM
<https://guides.library.unt.edu/government-comics/intro>

from Janis Desmarais to everyone: 11:26 AM
TY!

from Malea Walker to everyone: 11:27 AM
I learned a lot from that poster!

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:27 AM
not comics - but mascots used Mascots and Safety
<https://godort.libguides.com/weird/blog/Mascots-and-Safety>

from Tasha McClain to everyone: 11:28 AM
<https://digital.library.unt.edu/explore/collections/GOVCOM/>

from Janis Desmarais to everyone: 11:29 AM
TY @Tasha

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:29 AM
Thank you for the link!

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:29 AM
Also <https://guides.lib.uiowa.edu/govcomics>

from Becki White to everyone: 11:32 AM
Pogo!

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:32 AM
Captain America!

from Mark Kauffman to everyone: 11:33 AM
Squeaks was controversial? Say it isn't so!

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:34 AM
truth

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 11:35 AM
wow that is interesting to know about trademark/copyright as thats not usually the case when talking about gov docs

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:36 AM
@Marcos, true but I am sure that Captain America is under copyright.

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:36 AM
Squeaks maybe not.

from Becki White to everyone: 11:37 AM
Now I want to hunt down and read about Butch's bad decisions.

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 11:38 AM
@Cassandra true. Something to keep in mind if you would want to use the image in a libguide or something.

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:38 AM
Right Becki?

from Janelle Nash to everyone: 11:39 AM
The Empowerment Saga is excellent. We have it on display at ASU Library right now.

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:39 AM
I wonder how many of us (gov docs library folks) are also into comics.

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:39 AM
I have discovered that sometimes the text of a document is in public domain but illustrations are noted as copyrighted.

from Becki White to everyone: 11:40 AM
waves hand @Cassandra I also coordinate my library's participation in Free Comic Book Day.

from Lula Westbrook to everyone: 11:40 AM
Extremely in-depth and interesting.

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:40 AM
@Jenny, I wouldn't be suprised by that, especially for the government document created texts.

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:40 AM

Janelle - could you send this info to

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd05NCwd6yFHMep2j1gWR-sFQNfKPfHWL5P5x5tZZ4vKESfSw/viewform?usp=header> - then we can find someone to write a blog about it (or if you want to?)

from Sarah Guthrie to everyone: 11:40 AM

love the detective work on the creators!

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 11:40 AM

does anyone know when the last print comic was sent out? i am searching my catalog but nothing :(

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:41 AM

@Becki, that sounds so fun!

from Janelle Nash to everyone: 11:42 AM

@Jenny adding to my list

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:42 AM

@Cassandra - I find it common with publications like plants and animals guides for state agencies

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:42 AM

@Jenny, that makes sense as well, since that text sounds likely to be in the public domain.

from Janelle Nash to everyone: 11:43 AM

@Marcos, some more recent ones I'm aware of is the Destination Unknown series from the DoD, circulated around the pandemic

from Lula Westbrook to everyone: 11:43 AM

Observation. Government Comics have unusual animated characters that are all too often furry.

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 11:44 AM

@Janelle thank you!

from Lux Howe to everyone: 11:45 AM

here's the flyer! https://guides.library.unt.edu/ld.php?content_id=82456247

from Becki White to everyone: 11:45 AM

I think OSHA used to send out those rather graphic "fatalgrams" or something like that, showing how fatal accidents had happened. They were comic-like. Are those considered part of the comic collection candidates?

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:46 AM

I forgot about Fatalgrams

from Becki White to everyone: 11:46 AM

Mining community; we always got them. My predecessor told me not to look too closely at them.

from Betty Monterroso to everyone: 11:47 AM

@Becki White - At UNT, the Fatalgrams are not part of our comic collection. But I do remember them! I think they were issued by the CPSC (Consumer Product Safety Commission?).

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 11:47 AM

I am definitely interested in using the FDLP eXchange in trying to assemble a collection to display!

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:47 AM

The art is "evolving" too towards modern tastes.

from Megan Halsband to everyone: 11:47 AM

Could you send links to those two comics

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:48 AM

*evolving

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:48 AM

It's really interesting to see.

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:49 AM

good idea for History Day theme of Communication (not 2026's theme)

from Mark Rogen to everyone: 11:49 AM

Jamie's Story: A Journey Through (& Beyond) the Legal System

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GOVPUB-J34-PURL-gpo193927/pdf/GOVPUB-J34-PURL-gpo193927.pdf>

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:49 AM

I've been interested in trying to create a comics related display and this has given me a ton of ideas!

from Andrea Andie Craley to everyone: 11:49 AM

This was so fascinating!! Thank you!!

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 11:49 AM

I am sorry if i missed this but I know you mentioned ebay but do you use the FDLP eXchange to build your collection?

from Cassandra Wenzel to everyone: 11:49 AM

Thank you so much for this excellent presentation!

from Becki White to everyone: 11:50 AM

Thank you, love the idea of focusing preservation on a genre that most people don't associate with government OR libraries!

from Tasha McClain to everyone: 11:50 AM

<https://digital.library.unt.edu/explore/collections/GOVCOM/>

from Mark Kauffman to everyone: 11:51 AM

Are there any specific challenges in cataloging these items? Specifically with regards to crediting the creative people involved? (Artists, writers, colorists, letterers, etc.)

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:52 AM

I had a coworker who used to own a comic book store and he had many of the government publications by famous comic illustrators

from Becki White to everyone: 11:54 AM

Does the Pueblo distribution center include any comics they send out when ordered?

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 11:55 AM

if someone was interested in building a gov doc comic collection, where would they start?

from Abby McDermott to everyone: 11:55 AM

Just to clarify in case anyone from Dallas Public Library (or Texas!) is attendance, Dallas Public Library is still a depository library (0594), but they did weed most (or all) of their tangible FDLR collection.

from Lux Howe to everyone: 11:56 AM

Apologies if I missed this, but is your comic collection separate from the rest of your gov docs? Do you find patrons engage more with comics than gov docs generally?

from Ella Shurr to everyone: 11:56 AM

I think we have a copy of El Gato the Cat!

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:57 AM

Splash and Splish were on CD - would they count?

from Sarah Guthrie to everyone: 11:58 AM

I like Pip the magic safety elephant

from Janelle Nash to everyone: 11:58 AM

Owlle Skywarn is more of an illustration than a comic, but I love those

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 11:59 AM

Mascot costumes https://www.ernst.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/federal_agency_mascots.pdf

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 12:00 PM

brilliant! thank you for that information Bobby!

from Becki White to everyone: 12:00 PM

Is there a field or description in the CGP that might identify which publications are comics?

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 12:00 PM

Land management <https://www.trailcrewstories.com/stories/smokeys-lost-brethren>

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 12:01 PM

note: the link I put in about federal mascots is Sen. Joni Ernst against them

from Lorelei Sensabaugh to everyone: 12:02 PM
<https://purl.fdlp.gov/GPO/gpo22985>

from Carolyn Frenger to everyone: 12:02 PM
Does your collection include any of Theodore (Ted) Geisel [aka Dr. Seuss] 's wartime comics?

from Carolyn Frenger to everyone: 12:03 PM
Government Book Talk in 2010 had an issue on Dr. Seuss U.S. Army

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 12:03 PM
Carolyn - some won't say if they do because this is public and they don't want to invite thieves

from Carolyn Frenger to everyone: 12:03 PM
<https://govbooktalk.gpo.gov/2010/03/31/dr-seuss-u-s-army/#:~:text=govbooktalk%20refers%20to%20Geisel%20here,2010%20at%201:14%20pm>

from Vicki Tate to everyone: 12:03 PM
Junior Disease Detectives: Operation Outbreak

from Carolyn Frenger to everyone: 12:04 PM
Thanks, Jenny for this info!

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 12:05 PM
Okay = last plea for help - guest bloggers for <https://godort.libguides.com/weird>

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 12:05 PM
ANN! I think that is digitized

from Carolyn Frenger to everyone: 12:05 PM
Yes! Ann is the illustration included in the Government Book Talk issue.

from Lorelei Sensabaugh to everyone: 12:06 PM
Here is the Dr. Seuss one with Ann the mosquito <https://purl.fdlp.gov/GPO/LPS76405>

from Vicki Tate to everyone: 12:06 PM
Dr. Suess

from Mark Kauffman to everyone: 12:06 PM
I do some reports for GPO sales, and GPO used to have a product code for "comic books." But my quick peak through recent reports doesn't seem to include it anymore. Would require some check through older reports to try and find any

from Lorelei Sensabaugh to everyone: 12:07 PM
LC Subject heading Form subdivision (6xx \$v)
\$v Comic books, strips, etc.
LC Genre Form Term (655)
\$a Graphic novels. |2 lcgft |0 <https://id.loc.gov/authorities/genreForms/gf2014026362>

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 12:08 PM
what was the most you spent on a comic? i know you said some are expensive.

from Alex Taylor to everyone: 12:08 PM
along with that question, where do get the funds to add to your collection?

from Marcos Corona to everyone: 12:09 PM
@Alex great question!

from Betty Monterroso to everyone: 12:09 PM
I remember the diary. :)

from Becki White to everyone: 12:10 PM
I just remember the diary was pink (for girls, duh), and that there was a great deal of discussion about why it was being distributed to the depository libraries at all.

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 12:10 PM
Tasha and Bobby - are you comic fans outside of work?

from Carl Olson to everyone: 12:10 PM
Have you searched, or even donated, any government comics on Internet Archive?

from Lula Westbrook to everyone: 12:11 PM
Out of curiosity are there more male or female topic comics

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 12:12 PM
I thought I saw a govt comic collection in Internet Archive but can't find now

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 12:12 PM
NOW

from Lux Howe to everyone: 12:13 PM
Thank you! I really enjoyed this presentation :)

from Lula Westbrook to everyone: 12:13 PM
Do you think Wonder Woman changed it from male to female topics

from Janelle Nash to everyone: 12:13 PM
I love your digital collection and libguide. Thank you!

from Jenny Groome to everyone: 12:13 PM
This was really great - deeper knowledge than presentations from years ago

from Becki White to everyone: 12:14 PM
Look forward to exploring. :)

from Alex Taylor to everyone: 12:14 PM

sucha fun one!

from Ella Shurr to everyone: 12:15 PM

Thank you-this was wonderful!

from Mark Kauffman to everyone: 12:15 PM

Thank you very much!

from Mark Rogen to everyone: 12:15 PM

Great presentation, thank you much!

from Carolyn Frenger to everyone: 12:17 PM

Thanks to you both! Such a fascinating presentation!