



WELCOME TO OUR

# Newsletter

*we're so glad you're here!*



## Director's Den

### **Survey Season Is Here!**

With the CA Public Library Survey deadline fast approaching, we know libraries are working hard to gather all necessary data. As usual, Black Gold is preparing collection and circulation data from the ILS and shared digital collections, and we're on schedule to provide this information to you by Friday, October 4th. And if that's not enough, the annual Black Gold Device Survey will be sent to all libraries before the end of October, with responses due back in November. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks!

## Cataloger's Corner

### **Happy October!**

The Beginning Cataloging training will be held on Oct 9th from 2-3pm and repeated on Oct 15 at 10-11am to accommodate everyone who answered the date & time survey.

I'll send Teams invites soon to everyone who requested to join.

Acquisitions in Koha: I'm working with ByWater and Baker & Taylor on invoicing in Koha issues which I hope will be resolved soon.

The Collection Development committee met and we had a wonderful meeting. I'll send out upcoming emails to the committee members and selectors with information from the vendors regarding standing orders and upcoming titles, and some titles to consider. I'll let you know when the information is added to the Collection Development section of the Black Gold ATS website as well.

Thank you for emailing or calling me with titles you need to be added to the catalog and other issues you run into. Keep it up!

Thank you, Teresa Van Doren  
805-543-6082      [tvandoren@blackgold.org](mailto:tvandoren@blackgold.org)

# It's in the System

**The next major upgrade to Koha is scheduled for Tuesday, October 1st (tonight!)**

*This space will outline what some of our global system settings are and possible changes with upgrades and bug fixes.*

A recent topic of discussion has been the number of days an item stays in the Holds Queue.

Our current Holds Policy (Sys Admin) is as follows:

- Holds do not expire automatically. This must be done manually by the library.
- Cancelled holds do not automatically fill the next hold. An email notification is sent to the library's reply-to address notifying them of the cancelled hold.
- We do not charge the patron for expired holds.
- A hold cannot be cancelled on a day the library is closed per the calendar in Koha.
- A hold is marked as problematic if it is on the holds shelf for more than **10 days**.

## Changes coming with the upgrade:

A new column has been added to the **circulation and fine rule matrix** to allow for libraries to alter how long items are waiting to be picked up. The new column, **Holds Pickup Period**, will allow libraries to identify circulation rules for which they would like to increase or decrease the amount of time a patron has to be pick up an item.

Holds allowed (total)	Holds allowed (daily)	Holds per record (count)	On shelf holds allowed	OPAC item level holds	Holds pickup period (day)
20	Unlimited	1	Yes	Don't allow	Default

Additionally, the Patron record will show how long a hold as been waiting for pickup.

**Holds waiting here (1)**

A better man / (New Books), by Penny, Louise K. [FIC PENNY, L.] Hold placed on 03/12/2024.  
**Waiting here until 03/22/2024** **Waiting here since 03/12/2024.**

The expiration tab on the "Holds Awaiting Pickup Report" has changed slightly as well.

Holds awaiting pickup for your library on: 05/23/2024

[View all libraries](#)

Holds waiting: 0   Holds waiting past their expiration date: 12   Holds with cancellation requests: 1

# The Matt Minute

## Why should I care about Cenic?

A great question patrons might ask is why should I care about Cenic? Cenic provides not only faster speeds to the internet with Fiber optic connectivity, but also provides connections to the education research network in order to help students while researching for school along with providing extra security for our staff and patrons.

Thus having Cenic at our libraries helps not only our staff but also our patrons in a variety of ways. Cenic also has the potential for expanded bandwidth in the future as library needs evolve. Cenic is helping libraries stay on the cutting edge of technology.

## Meetings Calendar

- Wednesday, October 6th - 10:00 a.m. - Library Operations Committee - **CANCELLED**
- Wednesday, October 16th - 10:00 a.m. - Outreach and Marketing (online)

## Technical Tips

### Important Email Addresses:

- [kohateam@blackgold.org](mailto:kohateam@blackgold.org) - Group email includes BG Staff and library staff who deal with Koha and/or Aspen on a regular basis. Use this address to ask questions, give advice and share tips and tricks.
- [blackgoldats@blackgold.org](mailto:blackgoldats@blackgold.org) - Goes directly to BG staff. Use to communicate with Black Gold directly.

### Check it out -

Bywater Solutions offers "Koha Rapid Refresh" (<https://koha.bywatersolutions.com/project/rapid-refresh>) an educational course designed to lay the solid groundwork for your Koha experience. This is a helpful tool to use when training new staff or provide established staff a 'back to basics' refresher.