Welcome to the fair!

DIGITAL READINESS FAIR

Virtually hosted by Appleton Public Library

June 29, 2021
WHAT TO EXPECT TODAY...

● Video and audio
● Use chat
● Recording and sharing
● Breaks!
● Need help during the meeting?
  Use chat or email vicki@wils.org or kristen@wils.org
## Today’s Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:10 am</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Katie Stilp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:10 - 9:40 am</td>
<td>Digital Readiness Community of Practice</td>
<td>Vicki Tobias &amp; Kristen Whitson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:40 - 9:50 am</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:50 - 10:40 am</td>
<td>Those Two Boxes of Tapes</td>
<td>Dorothea Salo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:40 - 10:50 am</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:50 - 11:05</td>
<td>Wisconsin Historical Society Local History</td>
<td>Kristen Leffelman</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:50 - 11:05</td>
<td>Outreach Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:05 - 11:35 am</td>
<td>Digitize Oconto County</td>
<td>Kitty Werner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:35 am - 12:05 pm</td>
<td>Making the Most of Digitization on Demand</td>
<td>Lina Rosenberg-Foley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:05 - 12:10 pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10 - 12:25 pm</td>
<td>Digital Public Library of America / Recollection</td>
<td>Emily Pfotenhauer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:10 - 12:25 pm</td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:25 - 12:30 pm</td>
<td>Wrap Up</td>
<td>Vicki Tobias</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A (brief) Introduction to “Building a Statewide Digital Readiness Community of Practice”

Vicki Tobias, WiLS/Recollection Wisconsin

Kristen Whitson, WiLS/Recollection Wisconsin
Building a Digital Readiness Community of Practice

https://recollectionwisconsin.org/cop

NHPRC-funded project (thank you, NHPRC!)

- Planning Grant - July-December 2019
- Implementation Grant - October 2020-September 2021

Partners: WiLS, Wisconsin Historical Society, Recollection Wisconsin, & Launch Committee
What is Digital Readiness?

“...having the knowledge, tools, resources and infrastructure to provide online public access to archives and historical records.”
What’s a “Community of Practice”?

“It’s a way to learn by working together...a group of people who share a common concern, set of problems, or passion about a topic and deepen their knowledge and expertise in this area by interacting on an ongoing basis.”

Etienne Wenger, Richard McDermott and William M. Snyder, Cultivating Communities of Practice (2002)
Goals & outcomes

- preservation and access
- resources and support through our community
- systems and procedures to guide digitization efforts
- increased opportunities for connections and engagement
- increased confidence and competence
Our inspiration

- Digital projects life cycle - from planning to preservation - it’s not just about scanning stuff!
- Experiences understanding Wisconsin local history practitioner needs
- Information gathering during planning grant:
  - survey
  - community conversations
  - strategic planning
- We’ve got a white paper! [https://tinyurl.com/yvy2da8s](https://tinyurl.com/yvy2da8s)_
Launch Committee

Chris Allen - Kenosha County Historical Society
Ben Barbera - Milwaukee County Historical Society
Bonnie Byrd - Waukesha County Historical Society
Michelle Gobert - Forest County Historical and Genealogical Society; University of Wisconsin - Extension
Jennifer Gurske - Madison Trust for Historic Preservation
Joe Hermolin - Langlade County Historical Society
Cheryl Kern-Simirenko - Stanley Area Historical Society
Janean Mollen-Van Beckum - History Center of Washington County
Tammy Schutz - Barron County Historical Society
Katie Stilp - Appleton Historical Society, Appleton Public Library
Robin Untz - Lake Mills-Aztalan Historical Society

Digital Readiness Launch Committee during our kick-off meeting in October 2020
What digital readiness questions or needs do you have?

*Answer in Chat.*
Digital Readiness Tools and Resources

- Digital Readiness Levels
- Digital Projects Toolkit
- Implementation Guide
- Glossary
- Case Studies
- Digital Readiness Fairs
Digital Readiness Levels

- Based on the NDSA Levels of Preservation
- Provide an accessible starting point for any organization
- 7 functional areas, in 3 tiered levels
- Organizations can start or end anywhere on the levels
- Drafted by Emily P., revised with input from community members
- “Check As You Go” questions emphasize the recursive nature of the levels’ activities
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus Area</th>
<th>Bronze</th>
<th>Silver</th>
<th>Gold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plan and Prioritize</td>
<td>Set goals for your digital work that fit your organization's mission and policies. Revise existing policies to include digital work, or adopt a separate digital mission statement.</td>
<td>Identify content you want to share in digital format based on your organization's goals, mission and policies. Identify potential partners, resources, tools and platforms to meet your goals.</td>
<td>Make a plan for your digital project with timelines, roles, activities, goals and required resources. Share with partners participating in your project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obtain Permissions</td>
<td>Create and use permission forms and donor agreements, or modify existing ones, that include specific language for the use of born-digital or digitized collections.</td>
<td>Assess collection for copyright status. Identify collections items with other access restrictions or concerns, including items with privacy, ethical or cultural considerations.</td>
<td>Assign rights statements or Creative Commons licenses for collection items to be publicly shared online. Develop and share your organizational takedown policy and, if applicable, a statement on harmful content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digitize</td>
<td>Identify standards and procedures to be used to digitize physical materials or process born-digital content.</td>
<td>Undertake digitization or born-digital processing work either in-house or with an appropriate vendor or partner using identified standards.</td>
<td>Use or advocate for a quality control checklist to review digitized or born-digital content to confirm it meets identified standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe</td>
<td>Create and maintain a collection-level inventory of digital content. Identify metadata standards to be used for digital collections.</td>
<td>Using identified standards, create descriptive metadata for collection items to be shared online. Adopt a consistent file-naming convention.</td>
<td>Create expanded item-level metadata, using controlled vocabularies and a data dictionary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share</td>
<td>Gather and evaluate digital content. Organize and move content and associated descriptive information to a centralized location using a consistent folder and file organization scheme.</td>
<td>Review access goals and options for providing access to content. Choose a system or platform that meets your goals.</td>
<td>Make item-level metadata and content available for discovery and repurposing. Follow accessibility standards for online content including alt text, transcripts and other accessibility best practices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Store and Maintain</td>
<td>Store two copies of each unmodified archival file and related metadata. Check storage media annually and refresh as needed.</td>
<td>Store three copies of each archival file and related metadata. One copy should be stored off-site. Check and refresh storage media on a regular schedule.</td>
<td>Plan for future storage needs as your collection grows. Use software tools to check file integrity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate</td>
<td>Identify primary users and ways to engage them in your digital collections.</td>
<td>Collect usage data. Consider using analytics tools, social media, or research inquiries to gather use stories.</td>
<td>Share your story with other practitioners to build community around digital work. Use data to inform future collection development work, outreach and programming.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Check As You Go

As you move towards a new level in any of the focus areas, consider the following questions:

Is it documented?
- Are new directions and decisions represented in existing policies, such as a collection development policy or a rights and reproductions policy? Do policies need to be revised or do new policies need to be created?
- Are new procedures or processes written down, such as steps for using a scanner or standards for how to describe content? Is there enough information provided that someone new to the organization would be able to carry out these processes on their own?
- Are partnerships or arrangements with other parties, such as a digitization vendor or a content contributor, documented in some way, like a contract, Memorandum of Understanding, or letter of commitment?

Is it sustainable?
- Is there a plan for how this work will continue to be supported by staff and/or volunteers from year to year?
- What work needs to be done to maintain relationships with partners or collaborators?
- Is funding committed for any recurring costs, such as a cloud storage service?
- Are best practices and widely-adopted standards being used, so that digital work is “future proof”—that is, it’s compatible with commonly-used platforms and systems?
- Is there an exit strategy for any tools or partnerships? For instance, can content be removed from a platform if necessary?

Is it appropriate, relevant and/or accessible?
- Are new digital initiatives in line with the organization’s mission and values? Do digital initiatives reflect community needs and respect community priorities?
- If information is available publicly, is it violating any privacy, copyright or ethical considerations?
- Can all potential users access the content? What can be done to improve accessibility for people with disabilities?

Is it working?
- Are we doing what we set out to do? What were our goals and have we achieved them, partially or fully?
- What have we learned and what will we do differently next time?
- What lessons learned would be helpful to other organizations?
- Have we communicated our project decisions and progress to stakeholders and partners, including any funders?

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
The Digital Readiness Levels was made possible by a grant to Recollection Wisconsin from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). Many thanks to the Digital Readiness Community of Practice Launch Committee and other experts who reviewed and provided feedback on drafts. The structure of the Levels is adapted from the National Digital Stewardship Alliance Levels of Digital Preservation.
Digital Projects Toolkit

- Recollection Wisconsin website
- One stop shop for all things digital readiness
# Digital Readiness Glossary

The Glossary below includes many commonly used archives, digital collections, and organizational terms and acronyms. Don’t see a term, phrase, or definition you think should be included? [Send us an email](https://recollectionwisconsin.org/toolkit/digital-readiness-glossary) to let us know!

Terms below are listed alphabetically. Scroll to the term you’re looking for, or click the magnifying glass icon in the upper right corner of the table below to search. You can also scroll to the right to see the sources of definitions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Source of definition (if any)</th>
<th>Related to</th>
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<tr>
<td>3-2-1 Rule</td>
<td>The 3-2-1 rule informs digital preservation and storage strategies. Maintain <strong>three</strong> copies of your digital files on <strong>two</strong> different storage media with at least <strong>one</strong> copy stored off site. <em>See: Storage Diversification, Digital Storage</em></td>
<td><a href="https://recollectionwisconsin.org/toolkit/digital-readiness-glossary">Recollection Wisconsin Digital Projects Toolkit</a></td>
<td>Storage Diversification, Digital Storage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AASLH</td>
<td>AASLH stands for the American Association for State and Local History.</td>
<td><a href="https://recollectionwisconsin.org/toolkit/digital-readiness-glossary">AASLH (American Association for State and Local History)</a></td>
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</tbody>
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digital projects

CASE STUDIES

short accounts from Wisconsin organizations of all sizes on their work selecting, digitizing, cataloging, and sharing their historical resources for online access.

Digital Readiness Case Study in Brief: Richard L. Bong Veterans Historical Center

March 2021

Richard I. Bong Veterans Historical Center

About the organization

Located in Superior, Wisconsin, the Richard L. Bong Veterans Historical Center (BHMC) preserves and honors the memory of Maj. Richard L. Bong and other veterans of World War II and subsequent conflicts, and provides educational resources for community and beyond. The BHMC opened to the public in September 2003 and maintains a retrievable collection of historic records and artifacts that document veterans and military history. Bruce Hunt serves as the BHMC Curator of Collections and participates in Recollection Wisconsin governance committees.

Digital Readiness Challenges and Opportunities

Participation in Curating Community: Digital Collections (CCOC): Work completed through CCOC was an important and welcome opportunity to advance their digitization program. Volunteers now follow a more digital workflow for sourcing and cataloging their materials.

Community support: Staff often rely on Recollection Wisconsin digital projects resources including Volunteer Essentials and the Digital Projects Toolkit.

Content management systems: They are exploring their digitized content out of Evernote and into Google Apps, a free, open-source content management space for sourcing and sharing digital content. They are also focused on building sustainability and support from volunteers.

Oral histories and listening tours: The BHMC’s veteran oral histories are included in a project to create a website version of the Wisconsin Warthog Oral History. An NHD-funded project which brings together the personal accounts of Wisconsin veterans and citizens. The project provides an opportunity for reaching new donors, by demonstrating how the public might interact with BHMC collections.

Content sharing statement: It is important to prepare projects for easier and more flexible distribution and language they might encounter in a collection or exhibit, especially war-related material. They include a disclaimer to prepare users for the content: “the BHMC considers language that is offensive and is presented as it exists in the original document. The materials reflect the context in which they were created but do not represent the views of the Richard L. Bong Veterans Historical Center.”

Lessons Learned

- Legacy projects- Sometimes it’s better to live with less than ideal components of a legacy digitization project. A key benefit of use time and resources was for the current and new projects and adapting the guidelines and best practices.
- Working with volunteers: Volunteers have varied skills sets and different work styles as it is important to have good training materials and a strong support system to guide their work.
- It’s more than just a policy: Information included in their digital preservation policy provided a good jumping off point for conversations about digital work with different stakeholders.
- Slow and steady progress: Focusing on one or two small goals like developing, implementing, and documenting a file-sharing scheme or documentary a scanning process as a training tool for volunteers. Over time, small goals become part of a larger, more sustainable digital program.

For more information about our Digital Readiness Community of Practice, visit https://recollectionwisconsin.org/case-studies/

Digital Readiness Case Study in Brief: Madison Trust for Historic Preservation

January 2021

About the organization

Since 1987, the Madison Trust for Historic Preservation has focused on advocacy for and education about Madison’s historic properties. The organization is managed by a Board and one part-time staff member and has relied on a volunteer board of business and community volunteers involved in local historic preservation. See the Full Case Study online for more on the organization and the digitization initiative.

Digital Readiness Challenges and Opportunities

- Creating and sharing resources and knowledge: Initial project analysis and planning efforts helped identify additional grant opportunities. Documenting project goals, processes and data will make sharing lessons learned easier.
- Expanded access: Madison Trust will provide public access to their digitized materials through Recollection Wisconsin, increasing awareness of their organization and collections. This step will require a more in-depth exploration of copyright status for some materials, publishing the digitized collection and thinking about ongoing costs for collection maintenance and preservation.
- Digital preservation and storage: An analysis of digital preservation principles will be undertaken, along with how they apply to Madison Trust. For now, their digitized materials are stored on two external hard drives backed up by a backup, a cloud-based backup and storage service.
- Secure, stable funding: The Trust is a small cultural heritage organization with a limited budget. Multiple small grants will support small projects and allow them to identify projects and people that can contribute to the virtual collection, and sustain the work.
- Combined participation in the Digital Readiness Community of Practice: This group provides a support network for local history practitioners to connect, support and learn from each other. Resources and recommendations such as these are also available in the Digital Projects Toolkit.

Lessons Learned

- Digitization projects serve many purposes such as supporting virtual reference service for organizations without or unable to use a public facing space.
- Before you ever start scanning, do a little bit of work that goes into digitization projects. The Madison Trust has created an aptitude guide to digitization and a scan guide for digitization.
- Small grants can be used to seed different project components. For example, small grants help pay for a scanner, support a few hours scanning staff each week or provide for digital storage space on an external hard drive.
- Working with students and volunteers carries unique and guiding challenges, having clearly written guidelines and training materials will help facilitate the work and partnerships.

For more information about our Digital Readiness Community of Practice, visit https://recollectionwisconsin.org/case-studies/

Digital Readiness Case Study in Brief: Lake Mills Astinal Historical Society

February 2021

About the organization

Since 1941, the Lake Mills Astinal Historical Society (the Museum) has been dedicated to preserving and sharing local pioneer and anecdotal Native American History. Lake Mills Astinal Historical Society’s Museum contains eleven pioneer buildings. Robin Unruh serves as the Museum Board president and curator. See the Full Case Study online for more on the organization and digital readiness initiatives.

Digital Readiness Challenges and Opportunities

- Intellectual control: When Unruh was appointed Board President in 2015, the Museum’s physical and digital collections were contained in various locations and with multiple external vendors. She facilitated the return and organization of the materials, accurate and up-to-date inventories were created, a continuous intellectual control over the collections was established. She is now exploring their digital preservation needs.
- Secure, stable funding: Over the past four years, the Museum has received funding from the Wisconsin Historical Society, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and a Wisconsin budget program. These initiatives will offer the base for future digitization projects. Tools and templates are available in the Digital Projects Toolkit.
- Sharing a community of practice: Previous similar experiences in connecting with other local history practitioners inspired Unruh to join Recollection Wisconsin’s Digital Readiness Community of Practice. For example, the main goal for participation was to help build and share with her board members and volunteers, a network of contacts and resources to support their ongoing digital work.
- Sustainable leadership: Increasing learning opportunities for volunteers will empower them to continue to engage with digital collections projects and remain engaged with the Museum as they change. Workshops and volunteer training will help their organization recruit, engage and hopefully retain volunteer.
- Content sharing and connection: Creating an easy interface for sharing historic materials will help their organization recruit, engage and hopefully retain volunteer.
- Intellectual control and access: Exploring sharing best practices and new processes, workflows, renaming standards, and/or file storage plans may help future staff and volunteers understand what they are working on and continue the work with greater ease.

Lessons Learned

- The initial planning stage of any digitization project should always include finding out what previous projects may have left off by connecting with past project leaders and volunteers, tailoring down project documentation, and locating the digital files.
- Digitization projects serve many purposes, including creating digital content to increase online engagement but also an opportunity to build community engagement around shared local history.
- Planning for future projects means empowering others to learn and participate in digital work so they are ready to step in and take the lead.
- Unit experience teaching the Museum is a valuable volunteer capacity is a good reminder that the work is sometimes slow, never finished, and always worth it. Incremental progress is still progress.

For more information about our Digital Readiness Community of Practice, visit https://recollectionwisconsin.org/case-studies/
DIGITAL READINESS FAIRS
Free and virtual
Open to anyone interested in digital historical collections
What's digital readiness? What's a community of practice?
Connect with us to find out!
Choose the fair nearest you or whichever works best for your schedule:

June 29, 2021
9:00 am - 12:30 pm
Virtual Host:
Appleton Public
Library

July 16, 2021
9:00 am - 12:30 pm
Virtual Host:
Crandon Area
Historical Society

August 3, 2021
9:00 am - 12:30 pm
Virtual Host:
Pioneer Village
(Barron County)

August 18, 2021
1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Virtual Host:
Kenosha County
Historical Society
Questions?
Comments?
Break time!

Source: Recollection Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin Madison
Dorothea Salo is a Distinguished Faculty Associate in the University of Wisconsin at Madison's Information School. Her "Recover Analog and Digital Data" project rescues audio, video, and digital data from obsolete or decaying carriers.
Break time!

Source: Recollection Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin Madison
The Wisconsin Historical Society’s Local History Outreach Team

An Introduction
WHS Local History Outreach Program

The Wisconsin Historical Society’s Local History Outreach Program manages:

- Outreach services and partnerships with local history, heritage, and cultural groups
- Local History Affiliate Program
- Wisconsin State Historical Markers
- Speakers Bureau
- Traveling Exhibits
- Webinars, programs, conferences, and more
Regional Staff Contacts

Outreach Regions

**Northern Region**
Liz Arbuckle
715.685.2667
liz.arbuckle@wisconsinhistory.org
Headquartered in Ashland

**West Central Region**
Janet Seymour
715.836.2250
janet.seymour@wisconsinhistory.org
Headquartered in Eau Claire

**Southern & Eastern Region**
Kristen Leffelman
414.988.8655
kristen.leffelman@wisconsinhistory.org
Headquartered in Milwaukee
Statewide Programs

Tanika Apaloo
Multicultural Outreach Coordinator
- Multicultural outreach
- Heritage month activities

Fitzie Heimdahl
Historical Markers Program Coordinator
- Historical Markers program

Amy Norlin
Outreach Services Coordinator
- Annual reporting
- Affiliate communications
- Becoming an affiliate
Affiliate Program

- The Local History Outreach Program supports a network of 426 affiliated organizations.
- All non-profit community history and cultural organizations, including publicly funded museums and tribal museums, can apply for affiliation.

- Affiliated organizations can:
  - Apply for mini-grants to support collections care.
  - Have endowment funds managed by the Wisconsin Historical Foundation.
  - Participate in the Wisconsin Council for Local History.
  - Receive Wisconsin Historical Society publications and newsletters.
  - Receive discounts from Gaylord Archival.
  - And more!
Mini-Grant Program

- Each spring, affiliates can apply for grants up to $700 for projects and activities that support collections care and management.

- Have one of these projects on the horizon? Plan now to apply for a 2022 mini-grant!
  - Archival supplies
  - PastPerfect Software
  - Storage & Shelving
  - Digitization Equipment
  - Climate Control
  - Computer Hardware
  - Conservation Supplies
  - Training
Ways to Engage: Webinars

- The Local History Outreach Program offers free, open webinars throughout the year.
- Recent topics include:
  - The Hmong refugee experience in Wisconsin
  - Interpreting women’s history at historic sites
  - Markers, monuments, and meaning
  - Strategies for fundraising success during COVID-19
  - Reopening museums and historic sites
- Past webinars are available via the Wisconsin Historical Society website.
Ways to Engage: Local History & Historic Preservation Conference

- In partnership with the State Historic Preservation Office, the Local History Outreach Team plans the annual Local History & Historic Preservation Conference
- We hope you can join us!
  - October 20-22, 2021 – Online
  - October 13-15, 2022 – Rothschild, WI
  - October 19-21, 2023 – La Crosse, WI
  - October 17-19, 2024 – Appleton, WI
Ways to Engage: Book Club

- Join fellow Wisconsin book lovers and amateur historians in engaging discussions on unique books
- These virtual meetings are free to join, and registrants get a 20% discount on selected WHS Press titles
Exciting Developments: New Wisconsin History Museum

- The Board of Curators recently approved a $120 million project to build a new Wisconsin history museum at a new site one block away from the State Capitol.
- The new museum is being funded through a combination of private donations and state funds.
- Look for ways to engage in sharing your history as we launch the next phase of statewide programs soon!
Connect with Local History Outreach

- Email Local History Outreach at fieldservices@wisconsinhistory.org
- Request the Local History e-newsletter by email
- Join the Local History Listserv to ask questions, seek advice, post events, and more
- Go wihist.org/LocalHistory to learn more!
Any questions?
Thank you!

To learn more visit wisconsinhistory.org
Thank you, Kristen!
conto County
Genealogical Society

Oconto County
Historical Society
Welcome to the Newspaper Archives

Click Here to SEARCH THE NEWSPAPERS

PROJECT GOAL
The goal of Digitize Oconto County is:
• To preserve the history of Oconto County for future generations — one page at a time — as documented in the early newspapers
• To make Oconto County history and stories accessible to everyone online
• To make the newspapers searchable

We hope you will support this important endeavor.
Farnsworth Microfilm Reader & Printer
The ResCarta Foundation, a non-profit organization, was founded to encourage the development of a single set of open community standards and open source implementations of those standards.

Our goal is to create, through collaboration, digital content production standards and open source applications that allow users to access disparate digital collections in a simple, user friendly process, leading to interoperability.

ResCarta recommends

Scanning services:
   Indus
   Northern Micrographics

Hosting services:
   Arvixe
ResCarta Scan Day

- What does it take?
  - Greeting/Registration
  - Flatbed scanning
  - Document scanning
  - Slide scanning
  - Photography booth
  - Disk Production
Genealogy and Local History

The Laurie History Room in Sturgeon Bay offers an extensive genealogy and local history collection. Resources available include local newspapers on microfilm, a local newspaper obituary index, family histories, a cemetery index, marriage indexes, city directories, school yearbooks, censuses on microfilm, plat maps, biographies and histories of Door County, works by local authors, and much more.

Join us for our Virtual Genealogy Meetings the 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month at 2:00 PM (recordings of past meetings available on YouTube).

Door County Library Newspaper Archive
newspapers from 1862 to 1979
RESOURCES DESCRIPTION

About Our Microfilm Collection
Access Information and Sales Service
DIGITIZE OCONTO COUNTY

For more information, see our website.

The first newspaper, Oconto Pioneer, began in 1859. Here is a list of the county's 10 newspapers microfilmed available at Wisconsin Historical Society. We have been given permission to digitize all the newspapers up to the present date.

For more information, see our website.

Project Goal:

Preserving the history of Oconto County - one page at a time - and making the newspaper content freely accessible to everyone.

Digitize Oconto County
Contact us at: digitizeoconto@gmail.com

A County's Journal
as reported in the early newspapers

Whether your interest is learning about local history, researching genealogy, or just getting a perspective on the county as a whole, you will appreciate this special effort to make the early Oconto County newspapers available online. With today's digital information age, we can access digital newspapers today. However, we forget that everyone depended on the newspaper for their information in the early days.

Back then, it wasn't necessary to be famous or important to be in the paper because everyone cared about everything going on in the community.

The early newspapers were like a window into the past, and in the process, they captured moments from the history of the people, the community, and the world.

There were special events, such as the one that affected everyone, the papers, who celebrated an anniversary, school news, who featured a card party family, and school reunion, house fires, tornadoes, and other weather. This is the kind of information in the newspapers that you cannot find anywhere else.

Please join us in this venture

Name ______________________________
Address ____________________________
City, State, Zip Code __________________
Company/Organization __________________
Email _________________________________

To sponsor a particular newspaper, or to honor a loved one's memory, please specify:

Newspaper __________________________
Issue Date/s _________________________

This gift is given in memory of ____________________________

Make check payable to: OCHS
Mail form and contribution to:

Digitize Oconto County
800 Superior Avenue
Oconto, WI 54153

One issue is $5.00
For full pricing options and exact issues available, go to our website:
ocnews.co.oconto.wi.us
Jake & Connie Jacobs
TeamViewer App

Sign In
Don't have an account?

Remote Control

Meeting

Computers & Contacts

Chat

Augmented Reality

Getting Started

Allow Remote Control

Your ID
1 280 814 826

Password
sg9t31

Control Remote Computer

Partner ID

Remote Control
File Transfer

Unattended Access

Start TeamViewer with System
Grant easy access

Connect

Ready to connect (secure connection)
Remote Desktop
Remote Apps
Metadata
Simple Search

Search for: [Input field]

Search in collections:
- All
- Enquirer
- Farmer-Herald
- Gillett Times
- Herald
- Lene Enterprise
- Maple Valley Educator
- Militiaman
- Oconto County Chronicle
- Oconto County Reporter
- Oconto County Reporter Enterprise
- Oconto County Reporter Enterprise-Enquirer
- Oconto County Times-Herald
- Oconto Falls Herald
- Oconto Lumberman
- Oconto Pioneer
- Suring Sun
- Union Farmer-Herald

Search by date

Search | Clear All
Dedication of The Farnsworth Public Library.

THE FARNSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY.
The Farnsworth Public Library at Oconto will be dedicated tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon at three o’clock. At this time it is hoped that all who have an interest in the library and its future work will be present. A cordial invitation is extended to all in the city above ten years of age.
moved to Chicago where he could more easily look after the company's increasing business and has lived in the city since that time.
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Chairs will be placed in the two large rooms for the accommodation of those who may wish to occupy them.

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In December 1901 Mr. C. A. Milles received a letter from Mr. Farnsworth proposing to build a public library for Oconto. The matter was brought before the city council at a meeting held March 21, 1903. The gift generously accepted by poets, priests and scientists, who are its allies in its growth and work. It was this conviction which led to the formation of the early libraries. This thought, growing in intensity, created the great "public library movement" of the 19th century. The American people are said by Winston Churchill to be distinguished from others by their earnest desire for information and its study.
ORGANIZATIONS USING RESCARTA
Door County Library
Algoma Library
Shorewood Historical Society: almost 3500 items: yearbooks, phone directories, newsletters, newspapers

SCAN DAY sites
Westby: https://scandays.rescarta.org/Westby
Galesville:
https://scandays.rescarta.org/Galesville/jsp/RcWebBrowse.jsp
Northern Micrographics in La Crosse has been doing it. They are closing June 30. The Crowley Company in Maryland will continue to provide preservation imaging services to their customers.

Crowley Company

Indus [ResCarta recommends]

BMI Imaging

Scanning America

Pro: Faster to get images
Con: More expensive, have to send items to them

Oklahoma Correctional Industries: digital imaging, less expensive

Wisconsin Historical Society charges $0.15 per frame.

Pro: WHS has their own copies that are not circulated so they are pristine.
Less expensive
Con: It takes much longer to get the images. [Currently not taking new clients]
Wisconsin Historical Society
https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS4008

ResCarta
https://www.rescarta.org

Scan Day Presentation
http://rescarta.org/ScanDayIL2011.pdf

TeamViewer
https://www.teamviewer.com
Thank you, Kitty!
Lina Rosenberg Foley, university archivist

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