

January 2011 #18

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News of the Day

Harvesting News

Where to begin? There has been so much happening with Wisconsin Heritage Online!

We have added 32,000 records to Wisconsin Heritage Online since January 2009. Emily Pfothenauer, our grant-funded Outreach Specialist, has inspired many cultural heritage organizations to begin a project they'd been thinking about. Emily's funding will continue through at least June 2011. If you've been thinking about a digital project, now is the time to start!

Since the October issue, we've added 30 collections to the [Wisconsin Heritage Online](#) portal. The portal now includes more than 75,000 records gathered from 75 cultural heritage collections across Wisconsin.

You can add a link to the WHO portal on your own website using the URL wisconsinheritage.org. There's a collection of logos on the [wiki](#). You must have a paid WHO membership and login to the wiki to access the logos.

Collections added to Wisconsin Heritage Online since October 2010:

Blanchardville Historical Society
Hales Corners Historical Society
Langlade County Historical Society
Milwaukee Public Museum
Portage Historical Society
Preservation Racine, Inc.
South Wood County Historical Corporation
McMillan Memorial Library
Richland County History Room
St. Norbert College
Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum

Beloit College
Chamberlin Hall of Science Collection
History of the Sciences at Beloit College
Pearsons Hall Collection

Marquette University
Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame
Building a Campus
Clement J. Zablocki

Milwaukee Public Library
Horace Seaman Wisconsin Infantry Collection
Milwaukee County Marriage Certificates
Wagons of Milwaukee Businesses

Oshkosh Public Library
Postcards of Oshkosh
Public Enemies: Tinseltown Comes to Oshkosh

Outagamie-Waupaca InfoSoup
Clintonville Memory Project
Kaukauna Memory Project

UW-Milwaukee
Architectural Drawings of Willis and Lillian Leenhouts
Picturing Golda Meir
UWM Book Arts Collection
March on Milwaukee Civil Rights History Project

Wisconsin Historical Society
Historical Maps Collection
Baird Manuscripts Collection

To access these collections, choose Guided Search on the [WHO portal](#) and select "Limit Search by Sub-Collection" to get a pull-down list of all collections.

Portal Re-Design

We recently had the opportunity to refresh the look of the Wisconsin Heritage Online portal page with the help of the Wisconsin Library Services webmaster, Sheila Zillner. We sorted the WHO collections into subject categories, including topics ranging from Politics and Government to Art and Architecture. Please check out the new look and test out the new topic categories with your next information request at wisconsinheritage.org/subject.html.

Featured Collections

Thirty Collections

The 30 collections added to WHO since October showcase the breadth of resources available from Wisconsin's libraries, archives, museums and historical societies. Here are a few highlights:



Wagons of Milwaukee Businesses

This is a small but delightful collection representing wagons from the diverse businesses in Milwaukee before automobiles were commonplace.

Contributor: Milwaukee Public Library
[View collection](#)

Clement J. Zablocki — Photographs of Wisconsin's "Mr. Democrat"

Here is Mr. Democrat, posing with Rosalynn Carter in 1978. Clement Zablocki represented Milwaukee's south side in Congress from January 1949 until his death in December 1983.

Contributor: Marquette University
[View collection](#)



Blanchardville Historical Society

This photo, a view of Baker's Bottom, is extracted from *Memories of Blanchardville*. The Chautauqua's big tent was set up here in the early 1900s. Lectures, concerts, and other types of entertainment took place here.

[View collection](#)



Langlade County Historical Society

From the *A. J. Kingsbury Picture Postcards of Northern Wisconsin* collection, this photo shows an Ojibwe family in front of their wigwam in winter.

[View collection](#)

Portage Historical Society

Dorothy McCarthy's *Tales of Old Portage* series of local history columns appeared in the *Portage Daily Register* from 1958-1975. This photo is extracted from an article about Portage Cream Brick, a native industry.

[View collection](#)



Project News

Lots of projects from first-time digitizers are in the works. Training and support for these projects are made possible through our grant from the Nicholas Family Foundation. The collections are hosted on the Milwaukee Public Library's CONTENTdm server.

Documenting Agricultural Innovation in Waukesha County

The New Berlin Historical Society holds an extensive archive of materials from Cornfalva Farms, founded by the Swartz family of Waukesha County and known throughout Wisconsin in the 1910s and 20s for innovative and experimental farming techniques. Society president Dave Totten describes the farm's primary products as the "three A's": alfalfa, apples, and Asiatic sheep. So far, Dave has posted 95 glass lantern slides to the Society's online collection. More photos from the farm's heyday will be added soon. [View collection](#).



Exploring Downtown Dodgeville in Postcards

The Iowa County Historical Society's first digital project showcases a selection of postcards illustrating the city of Dodgeville from the 1900s to the 1950s, all collected by local resident Herb Harris. Society archivist Boyd Geer scanned the postcards and worked with Erin Kauppinen, an undergraduate intern in the Art History Department at UW-Madison, to research and catalog the images. The Society is now selecting which materials to tackle for their next project. [View collection](#).

Celebrating Campus Life at St. Norbert College

The Miriam B. and James J. Mulva Library at St. Norbert College in De Pere is working to share its vast photo archive online. Library staff members Sally Cubitt and Karen Mand have already posted nearly 1,500 images to their online collection, and more will be added soon. These photographs are a window onto campus life at St. Norbert since the early 1900s, including the role of the Norbertine priests, the first female students to attend the college, important visitors including John F. Kennedy, and the strong relationship the college has with the Green Bay Packers. [View collection](#).



Remembering a Soldier's Life in World War II

The La Crosse County Historical Society, under the direction of curator Peggy Derrick, is beginning to digitize a unique collection of materials from Kermit Brekke, a La Crosse man who served in Italy and North Africa in World War II. The collection includes Brekke's dress uniform, work clothes, photographs, and souvenirs from abroad as well as a scrapbook including telegrams, photos, menus, leave passes, and mimeographed newsletters from his military unit. The scrapbook tells the story of his wife's visits to see him at his post in Oregon, his studies to learn radio transmission skills, and his unit's experiences in battle and with the tedium of camp. Look for this collection online later this year.

WHO Resources

Social Networking Tools

Cathy Markwiese and Kevin Cingatura at Milwaukee Public Library have inserted an "AddThis" feature to each WHO collection hosted by MPL. This is how it works: when you find an image you'd like to share with others, hover over the Share button. A list of sharing tools will pop up, including options to post to Facebook, Twitter, and email.

Digital Preservation Webinar Archive

In December, experts from the State Library of North Carolina's Digital Information Management Program offered an "Introduction to Digital Preservation" webinar. This session covered some of the key issues to consider in preserving digital materials. An archive of the webinar, along with related discussions and links, is available from [WebJunction](#).

Resources Wiki

Don't forget about our [WHO Resources Wiki](#), one of your benefits as a dues-paying member. We stay up-to-date on new developments in the digital world to keep the wiki relevant. When we make a significant update, we date the page so you'll know it's new. I don't believe anyone needs to check the wiki even every week but it's certainly worth a visit once a month. Check the sidebar on the right to see which items have a recent date.

Forgot your wiki password? Click the Forgot Your Password link and it will be reset. Don't have a password? Contact us at info@wisconsinheritage.org.

Events to Note

IMLS Connecting to Collections Planning Grant Survey

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Library Services, Wisconsin Federation of Museums, Wisconsin Historical Society, and the Midwest Art Conservation Center have teamed up to survey collecting institutions across Wisconsin on their preservation and conservation needs.

Your organization's participation in this Institute for Museum and Library Services-Connecting to Collections survey will influence Wisconsin's future collection care funding opportunities from Federal and State agencies. It is important that the needs of your institution be counted in this study. The findings of this survey will be available for you to use in grant applications and other requests for support to your own organization and your institution will be added to a statewide, disaster response network to facilitate aid in the event of natural or man-made emergency events.

An email with a link to the survey was recently sent from preserveart.org. The online survey is expected to take approximately 15 minutes. If you think you may not know all about collection preservation, please consult with others at your organization to complete the survey.

Discover Digital Resources with BadgerLunch

Learn about resources available from BadgerLink in these short online information sessions, Thursdays at noon. The first six sessions of the new year, beginning January 27, focus on Wisconsin research resources. Emily Pfotenhauer will demonstrate ways to search and explore the WHO portal on Thursday, February 17.

A full schedule and information about accessing the sessions is available [here](#). No advance registration is required.

The BadgerLunch webinar series explores BadgerLink's rich collection of information tools. Each session covers one resource, database, or interface. All sessions are free and open to anyone who wants to learn. Topics include a description of the information/learning resource, searching techniques, and helpful features. An archive of previous sessions is found at www.badgerlink.net/training.html

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