

WHOnews

June 2007 Issue 6

FORWARD THROUGH OUR PAST

Vision

To make WHO a recognized resource, known and used for its quality

To enable users to search digital content of cultural institutions across the state

To build a portal to access content regardless of content management system

Wisconsin Heritage Online Portal

Wisconsin Heritage Online, wisconsinheritage.org, has over 30,000 items in it. Records come from six servers, with 23 collections from non-UW locations and more than 32 collections from the State of Wisconsin collection, plus 16 collections in the University of Wisconsin collection.

You can promote usage of WHO to your community:

- Put a link to the site (wisconsinheritage.org) on your web site or digital collections page.
- Download one of the WHO logos from the wiki's front page (wiheritage.pbwiki.com) and put the logo on your web site. Link the logo to the web site.

WHO Working Group update The Future Directions group

This group continues work on the large task of writing and applying for a grant. The group has written an outline of a project proposal. Several members of the group are researching and evaluating Wisconsin corporations which have given grants to Wisconsin applicants in the past. They

expect to apply in the 2008 grant cycle. Cathy Markwiese, Milwaukee Public Library, is the chair of this group and is guiding the work. Kirsten Houtman, WiLS, will be the principal grant writer. Members of the group will be involved with review, and editing of the grant; other members will be working on the project proposal itself. You can check out the details of their work and read the proposal outline on the wiki at wiheritage.pbwiki. com, under WHO Working Groups.

The Museum group

This group has undertaken several tasks. One of them is to survey cultural heritage institutions in Wisconsin about their use of content management or collection management systems. The results of this survey will meet the needs assessment requirement of the grant proposal. The other projects this group is working on are writing Digital Photography Guidelines, and assessing and defining the issues of hierarchically structured museum metadata and how this data might best be harvested for WHO. This group is chaired by Abbie Norderhaug, Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

The survey has been sent out via email and USPS mail to almost 500 cultural heritage institutions. There's been a good return rate so far! If your organization has received a survey, please do fill it out and return it, either via the web link or on paper.

Planning a Digital Project?

Are you interested in planning and implementing a digital project but need some help? WHO does not offer monetary assistance but we do provide software, a digital collection hosting service, best practices/standards, and consulting. Check out these documents on the Wisconsin Heritage On-

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line wiki, wiheritage.pbwiki.com to start planning your digital project:

Project Cost Estimations
WHO Membership form
Add Your Digital Collection
Hosting Application form

New Grant Opportunity

For those collaborative managers who have smaller local libraries and museums that are in need of funding on the local level you might want to take a look at this new initiative. It's targeted at local libraries and museums and individuals. Grants are up to \$15K.

EMC Information Heritage Initiative

www.emc.com/about/destination/information_ heritage

EMC Heritage Trust Project

Grants between \$5,000-\$15,000 www.emc.com/about/destination/information_ heritage/heritage_trust

Call for Digital Projects

We are looking for more projects! Does your organization fit in one of these categories? Call Debbie at 608 265-2138.

- You have or share a digital content management system on a server & have web-accessible digital collections.
- You have information stored in a XML file at a persistent HTTP URL.
- You apply to the WHO Collection Development Working Group to start a project on the hosted CONTENTdm server at Wisconsin Historical Society.

- You export an existing digital collection to the hosted CONTENTdm WHS server.
- You can find out about the details of these categories by calling Debbie at 608 265-2138.

Wisconsin Heritage Online Project Resources wiki

Have you checked out the wiki? It changes weekly at least and more will be done as you help. The wiki will make it easier for everyone in the WHO community to contribute digitization and project management knowledge. There are a lot of collaborative resources available on the wiki, at wiheritage. pbwiki.com. The password for editing the wiki is 'history'.

Educational Opportunities

Highlight from the wiheritage wiki: This is a new workshop offering from Wisconsin Heritage Online. We'll be happy to negotiate custom pricing for your group. Contact Debbie Cardinal, 608 265-2138, or cardinal@wils.wisc.edu.

Wisconsin Heritage Online Digital Imaging Guidelines in Practice: Modeling a Scanning Workflow

Description: This workshop will be a combination of lecture, demonstration and guided hands-on activities. The lecture portion will include when to outsource scanning and when to do in-house scanning; scanning techniques; choosing file resolution and formats; and file management best practices. There will be a short discussion of archival preservation standards and practice. Andy Kraushaar will provide a tour of the Wisconsin Historical Society Digital Lab.

The hands-on section of the workshop will consist of scanning and image processing using Photoshop, with the focus on developing a workflow for batches of images. The process will move from scanning through editing to file management, using common Photoshop strategies such as Levels, Layers and Actions to assist with file management.

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This is NOT a Photoshop training class; rather it will use Photoshop to model an effective workflow. Participants should have some knowledge of Photoshop software or other image processing software. Levels, Layers and Actions are more advanced features of Photoshop.

Review of the Wisconsin Heritage Online Digital Imaging Guidelines is required as the workshop content will be based on the Guidelines.

Check out other educational resources at wiheritage.pbwiki.com

Events in the Region

June 14, WiLS Hour Adding a Digital Collection to Wisconsin Heritage Online Debbie Cardinal, WiLS

Want to learn more about whether you have a digital collection that could be added to Wisconsin Heritage Online? Join Debbie Cardinal on June 14th, from 10:30-11:30, for the WiLS Hour. She will talk about metadata harvesting, starting a new digital collection, static repository options, and database importing into CONTENTdm. Debbie will discuss the services Wisconsin Historical Society and WiLS provide for startup digital projects. She will review Wisconsin Heritage Online membership fees (NEW for FY08) and clarify what fees Wisconsin Historical Society and WiLS charge. There will be plenty of time for questions.

While Wisconsin Heritage Online doesn't scan or catalog your materials, we can help you a lot!

Register directly with WisLine Conferencing: www.uwex.edu/ics/wlwreg/wlwwelcome.cfm (WiLS Hour sessions are listed under Wisconsin Library Services.) Participants will receive an email with URL login information and the WisLine free 800 number for the audio portion of the session.

Outcomes: The ability to properly choose and prepare a grant proposal including, evaluating appropriate funding sources, project preparation, and handson practice in preparing a proposal.

Thomas F.R. Clareson joined PALINET as Program Director for New Initiatives in October 2005. Leading PALINET's digital collections creation and management services, preservation services, and consulting activities, he is responsible for establishing new services and funding sources, grant writing, and outreach to the museum and historical society communities. With over 15 years experience in preservation and digitization services, Tom was previously Global Product Manager at OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.; he also served in various capacities at Amigos Library Services, Inc. Tom holds an MLS from Kent State University, an MA from Ohio State University, and a BA from Ohio Wesleyan University. Currently a representative from the Society of American Archivists to the Joint Committee on Archives, Libraries, and Museums, he also serves on the Board of Trustees of Heritage Preservation. Register at: www.wils.wisc.edu/events/#grants