

OWLS Director report

March 19, 2015 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

OWLS Meetings and activities since the last OWLS board meeting include:

- AAC meeting was held on January 16
- I attended the Appleton Public Library board meeting on January 20th
- OWLS participated in the Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference Jan 21 and 22
- OWLS held a Summer Library Program workshop in Waupaca on Jan 23
- I attended Legislative Day and the SRLAAW meeting in Madison Feb 16-17
- I attended the NFLS board meeting on Feb 18
- I attended the Black Creek library board meeting on March 5
- I attended the Shiocton library board meeting on March 11
- OWLS staff visited OWLSnet libraries 19 times since the last OWLS board meeting

OWLS has had an all staff meeting and OWLS professional staff continue to meet every other week to have an information sharing meeting. We're working on scheduling an all-staff lunch. In staff news, Patty's tenure at OWLS is currently one of the longest – she will be having her 20 year anniversary at OWLS on March 20.

Work continues to proceed on Encore. OWL staff have finalized the server specifications and ordered the new server. It arrived in the office on March 10. Dave Bacon is currently installing the server in the server room and installing and configuring the operating system and supporting software and hardware. We'll be working with Innovative soon to start installing the Encore software. At Friday's AAC meeting, Evan Bend will lead a discussion about our choice of Enhanced content.

We've also started the process of replacing the Sierra Application Server, which will be five years old soon.

Anne from OWLS attended Innovative's load table training from March 10-12. I was originally scheduled to attend, but one of Appleton's catalog librarians was able to attend in my place. Since I currently manage the load profiles, this will mean that we have three staff members who can adjust these tables. (These allow us to customize the bibliographic records that we bring into InfoSoup. The more we can customize the records are they are being loaded, the less manual work needs to be done to make the records work for us.)

OWLS has received three LSTA grants for 2015: Support for OWLSnet data circuits (\$14,100), Growing a statewide newspaper portal (\$15,000) and Waupaca County Maker Boxes (\$7,235).

OWLS CE for spring is proceeding nicely, but the current fall schedule is a bit lighter than usual. Because CE is a bit more flexible than other program areas (and we generally offer more than the recommended number of offerings), Bradley has been able to shift her time. She has been assisting with OWLS annual

reports and spending more time on OWLSnet activities than usual. We'll soon be planning more webinars and reaching out to Winnefox and NFLS to see if they wish to collaborate on a large program for fall with an in-person speaker. By the end of summer, we'll need to decide how we want to proceed with CE for 2016.

The Fox Cities Reads book is Orphan Train. Paper copies are available from your local OWLS library, and electronic copies are also available for the e-reader of your choice.