

OWLS Director report

April 21, 2016 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

- March 14-18, Evan Bend returned from the Innovative Users Group meeting. He was able to meet with the new CEO and is cautiously optimistic about the direction that Innovative Interfaces (our Integrated Library System vendor) is taking.
- The OWLSnet AAC meeting was held on March 18 at the Suring Public Library.
 - We discussed a number of changes in Sierra that we're investigating and hope to adopt soon.
 - We've implemented library card expiration notices. This is our first in-house notice (most notices are generated and send by the Sierra software) and the process seems to be going well.
 - For quite some time, we were able to create Marc records from Amazon, but Amazon has pulled the plug on this. So we've been revamping our process in cataloging to adjust.
 - The Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC), Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS), Wisconsin Newspaper Association (WNA) and Recollection Wisconsin are working together to provide digital access to Wisconsin's historical newspapers. A pilot set of content from 11 Wisconsin communities will be available in 2016. The New London Press was one of the papers selected for the pilot. More information can be found at <http://www.wplc.info/sites/wplc.info/files/Summary%20for%20website.pdf>
- April 1, OWLS sponsored an overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and its implications for public libraries.
- April 5, OWLS co-sponsored a webinar on genre Readers Advisory.
- April 22, OWLS and Winnefox will be co-sponsoring the annual CCBC workshop at the Neenah Public Library. To encourage attendance, we're trying something different this year. There will be several breakout sessions in addition to the regular content of Great New Books for Children and Great New books for Older Children and Teens.
- April 4, Evan attended the WPLC Digital Collection meeting. WPLC is considering an increase in member library contributions to the digital buying pool, both to cover additional materials for holds, and to continue the magazine service. No decision has been made yet, but this will be going to the WPLC steering committee.
- On April 10, OWLS will be hosting a Webinar with a representative from Unique Management, a library focused collection agency. Libraries at the AAC meeting expressed a great deal of interest in implementing a collection agency in OWLSnet, and OWLS staff are working on developing a process to do so.
- The SAM 10 (PC Management software), Windows 10, ESET Antivirus upgrade project is going well. Due to issues with Windows 10, we've scaled back on the number of computers that will be upgraded to Windows 10 during the free upgrade period.
- A new director has been hired for the Black Creek Library. OWLS staff are taking this opportunity to revamp our new director orientation process.

OWLSnet agreements

We're still waiting to receive the signed OWLSnet agreements from the Farnsworth Library.

OWLS board appointments

OWLS is still searching for a board member from Waupaca County. Outagamie County will be appointing a new board member as well.