2009 Washington Rural Heritage grants

Washington Rural Heritage (WRH) is an initiative that supports small and rural libraries in the development of digital projects that aim to serve historically unique items and collections online. Primary candidate institutions are those without the means to digitize and serve online such items without outside support. The initiative encourages collaborative efforts between eligible public libraries and collaborative partners in the community (e.g., museums, genealogy societies, schools, etc.).

Grant: 09-WRH-001   **Award:** $6,144
Organization: Columbia County Rural Library District
Title: Cemeteries throughout Columbia County

Abstract: Columbia County Rural Library District will be collaborating with Blue Mountain Heritage Society and the City of Dayton to digitize cemetery records in the Dayton City Cemetery and various county cemeteries, including Bundy Hollow; Covello; Highland; Huntsville; Marengo; Pioneer; Smith Hollow; Starbuck; and Turner cemeteries. The digitization project will make these cemetery records available to a wider range of people who want information on cemetery records from the City of Dayton Cemetery and other county cemeteries.

Grant: 09-WRH-002   **Award:** $8,500
Organization: Whitman County Library
Title: Whitman County Library Historical Archive Digitization Project

Abstract: Whitman County Library will expand their current collections in Washington Rural Heritage to include items from all branches of the Whitman County Library as well as the county's small museums, historical societies, and citizen's private collections. Currently, items are only from Colfax, Tekoa and St. John. Project staff will meet with citizens and representatives of every incorporated town or city in Whitman County to collect items of local and historic content and value.

Grant: 09-WRH-003   **Award:** $7,160
Organization: Benton City Branch, Mid-Columbia Libraries
Title: Time For Centennial and Jubilee: The Benton City History Project

Abstract: The Benton City Branch Library will partner with the Benton City Historical Society (BCHS) and the Karolina Lorz Foundation to develop a repository of local history, focusing on several distinct facets of early life in the community. These sub-collections, comprised of photographs, letters, records and memorabilia, will include: Construction of the Kiona-Benton Irrigation Canal (1889); Stockyard Sales and the Northern Pacific Railroad (1884-1959); Home Canning Project (1929); Early Benton City Structures; and School Yearbooks (beginning in 1909).

Grant: 09-WRH-004   **Award:** $6,000
Organization: Denny Ashby Public Library
Title: Historic Photos of Garfield County: Country Schools and the Mayview Tramway

Abstract: The Denny Ashby Library will partner with local historian Lynn Leaverton, the Eastern Washington Agricultural Museum, and the Garfield County Museum to create a digital collection of a minimum of 100 photographs. This project will focus on preserving two valuable pieces of Garfield County history: photos of schoolhouses around the county then and now; and photos of the Mayview Tramway, a feature unique to farming in Garfield County before the advent of the railroad and trucking.

Grant: 09-WRH-008   **Award:** $3,500
Organization: Metalines Community Library, Pend Oreille County Library District
Title: North Pend Oreille Historical Photo Collection

Abstract: The Metalines Community Library was gifted a collection of local historical photographs from two local historians a number of years ago and has been working with the Friends of the Metalines Library to preserve this local heritage ever since. Out of 1,000 or more photographs, 200 will be selected to make up the North Pend Oreille Historical Photo Collection.

Grant: 09-WRH-009   **Award:** $6,477
Organization: Fort Vancouver Regional Library
Title: Stevenson/North Bonneville Community Libraries Historical Items Digitization Project

Abstract: Stevenson/North Bonneville Community Library staff members will work with Friends of the Library, City of North Bonneville employees, and the Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center Museum to collect and digitize items of local historical significance, including hand-typed volumes as well as early photographs of the area and its inhabitants. A significant collection of photographs documenting the building of Bonneville Dam is held in boxes at City Hall in North Bonneville.

Grant: 09-WRH-010   **Award:** $9,756
Organization: Ellensburg Public Library, City of Ellensburg
Title: Kittitas County Historic Transportation Photograph Collection

Abstract: Ellensburg Public Library staff will describe and digitize approximately 550 historic transportation photographs. Transportation had a major impact on the growth of Ellensburg and Kittitas County, and many modes of travel will be represented in the collection, including horses, trains, steamboats, automobiles and early aircraft.

Grant: 09-WRH-011   **Award:** $5,750
Organization: Cathlamet Public Library
Title: Saving & Sharing Wahkiakum's Past for the Future

Abstract: Cathlamet Public Library, Wahkiakum County Historical Society, and other interested citizens will work together to digitize and upload 500 photos representative of the county's history in categories including fishing, river life, forestry, Native Americans, and pioneers.