

2014 Washington Rural Heritage Grants

Washington Rural Heritage (WRH) is a Washington State Library program supporting small and rural libraries in the development of online digital collections of historically significant materials. 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 community partners (e.g., museums, genealogy societies, schools, etc.).

Explore the collection at: www.washingtonruralheritage.org

Total funds requested, 2014: \$82,139

Total awarded: \$49,867

Grant: 14-WRH-001 **Award:** \$2,820

Organization: Whitman County Library

Title: Whitman County Library Historical Digitization Project

Abstract: Whitman County Library (WCL) will partner with the Staley Museum to digitize their photo collection. This collection features family photos and photos of the Staley, Washington area in Whitman County. Additionally, WCL will digitize photos from private collections featuring the late State Senator Eugene Prince of Thornton, Washington, photos of the towns of Farmington and Almota, Washington, and photos of the southern part of the county around the Onecho area.

Grant: 14-WRH-002 **Award:** \$4,077

Organization: Kettle Falls Public Library, Libraries of Stevens County

Title: U.S. Forest Service, Colville National Forest

Abstract: Libraries of Stevens County in partnership with the US Forest Service, Colville National Forest will digitize historical photographs, documents and maps stored in the Heritage Department at the Forest Service Headquarters in Colville, WA. Some of the noteworthy examples include: historic photographs from the 1900s to 1950s that feature the activities of timber survey crews, firefighting crews, forest rangers, fire lookout staff and the lookout towers. Additionally, there are historic documents of logging and forest management activities, original homesteading cards, grazing allotments, cattle activities and some pre-1960 historic maps of the forest and stock driving trails.

Grant: 14-WRH-003 **Award:** \$6,790

Organization: Deming Library, Whatcom County Library System

Title: Nessel Family Photo Collection

Abstract: The Deming Library, a branch of the Whatcom County Library System, and the Nessel Family Trust propose to preserve and share the historic Nessel Family photo collection with our local community and the world through the digital archives of the Washington Rural Heritage website. These images of an original pioneer family and their farmstead have immeasurable value as a primary source of local history and also support the historic significance of the newly created South Fork Park, the newest installment to Whatcom County's parks system. Trustee of the Nessel Family Trust, Russ Pfeiffer-Hoyt, will provide the photo originals and help with identification and labeling of photo subjects.

Grant: 14-WRH-004 **Award:** \$7,580

Organization: Columbia County Rural Library District

Title: Walla Walla Valley Family Histories

Abstract: The Columbia County Rural Library District (Dayton, WA) will work with the Blue Mountain Heritage Society and the Dayton Historic Depot to digitize a portion of the library's collection of some 40,000 documents relating to Columbia County family histories and to solicit documents from the public relating to family histories to digitize. These documents may include recordings, photographs, letters, transcribed stories, etc.

Grant: 14-WRH-007 **Award:** \$9,975

Organization: Orcas Island Public Library

Title: Camp Moran and the Boys of the CCC, 1933-1941

Abstract: This project will digitize a minimum of 100 photographs and documents related to the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) project on Orcas Island active from 1933 to 1941. The Library will partner with the Orcas Island Historical Society and Museum to digitize photographs and upload them to the Washington Rural Heritage website, erect a display in the library, and use the materials for public education and elementary school education.

Grant: 14-WRH-008 **Award:** \$7,500

Organization: Roslyn Public Library

Title: Roslyn Museum Collection

Abstract: The Roslyn Public Library will digitize images from the collection of the Roslyn Museum. The Museum has thousands of images and objects related to the local history of the Roslyn area. This will be the first partnership between the library and museum. Selection, digitization, and cataloging will be done by existing library staff and sub-contractors.

Grant: 14-WRH-0010 **Award:** \$6,175

Organization: Spokane County Library District, Medical Lake Library

Title: Early History of Medical Lake

Abstract: Spokane County Library District (SCLD), in partnership with the Medical Lake Historical Society, proposes to select and digitize 100 items belonging to the Historical Society. Selected items will include photographs, documents, small format physical artifacts such as product packaging and souvenirs, and other ephemera related to the early history of the City of Medical Lake, particularly regarding its role as a destination health spa circa 1880 - 1910.

Grant: 14-WRH-0011 **Award:** \$4,950

Organization: Puyallup Public Library

Title: Samuel D. Sanders Collection and Agricultural Collection

Abstract: In 2012, The Puyallup Public Library initiated a proposal to community historical groups to join in an effort to digitize image collections that would be maintained on one centralized database and website for the enjoyment and research needs of members of our community. Our project started with a generous gift of \$12,000 from the Korum Family Foundation and we started with the Library collection. These initial funds were used to purchase equipment such as a flatbed scanner, image software, and external hard drive. We have completed digitization of 235 photographs but have a long way to go. Receipt of a Washington Rural heritage Grant would move us closer to completion of our goal.