INTERIM REPORT – The Ohio Story Scripts: Bringing Old Radio Back to Life
Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board SNAP Grant
Friday, August 29, 2014

Ohio Genealogical Society
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The Ohio Genealogical Society received $2000 for a $4000 project to scan and post the Ohio Story Scripts. This is a series of 1309 brief radio broadcasts that ran in Cleveland from 1947 through 1955 on general interest Ohio history. Each script is normally 8 pages. The program was developed by Frank Seidel and was sponsored by the Ohio Bell Telephone Company and WTAM Radio, Cleveland. A set of scripts (although incomplete) was donated to OGS by Jonathan Seidel, son of the author.

RESULTS: Project dates were set for Apr. 7th (earliest date to use funding) through Dec. 31, 2014. At the midway point, we have completed 60% of scanning and posting of Ohio Story scripts in the OGS Archives; however, only 6.24% of the metadata entry has been completed. We will concentrate on this as soon as scanning is completed. The two published Ohio Story volumes by Mr. Seidel (Cleveland: World Publishing, 1953) have been scanned and are currently in a holding file on the OGS web site. $2368.50 has been expended to date on the project or 59% of the project budget - nearly all intern wages.

We initially were planning to work with the Western Reserve Historical Society to see if any of the 76 episodes that they hold were among those we were missing, but we since have discovered that both the Ohio Historical Society and the Columbus Metropolitan Library also have sets. We will work with one of those two institutions to fill in missing script issues, but our goal is to get our own holdings completed during the grant period.

We have had three interns work on the project to date. We were lucky that all three had MLIS degrees but unlucky that the job market is looking much better in the Mansfield area and they are finding permanent employment. Aaron Turner, Lexington, worked from April to June and set up the project. He continues to train new help and assist with any technical problems. Nancy Strayer, Bellville, and Deb Phillips, Galion, were hired in July to speed things up. Deb has accepted a school library position in Columbus and left this month. Nancy is currently the only one putting in time, but we are looking at a second intern to hire.

We acquired Omeka software which was loaded by Carla Cegielski, OGS webmaster. She set up a separate web page – www.ogsarchive.org The plan is to use this site for other public projects once the Ohio Story Scripts project is completed. We do not have any images (other than the script scans) on the web site yet in order to dress it up. It has not yet been released to the public or publicized (although it is accessible).

We have completed working instructions to the scanning process including cropping, OCR, and web optimization and have written guidelines in place for placement on the content management software. We have made attempts to contact interested parties for further information. The donor has been approached – no reply. The individual who placed sample programs (later television version) on YouTube has also not responded. The successors to Ohio Bell and World Publishing offered no knowledge of their involvement. We decided not to expand the partial geographical index that came with the collection since the software has subject fields and (keyword) tags that are both easily searchable.

In the next four months, we plan to complete scanning and the major entries in the metadata. We plan to work with other institutions to fill in the episodes that we are missing. We plan to finalize the finding aid for the collection. Our former school library intern initiated a lesson plan for "Using the Ohio Story in the Class Room" and we plan to complete this as a value-added section to the project. We will open the www.ogsarchive.org web site to the public and promote the project grant.

Tom Neel, Library Director
August 28, 2014

THE OHIO STORY SCANNING PROJECT - OGS MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION #218

Year	VOL	NO	EPISODE #'s	Scanned	Record Entered into OGSARCHIVE*	FINISHED in OGSARCHIVE	TOTAL # EPISODES	MISSING - estimated	NOTES
MSS 218 - Box 1									
1947	1	1	1-37	37	37	32	37		AT
1947	1	2					39	39	MISSING ALL
1947	1	3					39	39	MISSING ALL
1947	1	4	116-155	40	26	24	40		AT
1948	2	1	156-194	39	39		39		
1948	2	2	195-234	40	40		40		
1948	2	3	235-270	36	36		36		NS
MSS 218 - Box 2									
1948	2	4					42	42	MISSING ALL
1949	3	1	313-350	38	38		38		NS -Missing No. 351
1949	3	2	352-389	39	39		39		NS
1949	3	3	390-429	39	39		40		NS -- missing No. 425, need cleaner copy of No. 392 pg2
1949	3	4					39	39	
1950	4	1	469-507	39	39		39		ns
1950	4	2	508-546	39	39		39		ns
MSS 218 - Box 3									
1950	4	3	547-585	39	39		39		ns
1950	4	4					39	39	MISSING ALL
1951	5	1	625-663	39	39		39		ns
1951	5	2	664-702	36	36		39	3	ns - missing No 688, No 689, No 690
1951	5	3	703-741	38	38		39	1	ns - missing No 714 pg 5
MSS 218 - Box 4									
1951	5	4	742-781				40		
1952	6	1					59	59	MISSING ALL
1952	6	2					58	58	MISSING ALL
1952	6	3	899-938				40		
1953	7	1	939-989				51		
1953	7	2	990-1042				53		
1953	7	3					40	40	MISSING ALL
1954	8	1	1096-1144				49		
1954	8	2					53	53	MISSING ALL
1954	8	3	1185-1224				40		
1955	9	1	1228-1309				85		

			TOTALS	538	524	56	1309	412	
			PERCENT COMPLETE	59.98%	58.42%	6.24%			(Figures for issues in OGS Collection)
			PERCENT COMPLETE	41.10%	40.03%	4.28%			(Figures for entire project including missing issues)

* still need some fields completed and subject headings and tags assigned