

OWLS Director report

March 17, 2016 OWLS Board of Trustees Meeting

- The Outagamie County Library Service Plan was adopted by the County Board on Feb 9 and locked in on Feb 23
- On Feb 24, OWLS hosted a Continuing Education event on Hiring and Supervising in Small Libraries at the Hortonville Public Library
- On Feb 25, OWLS co-sponsored a Webinar on Reader's Advisory for All
- On March 15, OWLS and Winnefox will be sponsoring an all-day event at the Ripon Public Library on Graphic Design and Marketing Your Library Effectively
- On Feb 15 to Feb 26, Dave and Julie helped the Kaukauna Library set up their new computers and upgrade the new and existing computers to Windows 10, as well as the new versions of Eset and SAM
- On Feb 29, Bradley and I visited the Kaukauna Public Library to celebrate their grand opening. You can see pictures of the event on the OWLS Facebook page. Congratulations to Kaukauna on their beautiful new library!
- Evan and Anne have been working on updating the process OWLS uses to obtain bibliographic records for member libraries and whittling down the backlog. They've held several webinars over the last month to discuss some revised procedures.
- On March 4, I met with representatives of Outagamie County to discuss the payments between Outagamie and Brown County.
- On March 8, I visited the Sturm Memorial Library in Manawa, and met with their Director. I also attended the library board meeting. They are working on long range plan with a representative from UW-Extension and since this is something other OWLS libraries have expressed interest in, I've asked to put be in touch with that representative.

Software update project

OWLS staff have been working on a number of simultaneous software updates, including Windows 10, SAM computer management software from Comprise, ESET Antivirus, and Deep Freeze hard drive protection. It's a lot of software to update all at once, and not all of the programs are playing well with each other. Our sense of urgency has been driven by Microsoft's limited free upgrade, which expires on July 29. The plan was to update all of the OWLSnet computers to Windows 10 in time to get the free upgrade, but with all of the hiccups, that no longer seems possible. We've made lots of progress. The Deep Freeze update is complete, and we're on our way with SAM and ESET. At this point, we feel that we're devoting as many resources to the problem as we can. We'll be making some decisions in the near future about which computers can and should be upgraded to Windows 10. And, even if we miss the deadline, it's possible that Microsoft will extend it.

New Kaukauna Library

On Feb 29, Bradley and I visited the Kaukauna Public Library to celebrate their grand opening. You can see pictures of the event on the OWLS Facebook page. Congratulations to Kaukauna on their beautiful new library!

OWLSnet agreements

We have received all of the signed OWLSnet agreements back from NFLS libraries with the exception of the Farnsworth Library. NFLS believes they have received it, and are actively looking for it.

OWLS board appointments

OWLS is still searching for one board member from Outagamie County and one from Waupaca County. I'd like assistance from the board in filling these positions and keeping in mind the need for replacement board members on an ongoing basis.