

**NDNP Awardee Interim Performance Report**  
(September 1, 2012–February 28, 2013)

**NEH Award Number:** PJ-50039-08

**NDNP State:** Ohio

**Submitted By:** Jenni Salamon, Project Coordinator

**Report Date:** March 31, 2013

**INTERIM PERFORMANCE REPORT NARRATIVE**

1. *Describe any changes that you have made or that you anticipate making in the project work plan or methodology from the award proposal submitted to the competition.*

One change has been made to the overall project work plan established in the grant proposal for round three of the National Digital Newspaper Program in Ohio: The first topical screencast that was scheduled to be released in November 2012 will now be released in March 2013. The delay in the video's release has allowed project staff to consult extensively with the project's advisory board members as well as staff from the Education & Outreach Division of the Ohio Historical Society in order to create an end-product that will be most useful to a wide range of audiences. We anticipate completing all other screencasts according to the schedule established in the Revised Work Plan that was submitted to the Library of Congress and National Endowment for the Humanities on November 29, 2012.

The methodology of the project as it relates to microfilm preparation, quality control processes and general workflow procedures remains the same as it was during both previous grant cycles.

2. *Please describe any selection or film acquisition/evaluation activities during the performance period.*

The advisory board convened on October 15, 2012 to learn about goals and updates to the project and to review the selection materials that had been distributed in August 2012. The advisory board was asked to focus their selection on papers from counties not already represented on *Chronicling America* and that were published between 1836 and 1860. During this meeting, advisory board members were also asked to select a sample reel from a list of four newspapers that represented alternate political viewpoints. A Communist paper published in Cleveland, the *Toiler* (sn88078683), from January 7, 1920 to September 3, 1921, was selected.

At the December 13, 2012 meeting, 42 papers representing 35 counties were identified for selection, pending additional quality checks. In an effort to select high quality papers and reach the 100,000 page mandate, multiple papers from outside the 1836 to 1860 time period were selected. Nearly all of the selections represent new counties.

During this time, NDNP staff performed full pre- and post-duplication assessment of the sample reel (*Toiler*), including density readings and collation. In addition, preliminary quality checks were performed on all titles identified for selection at the December 7, 2010 meeting. These evaluation activities included the review of both positive use copies and master negatives. This allowed staff to finalize the selection list by eliminating those papers with poor technical readings, incomplete runs or other quality issues. The selection list was finalized in early February and includes 32 titles/title families spanning 1836 to 1921 covering 25 counties.

Pre- and post-duplication microfilm assessment, including density readings and full collation, was performed on the following papers:

<b>Title</b>	<b>LCCN</b>	<b># of Rolls</b>
Eaton Democrat (series)	sn84028570, sn85026031, sn88077265, sn85034457, sn88077272	10
Ashland Union (series)	sn83035172, sn83035173, sn83035174	6

3. *Describe any specific award activities that have taken place between collaborating institutions in your state.*

As discussed in section 2, the advisory board has convened twice since the last report. Regional advisory board members, each representing one of the ten Ohio Local History Alliance (OHLA) regions, worked with local stakeholders to compile Top Five Lists of significant papers from their regions. These lists guided selections at the December 13, 2012 meeting. Through this process, over 50 papers were identified for consideration by the entire board.

Advisory board members also offered feedback on the proposed plans for the topical screencast videos, including suggestions for topics that could be featured in the videos. Based on their advice, NDNP-OH staff determined that the general subject areas of the videos would be: transportation, sports, domestic life and science.

4. *Describe specifically your progress in conversion and/or vendor selection (attach documentation as desired).*

Contracts with Bowling Green State University for microfilm duplication services and iArchives for digitization and metadata creation services were renewed in September 2012. Both companies have proven to be exemplary partners in our project, allowing us to create high quality deliverables and meet our monthly production goals.

The sample reel (*Toiler*) was digitized in November 2012 and quality review on the reel was completed in early January 2013. It was sent to LC for review on January 17, 2013 and accepted by LC in February.

<b>Batch Name</b>	<b># of Reels sent to Vendor</b>	<b># of Images Received</b>
2012sample	1	654

The first batch of film for digitization under the 2012-2014 grant cycle will arrive at iArchives at the beginning of March.

5. *Do you have any questions or comments regarding the use of the tools provided by LC (Digital Viewer Validation)?*

We do not have any questions or comments regarding the DVV at this time, but will contact LC if we do.

6. Provide an update on your planned schedule for delivery of digital assets to the NDNP repository. Include anticipated number of files to be delivered and planned means of delivery or transfer. (Keep in mind the delivery deadlines noted in the Cooperative Agreement Document, but also take into consideration your own resources and workflow plans. LC requests that you plan to deliver new data monthly, with one batch per hard drive. Batches that have been submitted and require rework should be shipped to LC as soon as fixes are complete (send more than one hard drive at a time, if needed).

Processing of monthly deliverables (approximately 8,000-10,000 images per batch) began in February, and the first batch is expected to be delivered to the Library of Congress by the beginning of April 2013. Batches will arrive via external hard drive and continue until the project is complete with a goal of submitting one batch every four to six weeks. An anticipated batch schedule was submitted to the Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities on November 29, 2012. An updated version, including titles and estimated page counts, is provided below.

<b>Batch Name</b>	<b>Paper Titles</b>	<b>Approximate Image Count</b>	<b>Anticipated Date Sent to LC</b>
arnarson	<i>Ashland Union</i> (series) <i>Eaton Democrat</i> (series)	8,000	May 2013
byrd	<i>Woodsfield Spirit of Democracy</i>	9,000	June 2013
cousteau	<i>Canal Dover Ohio Democrat</i> (series) <i>Steubenville True American</i> (series) <i>Wellington Enterprise</i> (series) <i>Cleveland Toiler</i>	8,000	July 2013
drake	<i>Lancaster Gazette</i> (series) <i>Meigs County Telegraph</i> (series) <i>Portsmouth Inquirer</i> <i>Ironton Spirit of the Times</i>	8,500	August 2013
ericson	<i>Tägliches Cincinnati Volksblatt</i>	10,500	September 2013
fu	<i>Kalida Venture</i> <i>Maumee Express</i> (series) <i>Ravenna Democratic Press</i> <i>Ravenna Ohio Star</i> <i>Portage County Democrat</i> <i>Ravenna Western Courier</i>	8,000	October 2013
gann	<i>Georgetown Democratic Standard</i> <i>Greenville Journal</i> <i>Cincinnati Organ of the Temperance Reform</i> (series) <i>Portage Sentinel</i> (series)	9,000	November 2013
himilco	<i>Cincinnati Star</i> (series) <i>Medina Sentinel</i>	10,000	December 2013
ingstad	<i>Napoleon Democratic Northwest</i> (series) <i>Fremont Freeman</i> (series) <i>Plymouth Advertiser</i>	8,000	January 2014
julian	<i>Cadiz Sentinel</i> (series) <i>Delaware Gazette</i>	7,000	February 2014
konscak	<i>Carroll Free Press</i> <i>Jackson Standard</i> (series)	7,000	April 2014
laing	<i>Somerset Press</i> <i>Wyandot Pioneer</i> (series)	7,000	May 2014

7. *State briefly the status of any other digitized newspaper activities in your or collaborating partners' institutions (non-NDNP-funded).*

NDNP-OH staff has continued to work with the Amherst Public Library to digitize additional issues of the *Amherst News-Times* to NDNP technical specifications. During January and February 2013, staff processed four reels of content (approximately 4,000 pages) which will be added to *Ohio Memory* in April. It can be viewed at the following URL:

<http://www.ohiomemory.org/amherstnewstimes/>

The content digitized for the Public Library of Mount Vernon and Knox County (*Mount Vernon Democratic Banner*, 1858-1865; *Mount Vernon Republican*, 1855-1865) last summer was added to *Ohio Memory* in December 2012 and can be viewed at the following URL:

<http://www.ohiomemory.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16007coll16>

In September 2012, the Ohio Historical Society (OHS) received funding from the State Library of Ohio through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) to microfilm and digitize, using the NDNP technical specifications, approximately 50 years' worth (1832-1879) of the Columbus *Ohio State Journal*. This title had been identified by the NDNP-OH advisory board as significant on local, state and national levels during the 2010-2012 newspaper selection process, but was not able to be included on *Chronicling America* because OHS did not have access to the paper's master negative microfilm reels.

Production on this project began in October 2012 and will be completed by September 2013. Interns have been hired to assist with the preparation of the original materials for off-site microfilming, pre-digitization microfilm preparation and post-digitization quality review. Once digitized, the paper will be made available on *Ohio Memory*. As part of this project, OHS will also be offering two webinars and/or workshops about newspaper digitization. This will raise awareness in local libraries, historical societies and other cultural heritage institutions regarding newspaper digitization standards and project management.

OHS has also partnered with the Columbus Metropolitan Library to digitize a portion of the Columbus *Ohio State News* (1944-1952) to the NDNP technical specifications. The title is a significant African-American title, and this project is part of the Columbus Metropolitan Library's larger effort to create a digital collection that chronicles the history of the African-American community in Columbus. Pre-digitization preparation work on this project was completed in January 2013, and digitization was completed in February. The Columbus Metropolitan Library plans to make this content available in their CONTENTdm system in late spring or early summer.

NDNP-OH staff continues to be in contact with institutions around the state to provide advice regarding their potential newspaper digitization projects. Our participation in NDNP has allowed us to act as a resource for smaller institutions that would like to have their newspapers digitized and available online.

8. Please provide copies of or URLs for any public presentations or publications on topics related to your participation in NDNP (or describe future plans for such).

Since the last report, NDNP-OH staff members have made the following presentation:

- **2012 Ohio Genealogical Society Genealogy Librarians' Seminar (October 12, 2012).** Staff provided an overview of the National Digital Newspaper Program, demonstrated how to use *Chronicling America* and talked about how local institutions can have their newspapers digitized. A copy of this presentation has been made available on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki: <http://tinyurl.com/93dfp7d>.

Upcoming presentations include:

- **NORWELD Digitization 101 Workshop (March 28, 2013):** Staff will provide an overview of the National Digital Newspaper Program and a short introduction to newspaper digitization.
- **2013 Society of Ohio Archivists Annual Spring Meeting (April 5):** Staff will participate in a shortened session about the Ohio Historical Society's participation in the National Digital Newspaper Program.
- **2013 MAC Annual Meeting (April 20):** Staff will participate in a Lightning Round session discussing how the National Digital Newspaper Program in Ohio's efforts to make available and promote Civil War resources.
- **2013 Ohio Genealogical Society Conference (April 26).** 1 hour lecture demonstrating how to search Ohio's newspapers in *Chronicling America* for genealogy research.
- **OHIONET Webinar (July 30):** Staff will provide an overview of the National Digital Newspaper Program, discuss a non-NDNP newspaper digitization project and talk about newspaper digitization.

These presentations provide us with opportunities to increase awareness of *Chronicling America*, NDNP and newspaper digitization projects in general to a variety of audiences.

Project staff has also been promoting the project through the Ohio Historical Society Collections Blog and press releases. Links to these items are provided on the NDNP-OH Project Wiki at:

[http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ondp/index.php?title=Press\\_Releases](http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ondp/index.php?title=Press_Releases).

NDNP-OH staff has continued to develop content on the Ohio Digital Newspaper Portal:

<http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/odnp>

- Information about the 2012-2014 selections has been added to the Ohio's Digitized Newspapers page: <http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/odnp/newspapers>
- More content has been added to the Educational Resources section, including additional subject guides covering topics such as Ohio's governors, sports teams and significant historic sites. Please see: <http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/odnp/resources>

This web presence is connected to *Ohio Memory* and seeks to provide users with information about digitized newspapers, educational resources and information about newspaper digitization. Content is added on a regular basis.

In support of the National Endowment for the Humanities' *Chronicling America* History Day Prize, the Ohio Historical Society will be offering a similar prize at Ohio History Day on April 27, 2013. This prize will recognize exceptional use of primary resources available on *Chronicling America* and/or *Ohio Memory* in the

development of a student's Ohio History Day Project. A prize will be offered for the best individual or group project in each of the Junior and Senior Divisions.

9. *Describe any follow-up issues or questions you would like convey to the NDNP program committee.*

Though we do not have any issues or questions at this time, we would like to inform NEH that we are planning to submit a revised budget that reflects award amount changes. We invite any comments and feedback and look forward to the continued development and success of the National Digital Newspaper Program in Ohio.