



Meet the Mobile Memory Lab

Kat Anderberg, CMC Metadata Cataloger

Online With the CMC – August 8, 2024



Hello everyone, welcome to this month's Online With the CMC. Today's topic is Meet the Mobile Memory Lab. My name is Kat Anderberg, and I am the Metadata Cataloger here at the Cataloging Maintenance Center. Today I'll tell you about the Mobile Memory Lab and show you some of the incredible materials that Illinois residents have shared with the world through the Mobile Memory Lab and Illinois Digital Archives.

Digitization Days



The Mobile Memory Lab is an IHLS program that partners with libraries across Illinois to help individuals share their local history and genealogical materials through on-site Digitization Day events and inclusion of digitized materials in Illinois Digital Archives. The Mobile Memory Lab is able to digitize photographs and slides, letters and other documents, and small items, or realia, such as ceramics, figurines, and glassware. In March of 2023, IHLS received a \$4,000 grant from Illinois Humanities to help launch the Mobile Memory Lab. With this grant we were able to purchase two flatbed scanners, a

digital camera, and a light box. The grant also paid for overnight travel to the three participating libraries we worked with during this pilot year—Marshall Public Library, Sparta Public Library, and Hayner Public Library: Genealogy & Local History Library. Pictured here on the left is myself and a donor, discussing materials she brought in to be digitized, and on the right is a pile of photographs and documents waiting to be scanned.

Digitization Days



During a Digitization Day, library users sign up for a 30-minute appointment to have their materials digitized. Documents, photographs, and other flat materials are scanned on our Epson Perfection V600 scanner. Three-dimensional materials are placed in our Puluz Portable Studio Light Box and photographed with our Sony Cyber-Shot DSCW810 camera. For software, we use the EPSON Scan and Adobe Photoshop to edit images. We ask donors to share any information they have about their materials with us—names of people photographed, dates—exact or approximate—that materials were created, and any stories they have connected with the materials they’re sharing. Mobile Memory Lab staff record all of this information to be used to generate the descriptive metadata for the materials back in the office prior to collections being uploaded to Illinois Digital Archives. The picture on the left shows me scanning a document while discussing materials with the donor, and the picture on the right shows me photographing a scrapbook in the Mobile Memory Lab’s light box.

Digitization Days



On the left is one of our donors preparing materials to be scanned, and on the right is a picture of me adding scanned images into donor-specific folders on my computer.

Marshall Public Library—Dwight Eugene Washburn



Our first Digitization Day was held at Marshall Public Library. These two items were donated by Jamie Poorman. On the left is a picture of her father, Dwight Eugene Washburn, and on the right is a shadowbox Jamie made containing the medals he received during his service.

Marshall Public Library—Dog ‘N’ Suds



We also were able to digitize several photographs and artifacts from the Dog ‘N’ Suds restaurant in Marshall, Illinois, which was owned and operated by Dan and Rojean Harlow for 20-25 years. On the right is a photograph of the restaurant with cars pulled in to eat, and on the left is a novelty wall plaque of the Dog ‘N’ Suds mascot, Pluto, which was sold by the restaurant. These items were donated by Daralea Smith.

Marshall Public Library—Dog 'N' Suds



Here are two more objects donated by Daralea Smith. On the left is a photograph of the Dog 'N' Suds bowling team, and on the right is a collection of Dog 'N' Suds glass mugs, in three sizes.

Marshall Public Library—Ration Book

420731 ED UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION
WAR RATION BOOK TWO
IDENTIFICATION

May Annie Thornburgh
(Name of person to whom book is issued)
R R 2
(Street number or rural route)

Martinsville, Illinois 72 *June* 420731ED
(City or post office) (State) (Year) (Stamp)

ISSUED BY LOCAL BOARD NO. *62121* *Clark* *Illinois*
(Number) (Name) (State)

R R 2
(Street address of local board)

By *Wade M. Thornburgh School Dist. 85*
(Signature of local officer)

SIGNATURE *May O. Thornburgh*
(To be signed by the person to whom this book is issued. If such person is unable to sign because of age or incapacity, another may sign in his behalf)

WARNING

1. This book is the property of the United States Government. It is unlawful to sell or give it to any other person or to use it or permit anyone else to use it, except to obtain rationed goods for the person to whom it was issued.
2. This book must be returned to the War Price and Rationing Board which issued it, if the person to whom it was issued is inducted into the armed services of the United States, or leaves the country for more than 30 days, or dies. The address of the Board appears above.
3. A person who finds a lost War Ration Book must return it to the War Price and Rationing Board which issued it.
4. PERSONS WHO VIOLATE RATIONING REGULATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO \$10,000 FINE OR IMPRISONMENT, OR BOTH.

OPA FORM NO. 12-122 16-50827-1

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This book is valuable. Do not lose it.
2. Each stamp authorizes you to purchase rationed goods in the quantities and at the times designated by the Office of Price Administration. Without the stamps you will be unable to purchase those goods.
3. Detailed instructions concerning the use of the book and the stamps will be issued from time to time. Watch for those instructions so that you will know how to use your book and stamps.
4. Do not tear out stamps except at the time of purchase and in the presence of the storekeeper, his employee, or a person authorized by him to make delivery.
5. Do not throw this book away when all of the stamps have been used, or when the time for their use has expired. You may be required to present this book when you apply for subsequent books.

Rationing is a vital part of your country's war effort. This book is your Government's guarantee of your fair share of goods made scarce by war, to which the stamps contained herein will be assigned as the need arises.

Any attempt to violate the rules is an effort to deny someone his share and will create hardship and discontent.

Such action, like treason, helps the enemy.

Give your whole support to rationing and thereby conserve our vital goods. Be guided by the rule:

"If you don't need it, DON'T BUY IT."

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1942 16-50827-1



This is a ration book from World War II, issued to May Thornburgh. On the front is her identifying information, as well as the number of the local board that issued the book. On the back are instructions for the use of the stamps.

Marshall Public Library—Ration Book



Here is the interior of the ration book, which still has quite a few stamps in it. This ration book was donated by Brett Thornburg.

Marshall Public Library—Seymour Hurst Home



These photographs of the Seymour Hurst Home in Marshall, Illinois, were donated by Nancy Claypool. The photograph on the left shows the Hurst family posing at the front of their home, and the photograph on the right shows the garden in the back of the home.

Marshall Public Library—The Bird Brothers

Dear Brother:
I just came in from
of 9:00 C.A. I boxed with two
fellows that is 2 rounds
each. Oh you lost with i
far got to duck.
I caught a left hook to the
nose an eye an the blood
did fly. He didnt caught
me with the mitt but with
his fist an my arm I got
a good black eye but it is
about gone.
I hope Bub is getting along
alright.

I was going to go to the
Prater an get a glass of
beer but I thought it better
answer your letter.
We all will have now
of course we has are colds
now and then.
uncle Joe just came in from
avogates, it is 11:30
Say Birdie dont forget
to let me know when the
rail road starts for it I
dont have some thing better
than this I want to let them
well I just about run
out some to nit about.
Oh yes it snowed yesterday

an today but this isnt
so much on the ground
an it isnt so cold.
Tell Hagle an Bub I said
hello an that i was glad
that Hagle rite ~~what~~ what
little she did do better next
time rite a page or more
well I dont know when i will
be down but will make
up there when i do come home

With Love
as every
Bennie



Edie Breneman shared a collection of materials from her father, Bennie Bird, and his brother, Clarence “Birdie” Bird. This is a letter written by Bennie to Birdie sometime around the 1930s. On the first page of this letter, Bennie talks about boxing with two men at the YMCA and catching a left hook to his nose and eye, resulting in a black eye.

Marshall Public Library—The Bird Brothers



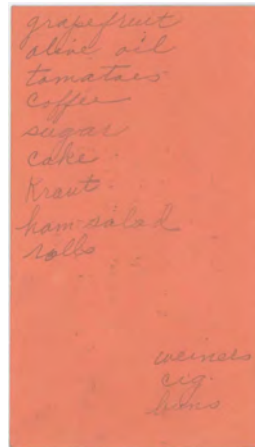
On the left here is a photograph of Bennie Bird, and on the right is a photograph of Clarence “Birdie” Bird in his army uniform. Both photographs were donated by Edie Breneman.

Sparta Public Library—Flood of 1903, Chester, Ill.



These three pictures, shared during our second Digitization Day which was held at Sparta Public Library, depict scenes from Chester, Illinois, during the Flood of 1903. Shown here are three men standing in shallow floodwaters, a boat tied to a no parking sign, and a truck in the middle of the road. All three of these photographs were donated by Anne Bourner.

Sparta Public Library—Dance Recital Ticket



Another fun item from the Sparta Public Library Digitization Day is this dance recital ticket from 1938. The dance school was owned by the donor's mother, Oleta Carlyle Bourner, and something I really love about this item is the grocery list written on the back, reminding Oleta to get grapefruit, olive oil, tomatoes, coffee, sugar, cake, kraut, ham salad, rolls, wieners, cigarettes, and buns. This item was donated by Anne Bourner.

Sparta Public Library—World War I



I was also able to digitize these incredible photographs from World War I. On the left we have a picture of a Christmas party, and on the right is a picture of the barracks assigned to Paul Bourner. Both of these photographs were donated by Anne Bourner.

Sparta Public Library—Colbert's Grocery Store



These two items were donated by Marsha Thomas. On the right is a picture of Colbert's Grocery Store, which opened in 1919 and closed in 1962. On the left is a page from the store's calendar, which includes advertisements for canned goods as well as a monthly weather forecast in the bottom right corner. You can see that the calendar page had to be digitized in two scans, due to its size.

Sparta Public Library—Baby Parade and Poor Pitiful Pearl



This fun photo on the left was shared by Beryle Ethington, and it shows her winning the Illinois State Fair Baby Parade in 1953 with her cousin. On the right, is a Poor Pitiful Pearl doll that Beryle has had since 1956.

Sparta Public Library—Carbide Lamp



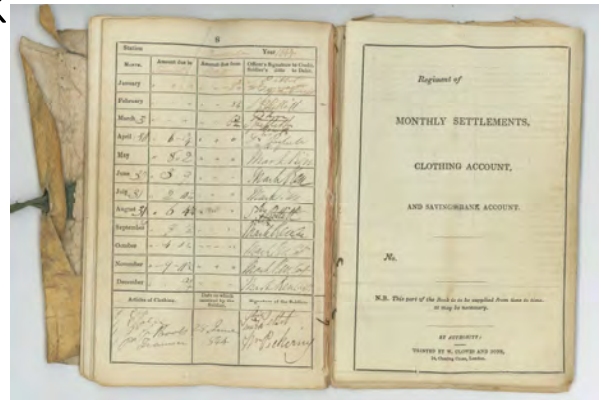
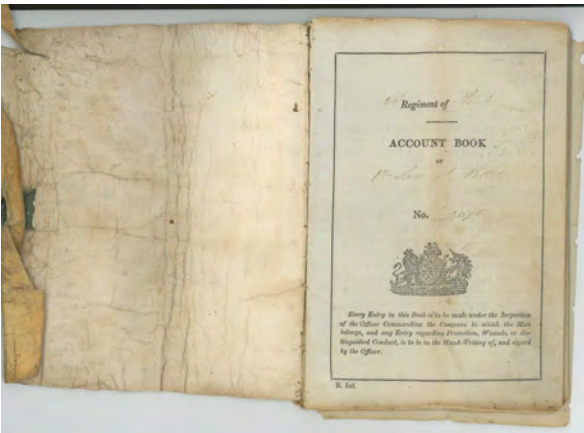
This is a carbide lamp, used in mining, dating from the 19th century. This item was also shared with us by Beryle Ethington.

Sparta Public Library—Shadowboxes



These photographs are of two shadowboxes made by Sue Pirtle, and they contain items belonging to her grandparents. On the left is a souvenir fan from Japan, originally belonging to Orpha Smith, and a marble belonging to James Smith. On the right is hair combs, a hair pin, and a coin purse originally belonging to Mary Browning, a pipe originally belonging to Jim Browning, and a receipt for the repayment of a loan. This loan was taken out in 1942 with the family home as collateral in order to be able to take one of their daughters, Tillie, to Springfield for eardrum surgery after rheumatic fever. The remaining siblings worked together to pay off the loan in February of 1943.

HPL Genealogy & Local History Library— Regiment Account Book



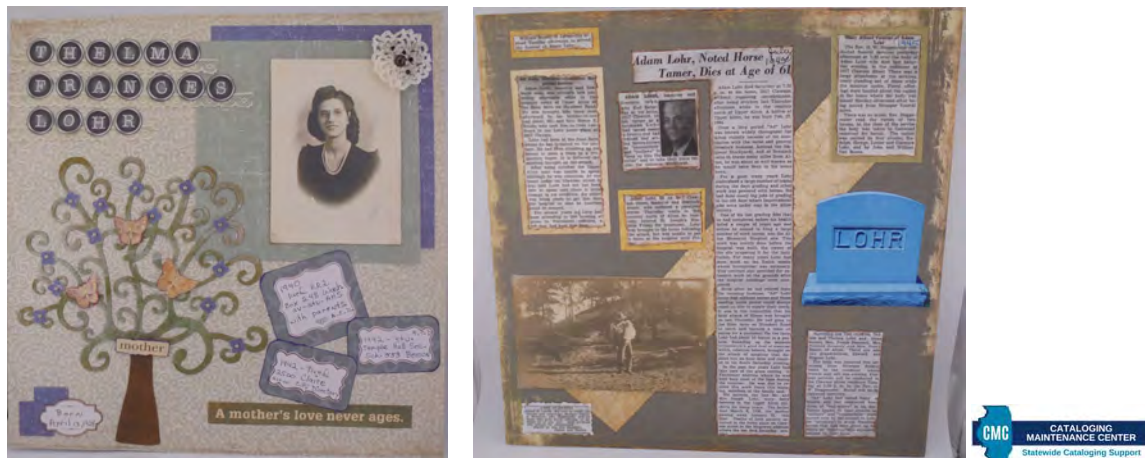
Our final Digitization Day for the 2023-2024 pilot year was at Hayner Public Library: Genealogy & Local History Library in Alton, Illinois. This item is a regiment account book belonging to Samuel Pettit, and it was used in the 1840s and 1850s while he was stationed in Bermuda. The account book was used to track all monies paid to and collected from the soldier, as well as tracking articles of clothing issued, wounds, promotions and demotions, and any times when the soldier distinguished himself. The account book consists of paper signatures bound in a parchment cover, and it can be tied closed with a leather strap. This item was donated by Lexa Browning.

HPL Genealogy & Local History Library—HMT Rohna Scrapbook



These are two pages from a scrapbook made by Ruthann Hellemeyer about her father, Glenn Rives, and his twin brother, Lynn Rives, who were both on the HRT (His Majesty's Transport) Rohna when it was bombed and sunk on November 26, 1943. Glenn survived the attack, but Lynn was killed, along with 1,137 other men. Over one thousand of the men killed were U.S. personnel, making the sinking of the HRT Rohna the largest loss of US troops at sea due to enemy action in a single incident.

HPL Genealogy & Local History Library—Lohr Family Scrapbook



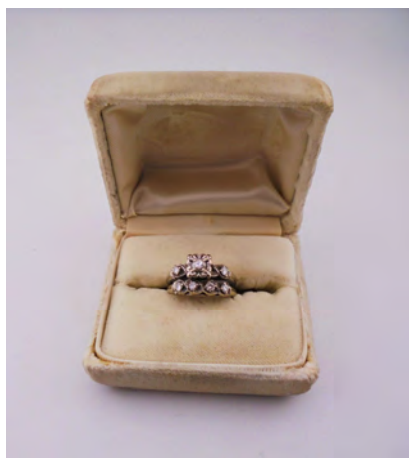
We also were able to digitize this scrapbook, made by Donna Welch about her family. On the left is a page dedicated to her mother, Thelma Frances Lohr, and on the right is a page for Thelma's father, Adam Lohr.

HPL Genealogy & Local History Library— Grand Duchy of Luxembourg Passport



This is a passport from the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, issued April 14, 1864. This passport comes from the estate of William Peglar and was donated by Becky Croxton.

HPL Genealogy & Local History Library—Rings



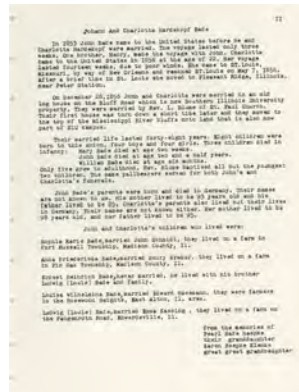
These rings belonged to Edna Moore, grandmother of donor Becky Croxton. On the left is Edna's engagement and wedding rings, and on the right is an opal ring that Edna's future husband, Eugene, sent her while he was stationed in Germany in the 1940s.

HPL Genealogy & Local History Library— Family & Farm Photographs



These two photographs were shared by Sandra Cornelius. On the left is a photograph of Faye and Orlan Cornelius. On the right is an aerial view of the St. Peters family farm, taken in 1953. In the lower right corner of the aerial photograph, Jefferson School #16, a school for grades 1-8 in Jersey County, is visible.

HPL Genealogy & Local History Library—Bade Family History Binder



These three pages come from a book of Bade family history, shared with us by Marilyn Stewart. This binder charts the Bade siblings' immigration from Germany all the way to the first member of the seventh generation, born in 1993.

Mobile Memory Lab Collections in IDA

- Mobile Memory Lab—Sparta Public Library: [Browse - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- Mobile Memory Lab—Marshall Public Library: [Browse - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- Mobile Memory Lab—Hayner Public Library: Genealogy & Local History Library: [Browse - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)



Here I have links to the three Mobile Memory Lab collections currently in IDA.

Marshall Public Library

- [Army Photograph of Dwight Eugene Washburn - back - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Service Medals - Dwight Eugene Washburn - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Dog "N" Suds Pluto Character Wall Plaque - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Dog "N" Suds Restaurant - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Dog "N" Suds Bowling Team - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Dog "N" Suds Glass Mugs - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Ration book belonging to May Thornburgh - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Photograph of Seymour Hurst Home and Family - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Photograph of Garden at Seymour Hurst Home - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Letter to Clarence Bird from Bennie Bird, February 25 - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Photograph of Bennie Bird - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Photograph of Clarence Bird - Mobile Memory Lab-Marshall Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)



Here are direct links to the materials I shared today from the Marshall Public Library Mobile Memory Lab collection.

Sparta Public Library

- [Boat tied to No Parking Sign, Flood of 1903 - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Truck in Flood of 1903, Chester, Ill. - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Flood of 1903, Chester, Ill. - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Dance Recital ticket, June 21, 1938 - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Photograph of a Christmas Party, World War I - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta](#)
- [Paul Bourner's barracks, World War 1 - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Colbert's Grocery Calendar - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Colbert Grocery Store - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Baby Parade, Illinois State Fair, Springfield - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Poor Pitiful Pearl Doll - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Carbide Lamp, 19th century - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Shadowbox of items belonging to James and Orpha Smith - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Shadowbox of items belonging to James and Mary Browning - Mobile Memory Lab-Sparta Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)



Here are direct links to the materials I shared today from the Sparta Public Library Mobile Memory Lab collection.

Hayner Public Library: Genealogy & Local History Library

- [Regiment Account Book of Samuel Pettit - Mobile Memory Lab-Hayner Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Rives Brothers Scrapbook - HMS Rohna - Mobile Memory Lab-Hayner Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Lohr Family Scrapbook - Page 1 - Mobile Memory Lab-Hayner Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Lohr Family Scrapbook - Page 4 - Mobile Memory Lab-Hayner Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Passport from Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, 19th century - Mobile Memory Lab-Hayner Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Wedding ring set belonging to Edna Moore - Mobile Memory Lab-Hayner Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Opal ring belonging to Edna Moore - Mobile Memory Lab-Hayner Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Photograph of Faye and Orlan Cornelius - Mobile Memory Lab-Hayner Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Aerial view of St. Peters Family Farm - Mobile Memory Lab-Hayner Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)
- [Bade Family History Book - Mobile Memory Lab-Hayner Public Library - Illinois Digital Archives \(oclc.org\)](#)



Here are direct links to the materials I shared today from the Hayner Public Library: Genealogy & Local History Library Mobile Memory Lab collection.

ON THE CALL TODAY

Questions? Contact the CMC: cmc@illinoisheartland.org



Barbera Scoby
CMC Cataloger



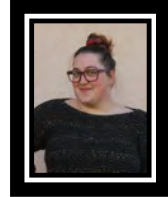
Dr. Pamela Thomas
Bibliographic Grant
Manager



Mary Cornell
CMC Cataloger



Eric McKinney
CMC Cataloger



Kat Anderberg
Metadata Cataloger



Blake Walter
Special Project Cataloger



Katie Roberts
Special Project Cataloger



Andrea Giosta
Special Project Cataloger



On the call today we have Barbera Scoby, Dr. Pamela Thomas, Mary Cornell, Eric McKinney, myself, Blake Walter, Katie Roberts, and Andrea Giosta.