

The Beginnings of an ANRL Catalog

Dave Foote has requested this report as a basis for compiling a joint library consortium catalog.

Ideally, the ANRL should have an online and interactive catalog, so that anyone can sort items, in real time, any way they want (books by author, title, or whatever; videos by title, subject, location, etc.) So far as I know, only Bob or Lou can do sorts, and Lou's are for in-library use only, with no way of copying or sending the results. So the next-best thing is the sorts Bob has periodically put on our web page (not always up-to-date).

Things that still need to be done are in red. I am sending copies of this report to Bob and Gary, because some of the red items fall within their jobs, and they may have additional answers.

MAGAZINES

Currently shared with the consortium.

All 12,000 scanned--listed on the web site (collections tab)

US--2 lists, one dated 2021, the other without visible date

Foreign--2 lists, one with countries altogether, and one with countries separately. (Having it both ways is good, because the country is not always obvious.) Again, 2021 and undated.

We have surely catalogued more magazines in the last two years, so these lists need to be updated before you compile your joint catalog.

For the last few years, we have had no way of searching through foreign magazines on our patron computers. Consortium files do provide search capability.

BOOKS

Bob has just updated the web site lists by author, title, and subject (call number). These are good.

We have scanned only about 50 of 1,000 books, and have to be careful about copyright dates. I, for instance, do not want free copies of my books circulating while I am still trying to sell them.

NEWSLETTERS

7,000 currently shared with the consortium.

We thought we had scanned them all, but then discovered a whole shelf of bound newsletters had been missed. Vivian got through the As. Bud is starting on the Bs, but will soon leave until next fall.

2 lists on the web site--one scanned (2017), and one total (2021). These lists also need updating.

CLUB FILES

1,000 currently shared with the consortium.

We have two sets of scanning efforts, not at all coordinated:

- a. Without telling us, Ed Weston scanned articles from old magazines.
- b. Jim Sweeney scanned the loose papers in our file cabinets. We recently found a club where those papers had not been scanned, **and need to spot-check other clubs.**

Jim did not scan the beach folders. Recently, a visitor scanned some of them for us. **The rest need to be scanned.**

FOREIGN CLUB FILES

Never scanned or prepared for scanning.

ORGANIZATION FILES

Never scanned or prepared for scanning.

We have two sets: (1) ASA/AANR and its regions, and (2) everything else.

PHOTOGRAPHS

We are only about a year into organizing and scanning them. Scans are on the NAS, and therefore accessible to consortium researchers, **but not available on the patron computers.**

AUDIO FILES

Shared with the consortium, **but unavailable to researchers in our building.**
Some confusion here.

We have about 213 cassette tapes (mostly interviews or recordings of meetings) from the early days. 164 of them have been converted to MP3 format and stored on the NAS.

The NAS also has 74 unnumbered MP3 recordings of early date, with no indication of where they came from. Titles do not match the remaining cassette tapes.

In the last couple of years, we have harvested or been given recordings from the Internet. I believe these have been mixed in with our video DVDs, rather than listed as audio files, as they should be.

Now that he has finished the backlog of videos, I am hoping that Gary can sort out what we have, and convert everything to MP3 that has not already been done.

But we don't need to wait before making the recordings that we have available on the patron computers.

VIDEO FILES

More than 1,000 Scanned and stored as both DVDs and NAS files. Because they take up so much space, we have not put any videos on the patron computers, though consortium researchers can view them.

Generally, the web site needs lots of updating and housecleaning.

Some murkiness here. Gary says he has finished scanning everything. Bob has two 2021 lists of unscanned videos on the web site. Who is right?

2 lists by title on the web site--both 2021.

1 list by who on the web site--2021.

No list by location. We need that.

No list by production company. We need that, because people ask about series.

Topic: Here we have a Bob problem. Gary's selection of topics from a limited list was supposed to replace the random old topics which could not be alphabetized. Instead, Bob has kept both, calling the good one Gary N. Topic. (You are now the fourth person in the world to know what a Gary N. topic is.) Gary and I have been asking Bob for nearly a year to fix this; it still hasn't happened. On the web site, people can find:

1 list by Gary N. Topic--2022

1 list by old useless topics--2021

Other useless clutter on the web site includes:

2 lists of unscanned videos in 2021. Are any of them unscanned now?

And why is such an internal matter on the public web site?

2 obsolete lists from 2014

WHO'S WHO FILES

When the library first got a scanner, people practiced on random Who's Who files. But they had not devised a systematic way of labeling and storing the scans. Over the years, Jim Sweeney found some in various places.

and put them on the patron computers. Meanwhile, people kept adding papers to the drawers without scanning them. **The whole thing is so garbled that it needs to be done over again.** To that end, Sue weeded out duplicate papers; Janice and Bud are slowly arranging the papers in chronological order. It is a long and boring job, but we keep working on it.

In the early years, librarians did a good job of clipping magazine articles and filing them in Who's Who files. That has not been kept up. Nor have newer people been added. Some years back, I asked current leaders to fill their files; a few did. As I locate articles for my Hall of Fame series, I have added copies of the important ones to the Who's Who files.

DISSERTATIONS

I have pulled out a few that belong on the bookshelves. Otherwise, nothing has been done.

SUBJECT FILES

Over the years, librarians assembled papers on subjects ranging from breast feeding, to nudes on stamps, to youth camps. This is useful stuff, and **scanning these files should be a high priority. Nothing has been done yet.**

ORIGINAL CARD FILE

Two kinds of cards were interfiled: subjects and magazine tables of contents. The subject cards are still very useful for research on older topics. Fred Van Next saw the value of making these more available, but died before he could scan them. Because these are loose cards all the same size, **this is a job for the small scanner, whenever Bob or Eran get it working again, and we find a volunteer.**

Paul LeValley
3/22/2023