

Growing a Genealogy and Family History Collection

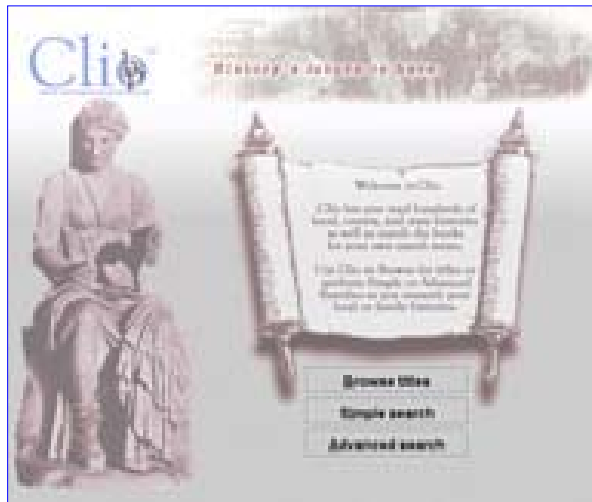
The genealogy and family history collection at the Marshfield Library in Marshfield, Wisconsin is a popular collection. Providing additional resources to library patrons is always on the minds of the library staff. But the library is a small library, with limited space and funds.



However, several years ago, staff members attended the Wisconsin Library Association Annual Conference in La Crosse, Wisconsin. It was here the staff members first encountered Clio, a digital bookshelf of state and county histories. To be exact, the librarians saw Clio in the archives of the La Crosse Public Library and were very impressed with the system.

Returning to the Vendor Exhibit, staff members asked the Brookhaven Press staff to explain Clio in more detail. They learned how Clio searches and presents the images, how easy it is to add new titles to the collection, and how easy it is to link to the library's local area network.

Most importantly, they saw how much Clio would enhance their collection. Says Mary Adler of Marshfield Library, "Being able to add the electronic bookshelf Clio to our collection gives our researchers access to very many items that they would not have access to if they needed to rely on the original print editions."



These books include titles from states that were on the migratory paths for families moving to Wisconsin and the Midwest. Purchasing titles from New York, Pennsylvania or Ohio as hardbound titles would be cost and space prohibitive. With Clio, Marshfield patrons have these titles at their finger tips.

And this has proven to be very beneficial to the library and its patrons.

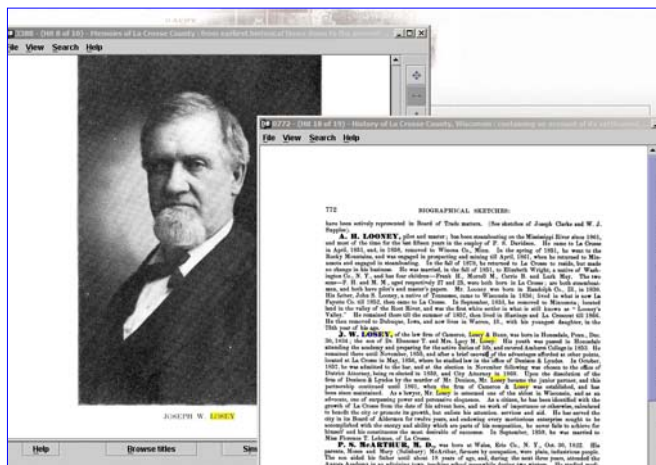
Easy to Use

And while access to these titles is important, the staff and patrons at Marshfield Public Library also like how easy Clio is to use: “Clio allows our patrons to electronically search the books using terms of their choosing. This provides instant access to information relevant to the names or places in which they are most interested. Clio's many features which include highlighting text, advancing to the next hit, and the option of placing the bibliographic information right on the page you print, make Clio an easy, efficient, and exciting way to search for your family history.”



Clio has helped Marshfield Library expand its genealogy and family history collection in a cost effective and space saving manner—500 books or more in the space of one book saves a lot of shelf space. And each of the books costs around \$5.00 creating a substantial monetary savings as well.

Adding More Titles



When first purchased, Clio comes with 500 books the customer chooses from Brookhaven Press' Clio collection. Marshfield library staff and members of its genealogy group worked together to choose the first 500 books.

Over the years, Marshfield has added books to its Clio, and now has over 1000 books that can be searched by its patrons. At any time, material from its own collection may be digitized and added to the Clio collection—newspapers,

yearbooks, city directories and more.

Clio certainly has helped Marshfield Public Library offer its patrons additional resources while at the same time reducing cost and space requirements. And Clio can continue to grow to meet the library's needs. For more information about Clio, contact [Brookhaven Press](http://www.brookhavenpress.com).



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