

De-Geeking the Community Media Archive

Randy Van Dalsen, WeTheMedia.tv
Ann Theis, Denver Open Media
John Hauser, Access Humboldt

Oct 26, 2013

ACM Western Regional Conference

<http://goo.gl/XutZ0Z>

Context

- Access Center as the repository for a community's cultural history
- Rationale has evolved from VOD through archiving to distribution
- DIY Archiving
- It's a marathon not a sprint!
- You CAN do it!

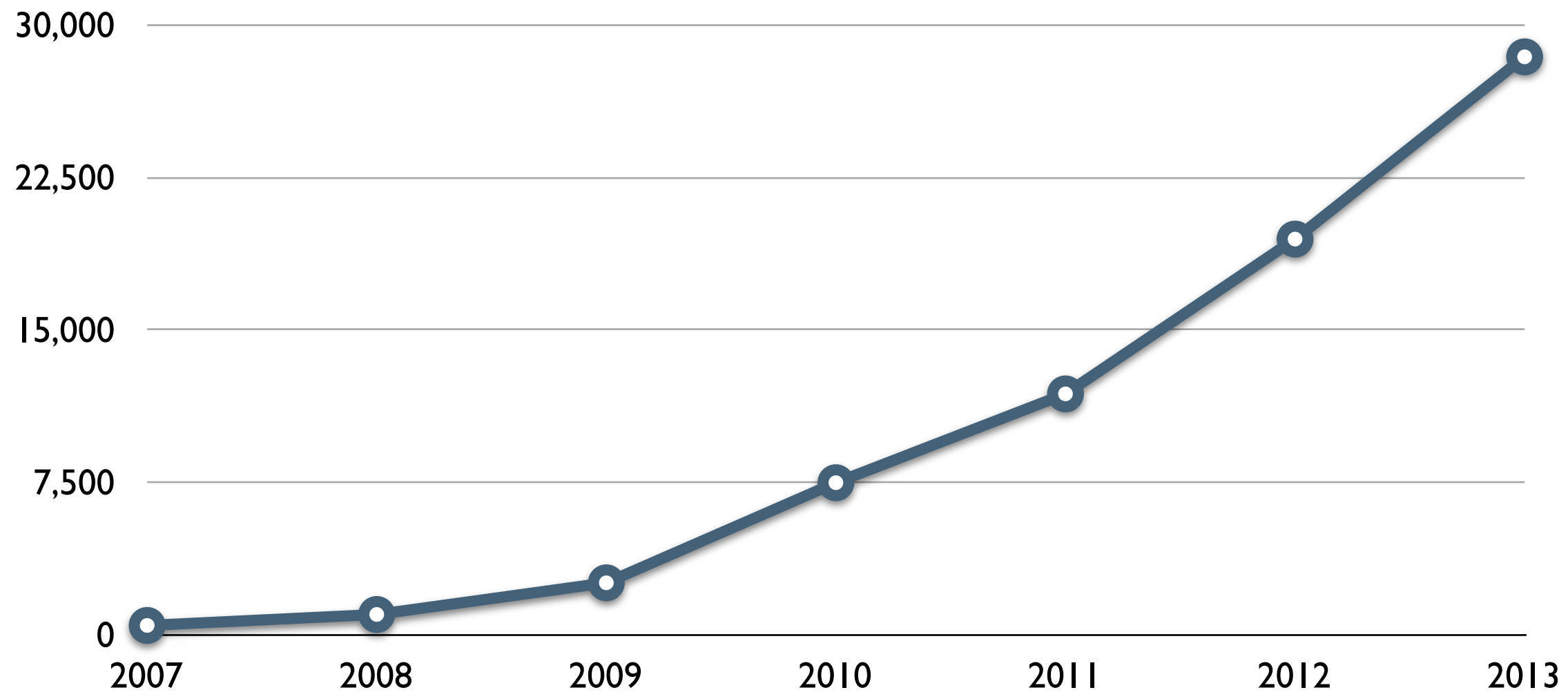
Scope of the Internet Archive

- nonprofit digital public library - 1996
- 10+ million (books, videos, audio, live music)
- 360+ billion web pages in the Wayback Machine
- Goal is “Universal Access to All Knowledge”
- Documentary about the Internet Archive

Community Media Archive

- a collection hosted by the Internet Archive
- setup about 5 years ago - attempt to solve VOD for Access Humboldt
- 26,000+ videos, 21,000+ hours
- 38 Access Centers have contributed
- 1.3 million downloads
- 42TB of “original” video files (not “derivative” formats)

○ Total Community Media Archive Items



Community Media Archive Vision

- A collection of broadcast quality, locally produced shows with sufficient descriptive information that are freely shareable
 - Good!
- Archive as the hub of a sharing/distribution system for broadcast quality video between access centers
 - DoubleGood!

How do I get started?

- Register an email address and assign a password
 - <https://archive.org/account/login.php>

How do I get a collection?

- email Collections group (collections-service@archive.org)
 - title of your collection
 - logo and descriptive blurb about your center
 - request it be a sub-collection of the Community Media Archive
 - provide email address(es) registered with the archive
 - request the “MPEG2 derivative” - if original file not MPEG2

Getting Started - Concepts

- Collection, item, identifier, file
- A file is uploaded to an item
- Item identifier must be unique across 10M+ items
- “details” page – item level
- Metadata – item level

How do I upload files?

- Use manual interactive interface to upload first several videos
 - <https://archive.org/upload/>
- Bulk uploader available
 - <https://github.com/kngenie/ias3upload>
 - Uses a Comma Separated Value file for metadata - [example](#)

Metadata and the Archive

- Minimal required – identifier, “creator”, title, description, subject
- Anything accepted (and retrievable through `_meta.xml` file on the item's “detail” page)
- subject(s) – what shows up under “Browse by subject/keyword” link for collection
- Identifier must be unique across 10+ million items!

Metadata and Archive - More

- File/Identifier naming restrictions
 - A-zA-Z0-9._ - no spaces, parenthesis, braces, pound signs, colons allowed in identifiers or file names
- Playback server is likely more permissive
- File suffix matters for animated gif to appear in collection listings

Pretty Good Metadata Practices

- consider including a “presenter” element
- include a “series” metadata element
- include a “runtime” in HH:MM:SS format
- use multiple “subject” elements
- put year in a separate “subject” element
- put station name, initials and state in separate “subject” elements

How can I help?

- Improve the metadata of your items
- How will someone find this item? (in a collection of 24k items)
- Take the time to learn Internet Archive's interfaces
 - “Advanced Search”, “Edit Item”, “Item History”
 - “Item Manager”, [ias3upload.pl](#) (bulk uploader)
- Help underwrite work on the distribution aspect of the CMA

Thanks!

- To Brewster and the Internet Archive staff
- To Sean and Access Humboldt for underwriting the CMA effort
- To the Access Centers that have contributed video to the CMA
- To the Digital Bicycle effort from ~ 10 years ago!
- Let's aim for "DoubleGood!" instead of settling for "Good!"

More Information

- These slides
 - <http://goo.gl/XutZ0Z>
- Community Media Archive wiki
 - <http://goo.gl/Wx5m8>
- john@accesshumboldt.net