



# INSIDE THE CLARION UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



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## CU Libraries' Links:

**Inside The Clarion University Libraries**  
Read back issues of the Libraries' newsletter

**Library Home**  
Your link to all of the Libraries' resources

We publish *INSIDE The CU Libraries* weekly, when classes are in session. Here we share information about our services and resources with the campus community. Current and back issues are available online through the NEWS link on the [Libraries' homepage](#).

## Bring History Alive: The Standard Oil Company In Oil City



On **Thursday evening, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Rhoades Center** on the Venango College Campus, Neil McElwee presents a history of the Standard Oil Company in the Oil Region of Pennsylvania.

During the first decade after Col. Edwin Drake drilled the first oil well in 1859, countless oil industry pioneers developed processes and practices to bring order to this new, chaotic, and uncertain industry. In the 1870's, a number of

these oil industry pioneers became Standard Oil Company investors, directors, and executives. By the late 1870's, Standard Oil would control more than 80 percent of the industry's production activities.

Join us as Neil McElwee shares historical facts and stories about some of the common names and places you hear today.

This program is part of the *Barbara Morgan Harvey Lecture Series* held each fall. The series explores historic, geologic, social, business, and other aspects of the region's growth and development.

The Harvey Family donated Barbara Morgan Harvey's research collection to the Charles Suhr Library on the Venango College Campus and there established the Center for the Study of Oil Heritage in memory of Mrs. Harvey.

## Research Help Is Here!



Do you need personalized help getting started with a research assignment? The librarians at Carlson and Suhr Libraries are available to answer questions and point you in the right direction!

Can't make it to the library? You can still benefit from the helpful advice of a reference librarian by giving us a call or contacting us via our online Chat, Texting, or E-Mail Reference Services.

**Phone...** If a quick call will help, please let us hear from you:

## PILOT

Search the Libraries' online catalog

## Databases A-Z

Search the Libraries' extensive collection of electronic journals and e-books

## Contact Us

Dr. Terry Latour  
Dean of Libraries

Carlson Library 814-393-2490

Suhr Library 814-393-1242 or  
814-676-6591, ext. 1242

Distance Education students 1-866-272-5612 (press 5 for Libraries)

**Chat...** If online chat is your style, try our [Live Chat Reference Service](#). It's available during the times that Carlson Library reference services are available:

Monday – Thursday 10:00 am – 9:00 pm

Friday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**Text...** If the question is simple and the reply is too, you can contact our reference librarians by texting to 814-343-9324. *Note: Standard messaging rates apply.*

Remember that SMS stands for Short Message Service. If the question (or answer) requires in-depth discussion, you probably should contact the Reference Librarian using another option.

**E-Mail...** When reference librarians are not available, and your need is not time sensitive, contact them via email using our [Ask a Librarian](#) service. An email link is located on that page.

**24/7...** If you need help when the library is closed, we've got it covered. Clarion University Libraries have made arrangements for librarians at a consortium of other universities to help you. They don't know your courses, assignments, or professors, but they will do all that they can to help you find the resources you need.

At the [Clarion University Libraries](#) website, click on the [Ask a Librarian / LibAnswers](#) link on the right-hand side of the screen. Then, click on the [Ask Here PA](#) link on the lower left side of the screen. Follow the instructions and link to a college librarian elsewhere.

## What Is CQ Researcher?



[CQ Researcher Online](#) is an in-depth, unbiased information resource with coverage on topics relating to health, social trends, criminal justice, international affairs, education, the environment, technology, and the economy.

Each single-themed, 12,000-word report has been researched and written by a professional journalist. The reader gets an introductory overview; background and chronology on the topic; an assessment of the current situation; tables and maps; pro/con statements from representatives of opposing positions; and bibliographies of key sources.

CQ Researcher is available through the [Libraries Homepage](#). In the green "Research" box click on the [Databases](#) link, then scroll down the alphabetical list, or use the link to jump to the "C" section of databases.

If you have questions or need assistance, stop by the libraries or call Carlson Library at 393-2490, Suhr Library at 676-6591, or Distance Education students can call toll-

free at 1-866-272-5612 (press 5 for Library). Our Chat and other online services are available at the [Ask a Librarian](#) link on our Website.

## The S.W.A.T. Minion's Tip: Why Computers Cannot Boot Instantly



Computers are “state machines”. The problem is that the initial condition the computer starts with is not very useful to you and me.

What **is** useful (a fully booted computer), lies millions of steps further down that ‘state machine.’

To illustrate how a “state machine” works, consider these very simple examples...

- Vending machines dispense products when the proper combination of coins are deposited
- Elevators drop riders off at upper floors before going down
- Traffic lights change sequence when cars are waiting
- Combination locks require the input of combination numbers in the proper order

The easiest way for developers to describe the useful, running state of a computer is to define it in programs, and those programs will always take more than ‘zero time’ to run. While boot up times have definitely improved in the past few years, and will continue to improve as time goes on, there is - and will always be - a lot going on ‘behind the screen’ every time you start up your favorite computer.

## Cranial Candy: Word Of The Week



**rancid**

**PRONUNCIATION:**

RAN sid

**MEANING:**

When food starts to decay, it's rancid: it smells and tastes really gross.

Figuratively, something rancid is gross or disgusting, *as if* it's starting to decay. And rancid things seem to get worse and worse (nastier and nastier) as time goes on.

**PART OF SPEECH:**

Adjective.

(Adjectives are describing words, like “large” or “late.”)

They can be used in two ways:

1. Right before a noun, as in “rancid jealousy.”
2. After a linking verb, as in “Their jealousy grew rancid.”)

### HOW TO USE IT:

You can be literal: talk about rancid heat, rancid odors, rancid tastes, rancid butter, rancid laundry, a rancid basement, and so on.

But we'll focus on the figurative use. Talk about rancid feelings or opinions that get nastier as time goes on: rancid jealousy, rancid hatred, rancid misanthropy, rancid bigotry, etc.

Often you'll say something *grows* rancid, *becomes* rancid, *goes* rancid, and so on: “Their bitterness grew rancid.” “The rivalry went rancid.” Something could start out as a good thing and then grow rancid: “Her concern grew rancid, devolving into an unhealthy obsession.”

Lastly, someone or something can be rancid **with** some negative quality: “Her reviews are rancid with scorn.”

Although we do not “*repair*” computers, the **S.W.A.T. Team** (Students **W**ho **A**ssist [with] **T**echnology) on Level A of Carlson Library is always happy to help. Having an issue? Let us take a *swat* at it!

### Something To Think About:



*Beauty is not in the face;  
beauty is a light in the heart.*

*- Kahlil Gibran*