

Connections

Talking Book Service News

TBS Awareness Day and Library Snapshot Day

The Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS) had two opportunities to increase its visibility throughout the state this year: TBS Awareness Day and Library Snapshot Day.

On March 3, TBS staff, friends, and users celebrated the 80th anniversary of the creation of the National Library Service (NLS), the agency that provides TBS's audiobooks and players. 80 people attended the Open House at the Idaho Commission for Libraries.

Highlights included reading a Proclamation from Governor Otter proclaiming March 3, 2011 Talking Book Awareness Day and displays on the history of the Talking Book Service nationwide and in Idaho. Statewide events included press releases to all newspapers in the state, a special issue of the TBS newsletter, and TBS displays hosted by 36 public libraries throughout the state.



TBS Awareness Day display

In April, TBS participated in Library Snapshot Day. This event is sponsored annually by the American Library Association and focuses on the diverse activities that occur in libraries on one day in April. On April 19, the following TBS-related activities occurred at the Commission:

- Items checked out: 1,716
- Items checked in: 1,691
- Phone calls: 50
- Emails: 31
- Walk-in users: 6
- New users: 9
- Volunteers: 25
- Volunteer hours: 47

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TBS/Snapshot *(cont'd from page 1)*

Promoting the Talking Book Service to eligible users remains a priority for the staff. You can help by sharing what you like about the service with friends, relatives, and neighbors.

National Library Service Visit

The Idaho Talking Book Service welcomed National Library Service (NLS) regional consultant Vickie Collins for a three-day visit in April. NLS staff visits Talking Book Service agencies biennially to review their operations, discuss any issues they have, and identify successful activities to share with other Talking Book Services throughout the U.S. Vickie toured the library, talked with many staff, and noted the positive things happening at the Talking Book Service. She also attended the annual Volunteer Appreciation luncheon and thanked the many volunteers who support TBS through a variety of activities. Vickie will submit a written report about her findings later in the year.



Vickie Collins
from NLS

Eligible institutions can now register with BARD

Institutions that are registered with the Idaho Talking Book Service may now register to download books from BARD, the National Library Service database of digital titles for those unable to read standard print due to a physical disability.

Institutions such as Nursing homes, hospitals, schools for the blind, public and private schools, and college or university disability centers may borrow equipment and download reading materials for use by eligible patrons in either a group setting or for individual use.

Over 20,000 titles are available from BARD. Once you have downloaded a book to your computer, you can transfer it to a flash-memory "jump" drive, to a personal book cartridge (available for purchase), or directly to a third-party player, such as the Victor Reader Stream.

For more information call the Idaho Talking Book Service at 800-458-3271 or visit our website at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/TBS>.

Recent Donations to TBS

General Donations

Lois Beno Dick Messersmith
Bobby Bopp Dorothy Outzs
Joyce Dodge Joy Rocco
Bud Howard Miriam Simpson
Wilma (Billie) Shewmaker
Bill & Betty Wennstrom
Caroline Wilkerson
Harriet Wilkerson

Memorial Donations

John Anderson

Leo and Carol Campbell



Allen Bauscher

Landview Inc.
Maxine Hanson
Sunnie Smith
Carmen Cook



Mervin & Audrey Randall and family
Susan & Heidy, Sherry & Jim
Helen & Alan Timothy

Gladyne Blanton

Sam & Marien Barton

Wilda Edgerton

Bryce and Barbara Keck

Mary Margaret Robinson

Sam & Marien Barton

L. Ward Rolfe

Sam & Marien Barton

Happy Schrader

David Schrader
Barry & Jane Fillmore

Matt Streible

Havenwood Caregiver Services
of Idaho
Richard and Rosemary Stairs

Alvina Taney

Jean Taney

Eldonn Taylor

Joann & Ron Bissey

Betty Ustohal

Richard & Ann Maggard

Suzanne Wakeman

Sam & Marien Barton

Clarence Woodard

David Woodard

Donations are used to enhance the Talking Book Service and are fully tax deductible as allowable by law. Acknowledgements are sent to donors and honorees, so please include the name and address of all those to be notified. Please make checks payable to Idaho Commission for Libraries and mail to:
Idaho Talking Book Service
325 West State Street
Boise, ID 83702
Thank you for your generosity!

What Are You Reading?

Conversations With God is Dian Scott's favorite book. Dian, the new Office Services Supervisor at ICfL, reads extensively throughout the cool and cold seasons in Idaho, but living on 10 acres with horses limits her summer reading time! *Conversations With God* by Neale Donald Walsch, is the book Dian always picks up when she wants to calm anxiety, relax stress, and just feel good about her life in spite of challenges and the state of the world. Especially in crisis or chaos, this is the book that makes it all okay in the end. It's one that Dian keeps near and reads parts of over and over, always seeming to find the answer she needs in its pages. *Conversations With God* is available on digital cartridge: # VDB 44643

Dian enjoys reading novels, especially those with some humor or historical basis. Nelson Demille is an author whose books she can count on to make her laugh out loud as she's reading. Demille uses a dry wit, sometimes cynical, sometimes sarcastic, but always spot on and sharp.

For a delightful light-hearted read, her pick is *Cold Flat Junction* by Martha Grimes. Written in the voice of a young girl experiencing many adventures in her small town, this book is a favorite for its cleverness

and humor in bringing to life a precocious youngster whom the reader suddenly wants to be like in her freshness and candor.

Magazine Corner

Idaho Yesterdays is a peer-reviewed journal devoted to publishing current research on the history and culture of Idaho and its region. A wide array of articles including folklore, political science, geography, anthropology, cultural studies and literature are featured. *Idaho Yesterdays* is produced quarterly and can also be read online at <http://idahoyesterdays.org>.

Idaho Landscapes: History, Science, and Art is the newest endeavor of the greatest historical minds in the state to produce a journal that is all about Idaho—as well as edited, produced, and published here in Idaho. *Idaho Landscapes* is produced intermittently.

McCall is a beautifully designed, award winning magazine that explores the history, culture, and lifestyle that makes *McCall* the resort of choice in southwest Idaho. *McCall* is published quarterly.

To order any of the magazines listed above, call 800-458-3271 or mark the titles on the Order Form.

New Books Order Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

New Idaho Talking Books from Our Recording Studio

Locally recorded books are available on digital cartridges.

To order, select the VDB number of the titles you want and mail this pre-addressed Order Form, call 800-458-3271, or order online at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/TBS/CurrentBooks/Spring2011>.

Idaho and the Magic Circle: How They Came to Be (Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Betty M. Bever

Read By: Chelli Hinsdale

A detailed extension of the author's fascination with the area around Idaho's Magic Dam and Magic Reservoir, this book was written after extensive research going back to the area's first native inhabitants some 10,000 years ago, presenting a history that's anything but dull.

_____ (VDB 1168) 1 Cartridge, 12 hours and 14 minutes

History of Arimo, including Arkansas, Hawkins Basin, Marsh Center and Robin (Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Mike Boyce

Read By: Deborah Lynch

This history of Arimo, Idaho starts with a short biography of Chief Arimo, the town namesake and respected Shoshone leader, and ends with short biographies of the families that occupied the area in the 1990s. Researched by the Idaho Centennial Committee, this book also details the settlement and growth of Arkansas, Hawkins Basin, Marsh Center and Robin.

_____ (VDB 1174) 1 Cartridge, 15 hours and 15 minutes

Enders Hotel: A Memoir (Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Brandon R. Schrand

Read By: Sue Vap

This memoir tells the story of Brandon R. Schrand growing up in Soda Springs, Idaho. The Enders Hotel is owned by his family and is their home. The story takes us on a journey of Schrand's life and many of the lives of the people who pass through the hotel, and is about a search for personal identity in a confusing and harsh world.

_____ (VDB 1180) 1 Cartridge, 9 hours and 42 minutes

Ribbons of Silver

(Adult Fiction)

Author: Katherine Meyers

Read By: Lise Goertz

In the late 1800s, young Kenna M'ren leaves poverty and Scotland to begin a proxy marriage with an American. Soon after meeting her new husband in San Francisco, the couple set off for their new home in the rugged mining boom town of Silver City, in the newly formed Idaho Territory. The long trip reveals some surprising discoveries about her attractive new husband.

_____ (VDB 1186) 1 Cartridge, 10 hours and 12 minutes

Alaska Justice

(Adult Fiction)

Author: M. D. Kincaid

Read By: Jeffrey Sollars

The fictional adventures of Trooper Blake, also a bush pilot, are based on real law enforcement cases in Alaska. There's lots of adventure and exciting case histories that will keep readers ready for the next chapter.

_____ (VDB 1192) 1 Cartridge, 9 hours and 40 minutes

Country Tales

(Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Gail Bowman

Read By: Rosemary Ardinger

A much-anticipated move to the Idaho countryside sets the stage for Gail Bowman's hilarious recollections of life, love, raising children, raising livestock, and raising Cain in the country.

_____ (VDB 1215) 1 Cartridge, 3 hours and 29 minutes

At Nature's Edge; Frank Lloyd Wright's Artist Studio (Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Henry Whiting II

Read By: Sue Vap

Readers will be delighted with the story of the second of only two artist studios completed by Frank Lloyd Wright. The studio at Teater's Knoll, located above the Snake River in a remote area of Idaho, was designed for Archie Boyd Teater (a landscape painter) and his wife Patricia.

_____ (VDB 1218) 1 Cartridge, 6 hours and 44 minutes

Great Railroad Race: The Diary of Libby West, Utah Territory 1868

(Juvenile Fiction)

Author: Kristiana Gregory

Read By: Niki Peters

In 1868, 14-year-old Libby West's newspaper-reporter father makes daring plans to print his own newspaper as he follows the builders of the first transcontinental railroad. He says he will stay in the tent cities that follow the newly laid tracks. Libby's mother is furious, and determined

that the entire family will go! Libby writes about her adventure in her new cloth-bound diary.

_____ (VDB 1222) 1 Cartridge, 3 hours and 26 minutes

Ethnic Landmarks: Ten Historic Places That Define the City of Trees
(Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Todd A. Shallat **Read By:** Duane Satterlee

Hidden among bricks and brownstones are clues to the mysterious disappearance of people from distant places. *Ethnic Landmarks* tours buildings and cultural sites worthy of preservation. Each building is a reminder that Boise, an immigrant city, has long been a cultural crossroad and surprisingly diverse.

(VDB 1225) 1 Cartridge, 1 hour and 46 minutes

The Doctor is Out! The Insidious Encroachment of Bureaucracy Into the Practice of Medicine and the Resulting Dangers to Your Health

(Adult Nonfiction)

Author: David A. Weeks **Read By:** Kris Query

Boise doctor Weeks not only explains the current healthcare crisis, but gives solid and easy-to-follow advice about how all of us can navigate through it. A book for those desiring to take charge of their health care.

_____ (VDB 1226) 1 Cartridge, 7 hours and 50 minutes

Farm City: The Education of an Urban Farmer (Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Novella Carpenter **Read By:** Lana Thurston

Idaho author Carpenter has written a charming and hilarious memoir about her attempts to raise animals for food. She is living in inner-city Oakland, California and decides to become self-sufficient with what she can grow and raise in her backyard.

_____ (VDB 1227) 1 Cartridge, 10 hours and 37 minutes

Alvor (Juvenile Fiction)

Author: Laura Bingham **Read By:** Maryan Stephens

Idaho author Bingham has created a world of magic and mystery. Fifteen-year-old twins Erin and Bain have never seen the secluded cabin in the woods by their home. Upon entering, they discover Alvor, a magical world haunted by pegasi, dragons, and fairies.

_____ (VDB 1228) 1 Cartridge, 9 hours and 16 minutes

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Idaho Commission for Libraries
Idaho Talking Book Service
325 West State Street
Boise, Idaho 83702

**FREE MATTER FOR THE
BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**



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This newsletter is available on cassette tape upon request. Call 800-458-3271. For a podcast, PDF, or to subscribe to the newsletter via email, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/connections-tbs-news>.

Building Bogus Basin (Adult Nonfiction)
Author: **Brassey Chandler** Read By: **Eve Chandler**
This book covers the history of Bogus Basin ski resort in the mountains near Boise, Idaho from its beginning to 2009. Full of amusing and poignant stories, this history both entertains and educates.
_____ (VDB 1230) 1 Cartridge, 6 hours and 35 minutes

Report from Grimes Creek After a Hard Winter (Adult Nonfiction)
Author: **Nancy Stringfellow** Read By: **Rosemary Ardinger**
Grimes Creek is a small rural area off Highway 21 between Boise and Idaho City, Idaho. The author, longtime Idaho resident and mother of folksinger, Rosalie Sorrels, captures the essence of living in this tough but beautiful environment.
_____ (VDB 1232) 1 Cartridge, 51 minutes

Magazines

_____ ***Idaho Yesterdays***
_____ ***Idaho Landscapes: History, Science, and Art***
_____ ***McCall***

Customer Service Representative Retires

Laurel Day retired on May 27 after 25 years of working with the Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS). She began her career with TBS as a temporary records clerk who was quickly added to the customer service team. Her primary duties focused on working with users to help them find the reading materials they would enjoy. She also worked with collections, outreach, and as the administrator for TBS's automation system.

Laurel saw many changes over the years, including the transition from paper to automated records and the introduction of cassette players and books. Most recently, she participated in the transition from cassette players to digital players. Her interest in reading and fondness for those she served helped her always provide excellent customer service.

Laurel and her husband Rick look forward to spending more time together, including travelling. TBS staff is still adjusting to the reality of Laurel not being available to help whenever needed.

Laurel says she will miss all of the great conversations



Laurel and Rick Day: ready to begin some new adventures

with the patrons and their recommendations of "good books." She plans on spending more time reading.

Good luck Laurel. We'll miss you!

Some people *really* love to read

A Talking Book Service library in Massachusetts contacted a patron who appeared inactive but was still active in their system. After some discussion the TBS user said, "I have had a stroke and I might have slowed down a little...but I will tell you, if I had a wife I would leave her before I gave up those talking books."

Volunteer Appreciation Week April 11–15, 2011

Idaho is in the top ten for volunteers per capita in the United States. That's not a big surprise to the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) where, in 2010, 95 volunteers donated 9,418 hours of their time to help with projects and programs.

To celebrate National Volunteer Week, April 11-15, and honor our ICfL volunteers, we began the week with a tour of the Old Idaho Penitentiary in Boise. Twenty volunteers and three staff members attended and everyone seemed to enjoy experiencing the cold, creepy, dark, dank cells. And no one was left locked up in solitary!

On Tuesday April 12, the Commission hosted a luncheon event with the theme "Everyday Heroes," and invited our volunteers to enjoy hero sandwiches and a presentation showcasing the work they've done through the past year.

When welcoming the volunteers to the event, State Librarian Ann Joslin told them, "You are our everyday heroes. Our staff has posted comments on the wall acknowledging the great work that our volunteers do here." According

to Commission staff, volunteers come to the rescue by:

- leaping tall mailings in a single bound
- working at the speed of light
- being "force multipliers" so we can complete our mission
- brightening the days with endless acts of kindness

Volunteers take on work that supports Commission projects like literacy programs, networking and resource sharing, and the Talking Book Service—spending hours preparing Jump Start Kits, mailing Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) materials, repairing TBS machines, inspecting TBS tapes, recording Idaho books, and other tasks. Some



Volunteer Coordinator Sheila Winther with volunteers June, Liz, Dale, and Nicole, who have given a combined total of 45 years of service

statistics for 2010 include:

- **New digital machines checked out to TBS patrons:** 2,004
- **Books on tape mailed and then received, inspected, and reshelved:** 164,617 (122,459 cassettes and 42,158 digital)
- **Digital books recorded:** 54 titles (417 hours of recording time)
- **Digital book cartridges duplicated:** 283
- **Books converted from cassette to digital:** 89
- **Book Plate stickers applied to books for early literacy:** "thousands and thousands"

Other milestones for our 2010 volunteers:

- **5-year service certificates:** Nicole Albertson, Dale Drew, Pam Fraser, Sue Vap
- **10-year service certificate:** Liz Carpenter
- **15-year service certificate:** June Ryther
- **1,000-hour awards:** Sandy Batt, Norma Ericson, Jackie Kalinauskas, Patricia Kelley
- **2,000-hour award:** Shirley Moss
- **3,000-hour award:** Sue Vap
- **4,000-hour award:** Fred Riddle



Sandy, Jackie, Norma, and Fred have clocked 7,000 hours of volunteering

This year the Telecom Pioneers of America celebrate 100 years of service to their communities. The Idaho TBS Telecom Pioneers have helped maintain and repair players for many years. In 2010, ICfL's Telecom Pioneers contributed 1,400 volunteer hours and repaired 823 machines.



TBS 10² Club

The newest centenarian to join the Talking Book Service 10² Club and to be given priority in receiving digital players is:
 Dorothy Custer from Twin Falls
 Born May 30, 1911

This newsletter is available on cassette tape upon request. Call 800-458-3271. For a podcast, PDF, or to subscribe to the newsletter via email, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/connections-tbs-news>.



Funded by
the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

In 2011 all recently locally recorded books will be available on cartridge only, as we will continue to convert our wonderful collection over to digital. Locally recorded books allow native Idahoans an opportunity to travel down memory lane and allows patrons new to Idaho to learn about Idaho. But don't worry we have a large supply of digital players. If you don't have one yet, call 800-458-3271 to request one today.



The digital player and cartridge