

Connections

Talking Book Service News

Volunteer Appreciation at the Commission

From January through December 2012, 125 individuals gave 8,895 hours of their time at the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL), helping with nearly every program!

We recognized their dedication during Volunteer Appreciation Week—April 21–27, 2013—with a guided tour of the Old Assay Office and the Remnants of Boise exhibit at the City of Boise Sesquicentennial Shop, goodies supplied by ICfL staff throughout the week at the “Volunteer Café;” and a luncheon that included musical entertainment from Interstate Sound, door prizes, and service awards.

Milestones for our 2012 volunteers include:

- **5-year service lapel pins:** Arthur Latterell, Lana Thurston, Addie White, Kathy Yribar
- **10-year service lapel pins:** Nancy Bunch, Margaret Dimmick, Susie Johnson, Patricia Kelley, Janet Nelson, Gayle Schabot, Roger Vega

- **15-year service lapel pin:** Norma Ericson
- **1,000-hour award:** Charles Kerr, Robert Vining
- **2,000-hour award:** Maryan Stephens
- **3,000-hour award:** Gayle Schabot
- **4,000-hour award:** Sue Vap

Statistics for 2012 include:

- **Digital books recorded:** 27 titles (200 hours of recording time)
- **Books converted from reel to digital:** 85 (198 reels converted)
- **TBS Machines cleaned and serviced:** 1,047 (270 cassette, 777 digital)
- **Jump Start folders assembled:** 16,000
- Stickers in thousands of books for School Partnerships, Every Child Ready to Read, My First Books
- Uncounted bulk mailings

The Commission is grateful to all of our 2012 volunteers and we were excited to celebrate their commitment and contributions to the services and programs we provide.

National Library Service Visit

The Idaho Talking Book Service welcomed National Library Service (NLS) regional consultant Pamela Davenport for a two-day visit in April. Pamela was formerly the South Carolina State Library Talking Book Services (TBS) Regional Librarian. NLS staff visits TBS agencies biennially to review operations, discuss any issues, and identify successful activities to share with other Talking Book Services throughout the U.S. She toured the library, talked with staff, and attended the annual Volunteer Appreciation luncheon. Pamela thanked the many volunteers who support TBS through a variety of activities, noting that it would be impossible to provide the quality service that we do without our dedicated volunteers who donate so much of their time.



Pamela Davenport from NLS

Recent Donations to TBS

Memorial Donations

Sam Barton

Lee & Nancy Bondurant

Ruth Garland

M.L. Garland and
Howard & Corine Atchley

General Donations

Lois Beno

Sophia Conway

Joy Rocco

Mr. & Mrs. William Wennstrom

Donations are used to enhance the Talking Book Service and are fully tax deductible as allowed 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

Credit card donations can be made online from the Idaho Commission for Libraries website at <http://libraries.idaho.gov> by clicking on the ***Donate Here!*** button in the lower left corner of the page.

Thanks to all for your generosity!

*Email: talkingbooks@libraries.idaho.gov • Website: libraries.idaho.gov/tbs
Phone: 208.334.2150 or 800.458.3271*

Frequently Asked Questions

Below are answers to questions we frequently are asked about ordering materials from the Talking Book Service (TBS).

1. My player stopped working.

How do I get a new one?

Call the TBS to request a new player, or mail the old one back with a note stating why the player is being returned and requesting another one.

2. How do I order magazines?

Contact the TBS for lists of available magazines or to request a specific title. Remember, magazines on cartridges must be returned in order to receive the next issue.

3. I have a list of books I want to order. Can I phone them in?

Yes. Lists of 10-12 books with DB or RC numbers can be called into the TBS. Please mail longer lists to the TBS.

4. Can I order my books online?

Yes. The TBS has an online catalog (<http://webopac.klas.com/idbph>) that allows you to browse the collection, request materials be mailed to you, and link to titles available for download from BARD or the Idaho SHELF Project. A login and password is required to

request materials be mailed to you. Contact the TBS to receive them.

You can also order the new locally recorded books described in this newsletter at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/TBS/CurrentBooks/Spring2013>. If you've tried unsuccessfully to use the New Books online order form in the past, please try again. We have been working to resolve past issues with it.

5. How do I download books from BARD?

Users must be registered to access and download from BARD. Registration information is available at <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/ID1A/ApplicationInstructions.html>. You will be notified when your registration is complete, and a temporary password will be sent to you via email.

6. I'm not certain if you have a title; will you check for me?

Again, call the TBS, preferably with the complete title and author. We will check to see if the title is available in either the national collection, or from one of the regional library collections.

(cont'd on page 4)

FAQs (*cont'd from page 3*)**7. Can I request a title before it is recorded?**

Yes. Once a decision is made to record a title, reserves can be placed against it. A copy will be mailed as soon as one is available.

8. I don't know what to order. Can you help?

Talking Book Topics, a list of newly available titles, is mailed every other month to users and is available in both large print and audio versions. Call the TBS to ask to receive *Talking Book Topics*.

Also, our Customer Service Representatives are knowledgeable of both our collection and various authors and genres. They can suggest authors who write similar to the authors you enjoy or genres you might enjoy.

Magazine Corner

NLS (National Library Service) has started to circulate magazines on digital cartridges. They will begin by sending the magazines on both cassette and cartridge, and then go to cartridge only. The digital magazine will arrive in a red container and, after reading, will need to be returned in a timely fashion to the vendor to receive the next issues. As with books, it is

just a matter of turning the mailing card over and placing the container in the outgoing mail.

As the cartridge could contain numerous issues or even a variety of magazines depending upon what you are subscribed to, it will be necessary to use the "book shelf" feature of the player to navigate through the different items on the cartridge. This is easy to do: with the cartridge in the player, power on, hold the green Play/Stop button down until the player says "book shelf." Then use the Fast Forward or Rewind keys to locate which title and issue you wish to hear next and then press the Play/Stop button again to start that title or magazine.

The magazine *Cappers* has been replaced by *Grit*. America's family magazine since 1882, *Grit* celebrates country lifestyles of all kinds, while emphasizing the importance of community and stewardship. Topics include country living, practical advice, do-it-yourself information, humor, land management, wildlife, gardening, livestock or pets, skills and techniques, seasonal food, and tools and machinery.

If you received *Cappers* and are not interested in *Grit* or would like to start getting *Grit*, please notify the Talking Book Service at 800.458.3271 or the local Boise number at 334.2150.

New Books Order Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

New Idaho Talking Books from our recording studio*New locally recorded books are available on digital cartridges.*

To order, select the VDB numbers of the titles you want and mail this pre-addressed Order Form, or call 800.458.3271, or order online at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/TBS/CurrentBooks/Spring2013>. (*If you've tried unsuccessfully to use this online order form in the past, please try again. We have been working to resolve past issues with it.*)

To download other locally produced digital titles:

- 1.) Go to <http://webopac.klas.com/idbph>.
- 2.) Log in.
- 3.) Click on IDAHO SHELF.

Borne on Air: Essays by Idaho Writers**(Adult Nonfiction)****Editors: Mary Clearman Blew and Phil Druker****Read By: Leigh Evans**

In this third volume of The Idaho Elements series, Mary Clearman Blew writes, "Idaho's best writers were challenged to describe their personal relationship to the element we breathe—the holy element—which inflicts pain, bestows health, strikes fear and inspires hope."

_____ (VDB01211) 2009

10 hours 21 minutes***The Poker Bride: The First Chinese in the Wild West*****(Adult Nonfiction)****Author: Christopher Corbett****Read By: Sue Vap**

Before 1849, the Chinese in the U.S. were little more than curiosities. But with Gold Rush fever, thousands of Chinese immigrants came through San Francisco to seek a fortune. In *The Poker Bride*, Corbett uses the legend of one extraordinary woman—now the stuff of Idaho lore—as a lens into this Chinese experience. When the gold rush receded, it left behind Polly Bemis, who narrowly escaped life as a concubine and settled in the remote Idaho hills with a white man who had won her in a poker game. Corbett vividly constructs a tale of the real American West: a place where the first Chinese flooded the country and left their mark long after the craze for gold had vanished.

_____ (VDB01269) 2010

11 hours 36 minutes

Tales of the Trail

(Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Arabella Fulton**Read By: Sue Robinson**

After passing her eightieth birthday milestone, Arabella Fulton penned her recollections: A woman's viewpoint of crossing the Plains by ox caravan in 1864 and settlement of the Boise Valley of Idaho; a wagon trip to Texas and settlement and life there; and a wagon trip to Washington Territory from Texas and settlement in the Kittitas Valley.

_____ (VDB01278) 1965

12 hours

A Gathering of Finches (Dream Catcher Series, Book 3) (Adult Fiction)**Author: Jane Kirkpatrick****Read By: Kathy Yribar**

Based on historical events, this is the story of high-spirited Cassandra Hendrick Stearns Simpson who, along with her husband, created the estate that would eventually become Shore Acres State Park on Oregon's rugged and beautiful coast. Her marriage to a wealthy entrepreneur and the adventurous move to the wild coast of Washington in 1890 set the backdrop for this story of a young woman trying to find her own identity during the years of turmoil at the turn of the century. The reader will discover that money can't buy happiness or forgiveness, or permit us to escape the consequences of our choices. The story emphasizes the message that real meaning is found in the relationships we nurture and in living our lives in obedience to God.

_____ (VDB01280) 1997

15 hours 15 minutes

Last Great Battle of the Indian Wars: Henry M. Jackson, Forrest J. Gerard and the Campaign for the Self-determination of American Indian Tribes

(Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Mark N. Trahant**Read By: Colette Cowman**

Senator Henry "Scoop" Jackson and Forrest Gerard changed the landscape of Indian affairs. Now virtually every member of the body politic today agrees with the premise that American Indians and Alaska Natives have the right to govern themselves. Mark Trahant, a member of the Shoshone/Bannock Tribe of Fort Hall, Idaho, has captured the story of this great turnaround in American Indian history.

_____ (VDB01282) 2010

4 hours 51 minutes

Woman Who Heard Color

(Adult Fiction)

Author: Kelly Jones

Read By: Kris Query

Lauren O'Farrell, an art detective whose mission is to retrieve invaluable works stolen by the Nazis during WWII, is on a quest to learn more about a Munich art dealer. She is led to the Manhattan apartment of wealthy, 82-year-old Isabella Fletcher, who lives in the shadow of a terrible history: her mother was rumored to have collaborated with the Nazis.

_____ (VDB01297) 2011

13 hours 48 minutes

Jackalope Dreams

(Adult Fiction)

Author: Mary Clearman Blew

Read By: Sue Vap

Winner of the 2008 Western Heritage Award, *Jackalope Dreams* plays out against the mythology of the Old West. This is a sometimes comical, sometimes poignant tale of the newly orphaned, spinsterish Corey coming-of-age a little late. As she tries to recapture an old dream of becoming a painter—of preserving some modicum of true art amid the reality of modern Montana—Corey finds herself figuring in other dramas.

Strong language

_____ (VDB01298) 2008

15 hours 45 minutes

***Death Before Breakfast* (An Inspector Lawrence Mystery)**

(Adult Fiction)

Author: Gwyneth Bledsoe

Read By: Deborah Lynch

Chief Inspector Lawrence and Sergeant Wilson encounter the unexpected in London's Notting Hill suburb. They travel to a Yorkshire art lover's mansion and to Paris in their quest to unravel a twisting trail of clues involving stolen paintings, an anonymous letter, and an unidentified body. Laced with English cultural icons and artful characters.

_____ (VDB01299) 2009

5 hours 52 minutes

Christmas Horse

(Juvenile Fiction)

Author: Glenn Balch

Read By: Rosemary Ardinger

"He's no good. Not with a horse like King for a sire!" That's what Ben Darby's father thinks. But Ben believes in the little black colt and takes on the job of breaking and training the son of the wild stallion. Is Inky all that Ben believes him to be? The test comes the day Johnny Horn rides for the calf-roping championship on Ben Darby's Christmas Horse.

_____ (VDB01301) 1949

5 hours 59 minutes

Idaho Talking Book Service
Idaho Commission for Libraries
325 W State St
Boise, ID 83702-6055

**FREE MATTER FOR THE
BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**



Idaho Commission for Libraries
Idaho Talking Book Service
325 W State St
Boise, ID 83702

The TBS newsletter with this order form is available on cassette 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>. This newsletter is also available for download via the IDAHO SHELF Project.

Converted Books: The following Fiction Idaho books were originally recorded for cassette but are now available as a digital cartridge.

<i>Border Vengeance</i>		(Adult Fiction)
____VDB00565	Read by Gail Morgan	pub. 1986 4 Hours 20 Minutes
<i>A Coeur d'Alene Indian Story</i>		(Juvenile Fiction)
____VDB00127	Read by Norma Ericson	pub. 1990 1 Hour 6 Minutes
<i>The Legend of Jimmy Spoon</i>		(Juvenile Fiction)
____VDB00069	Read by Norma Ericson	pub. 1990 3 Hours 6 Minutes
<i>The Linchpin: The Oregon Trail in 1843</i>		(Adult Fiction)
____VDB00546	Read by Clair White	pub. 1984 9 Hours 36 Minutes
<i>Lonesome Land</i>		(Adult Fiction)
____VDB00537	Read by Virginia Wylie	pub. 1943 7 Hours 25 Minutes
<i>Walk A Rainbow Trail: Family Adventures in Contentment</i>		(Adult Fiction)
____VDB00405	Read by Norma Ericson	pub. 1974 5 Hour 6 Minutes

What Are You Reading?

Tina Schilling, an Office Specialist at the Idaho Commission for Libraries, recently read *The Mermaid Chair* by Sue Monk Kidd, author of *The Secret Life of Bees*.

In the winter of 1988, Jessie gets a call that her mother, Nelle, has deliberately severed a finger. Although somewhat estranged from Nelle for a few years, Jessie returns to her childhood home on Egret Island, South Carolina to care for her troubled mother.

In a marriage where both she and her husband have become complacent, with her daughter away at college, and with a waning interest in the art that had once been her passion, Jessie is actually relieved to have some time away. She is at a time in her life when she's not sure where she fits.

Near Nelle's home is a monastery housing a beautiful chair carved with mermaids and dedicated to Saint Senara, the mythical mermaid saint. The abbey and chair have always been special to Jessie, but she never expected to be overwhelmed with passion for a Benedictine monk seeking refuge there after a devastating loss in his life. Jessie is forced to confront her present confusion, her relationship with her estranged

mother, and her other emotional ties. After decades of marriage she starts to question whether she is craving an independence she never had the chance to experience. As she begins to reawaken, Jessie must also confront the circumstances of her father's death, a tragedy that continues to haunt her and her mother over thirty years later.

Tina thinks that women might find *The Mermaid Chair* more appealing than men would. It is the story of Jessie finding herself, dealing with issues resulting from her life choices, and embracing "the sensual pull of the mermaid and the divine pull of the saint."

Some descriptions of sex.

Adult Fiction: DB060121 2005



Office Specialist Tina Schilling

Looking for a new author? If you like...

Karen Kingsbury, try

- Tracie Peterson
- Lori Wick

Louis L'Amour, try

- Max Brand
- Loren Estleman
- Zane Grey
- A. B. Guthrie
- Kirby Jonas (local Idaho author)
- Elmer Kelton
- Larry McMurtry
- Lewis Patten
- Luke Short
- Richard S. Wheeler

Maeve Binchy, try

- Mary Alice Monroe

Mary Higgins Clark, try

- Sandra Brown
- Carol Higgins Clark
- Greg Iles

Michael Connelly, try

- James Lee Burke
- Stephen Cannell
- Patricia Cornwell
- Stuart Kaminsky
- Jonathan Kellerman
- Donald Westlake

Nevada Barr, try

- C. J. Box
- Lilian Jackson Braun
- Deborah Crombie
- Sue Grafton
- Sue Henry
- Dana Stabenow

Nicholas Sparks try

- Richard Paul Evans

Robert B. Parker, try

- Agatha Christie
- Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- Loren Estleman

- Dick Francis

- Elmore Leonard
- John D. MacDonald
- Walter Mosley
- Marcia Muller
- Sara Paretsky
- Rex Stout

Scott Turow, try

- Richard North Patterson

Stephen King, try

- Tanith Lee
- Anne Rice

Tom Clancy, try

- Jeffrey Archer
- Larry Bond
- Len Deighton

Tony Hillerman, try

- Sharyn McCrumb



TBS 10² Club



The newest centenarians to join the Talking Book Service 10² (Ten Squared) Club are:

Cline Keister of Caldwell,
Born 04/20/1913

Ed Landstrom of Lewiston
Born 04/22/1913

Library Resource: NoveList

Are you looking for different authors or genres to read? The Talking Book Service Customer Service Representatives are wonderful resources, but there is also a free, online resource at your disposal: NoveList. One of the LiLI databases—a group of online resources—NoveList is available free to all Idaho residents. All the LiLI databases are compatible with screen readers.

NoveList can be searched by author, genre, and age group. You can also find author read-alikes, book discussion guides, and titles similar to your favorite books. You can even create an account to keep track of your preferences each time you begin a new search. When you

identify titles of interest, more information about the title is just a click away. Not all the titles listed will be available in the Talking Book Service collection, but many will be.

Go to www.lili.org to use NoveList. The first time you use the LiLI databases, you will be asked to enter your city and zip code. After this initial login, subsequent logins on the same computer will be automatic. On the lili.org page, select “Something to Read” in the “I Want to Find” box; NoveList is the first link in the list.

Try it out and discover more books to enjoy! Stay tuned for information about more LiLI databases in upcoming issues.

Postal Carrier of the Year Recognition

It is obvious many dedicated postal carriers deliver TBS materials throughout Idaho. So far, more than 60 nominations have been submitted from TBS users residing in Arimo to Weiser, and all places in between. Most common accolades include delivering materials to the door instead of placing them in the mail box, always being friendly and courteous, and placing rubber bands around multiple mailing containers to make them easier to handle.

The large number of nominations will make it hard to select one carrier to recognize as the official Postal Carrier of 2012, but all nominees will be notified of their nomination and the reasons they were nominated. Nominators are also encouraged to thank their nominees personally for a job well done. The final decision will be made by mid-June with recognition at the recipient’s local Post Office occurring sometime during the summer.

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>. This newsletter is also available for download via the IDAHO SHELF Project.



This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.

TBS Snapshot Day



Library Snapshot Day is an opportunity for Idaho's libraries to capture one day's activity as an example of the variety of tasks and persons served each day.

- 10 volunteers contributed 25 hours, 36 minutes

A couple user comments about the TBS service:

"I would be lost without my books"
"I've been a patron since 1986. I love the service and am always listening to either my cassettes or digital books."

On April 16, the Talking Book Service (TBS) staff:

- Checked out: 736 books
- Checked in: 650 books
- Received: 39 calls
- Made: 19 calls
- Enrolled: 4 new users

In addition:

- 2 users visited the library

Multiply the above statistics by 260 working days, and you can see why the staff is always busy.

Add more complimentary comments like those above, and you can see why the staff loves what we do!