

Connections

Talking Book Service News

Let's Talk About It Adds "Idaho @ 150" Theme

Since 1985, the *Let's Talk About It* (LTAI) program has been bringing adult reading discussion groups together with humanities scholars in Idaho's public libraries to discuss fine literature. These books explore American values, history, culture, aging, classics, and more. Audio versions of these titles are available to Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS) users.

In commemoration of Idaho's territorial sesquicentennial in 2013, and in conjunction with other statewide events, LTAI added the category "Idaho at 150," which encourages Idahoans to learn about the state's history and culture and reflect on shared experiences. Books in this category include publications by Idaho authors, about Idaho events, or with Idaho locations or people in the story, as well as titles cross-listed with related LTAI themes such as "Western Fiction" and "Tough Paradise."

This year 16 libraries across the state are participating in LTAI. Fall 2012 sessions are:

- Bonners Ferry, Boundary County District Library—"Biographies/Autobiographies"
- Coeur d'Alene Public Library—"Global Perspectives"
- Hailey Public Library—"Humanity of Science & Technology"
- Montpelier, Bear Lake County Library—"Humor & Satire"
- Priest River, West Bonner Library District—"Humor & Satire"
- Rupert, DeMary Memorial Library—"Idaho at 150"
- Stanley Community Library—"Other Americas"

Spring 2013 sessions will take place at libraries in Boise, Eagle, Grangeville, Hansen (with Kimberly Public Library), Jerome, Marsing, Moscow, Orofino, and Salmon. TBS users in each of these communities will be notified of the book titles, dates, and times of the programs.

Mailing Reminder

The following reminders will help ensure that your Talking Book Service (TBS) materials arrive promptly at your home:

- Contact the TBS at 800-458-3271 if your mailing address or phone number changes so we can update our records.
- Let us know if you want your service to be temporarily held and contact us when you want it to be reinstated.
- If you want to stop receiving one or more magazine subscriptions, contact the TBS instead of refusing the mail. When you refuse a publication, you are automatically suspended on all publication mailing lists.
- Remember that address changes for materials received from the TBS take place immediately, but can take up to three months for magazines received from the National Library Service.
- The U.S. Postal Service is obligated to deliver all TBS materials to your home, but is not required to pick them up.

If this occurs, you must make arrangements to have the TBS materials returned to the Post Office.

- If you are having delivery problems, contact your local post office and explain the problem. The TBS can only intervene if the staff has questions about Free Delivery to the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Staff cannot direct USPS staff to pick up your mail or provide special services.



Talking Book Topics Changes

Beginning with the July–August 2012 issue, *Talking Book Topics* will list up to five hundred titles per issue to eliminate a backlog of unannounced digital talking books. Due to space and cost considerations, until further notice these titles will contain one-line annotations with their subject categories and advisories for violence, strong language, or explicit descriptions of sex.

Email: talkingbooks@libraries.idaho.gov • Website: libraries.idaho.gov/tbs
Phone: 208-334-2150 or 800-458-3271

Commonly Asked Questions

What are the special features of the advanced player, and how do they work?

The advanced player allows the user to navigate through various sections of the book using the **Menu** key, and bookmark specific sections of the book to return to another time using the **Mark** key.

To understand what navigation options are available, you first need to know how a book is marked up. Let the book play through the title information and listen for the navigation instructions that follow soon after the title. The statement begins with "This book contains markers allowing direct access to... at level...".

Once you know how the book is marked up, use the **Menu** key to access the level to which you wish to navigate. For example, cookbooks offer navigation to sections, recipes, and even ingredients and directions within a recipe. Once you hear the navigation level you want on the menu, such as "section," use the **Next** or **Prev** key to advance through that level until you hear the section you are looking for, like desserts. Press the **Play** key and the book will start playing at that point.

The bookmark feature is another convenient feature of the advanced player. When you hear something you would like to return to later, add a bookmark by pressing the **Mark** key. For example, to bookmark a cookie recipe you'd like to return to, just press the **Mark** key at the recipe. Return to bookmarks by pressing the **Menu** key until you hear "bookmark," then press the **Prev** or **Next** key until you hear the location you are looking for. You can add as many bookmarks as you like.

Note: These instructions only work with the digital advanced player. If you have a standard player and would like to replace it with an advanced player, contact the Talking Book Service at 800-458-3271 and one will be sent to you.



Features of Advanced Digital Player

Magazine Corner

We are currently distributing the following magazines, recorded in Idaho and other regional Talking Book Service (TBS) studios, on cartridges:

- *Arizona Highways*
- *AARP: The Magazine*
- *Cappers Weekly*
- *Country*
- *Good Old Days*
- *Idaho Falls Magazine*
- *Idaho Magazine*
- *Overland Journal*
- *Sunset*

The following locally recorded titles will be circulated on cartridges with their next issue:

- *Idaho Landscapes*
- *Idaho Yesterdays*
- *McCall*
- *Owyhee Outpost*
- *Sandpoint Magazine*

As we continue to increase the number of magazines and issues on cartridges, please remember that they have a two-week checkout time. Please read and return them in a timely manner so that other patrons may also enjoy them.

Thank you for your assistance in getting these circulated quickly.

In the fall, NLS will begin transitioning its audio magazine program to digital cartridges. Upon completion of the transition in early 2013, all audio magazine readers will need to have a digital talking-

book player to continue receiving their magazines. Contact the TBS at 800-458-3271 to request a digital player if you do not already have one.

The blue audio magazine cartridges will ship in a dark red container with a distinctive logo. The cartridge may contain several audio magazines to which you subscribe. When a cartridge with more than one magazine is inserted into a digital talking-book player, it will announce instructions for navigating among the multiple magazines on that cartridge. The cartridges will be sent out at the frequency of your most frequent magazine. For example, readers of *The Week* will receive their cartridges once a week. Magazine cartridges are recycled and must be returned. The process for cartridge return is the same for both books and magazines: turn over the address card on the container and place the cartridge in its container for mailing. As with books, if cartridges are not returned your service may be disrupted.

Readers who receive *Talking Book Topics* on cassette will soon receive it on digital cartridge with their other audio magazines. The print order forms for *Talking Book Topics* will be mailed to users separately from the magazine cartridge. As with other titles circulated on cartridges, *Talking Book Topics* must be returned in order to receive future issues.

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, call 800-458-3271, or order online at <http://libraries.idaho.gov/TBS/CurrentBooks/Summer2012>.

To download locally produced digital titles:

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

The Story of Silver City, Idaho: Gold Town to Ghost Town

(Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Julia Conway Welch

Read By: Kathy Yribar

This book chronicles the story of Silver City, Idaho from the first discoveries of silver at nearby Jordan Creek in 1863 to the work of those who still labor to preserve its heritage. This ghost town is a long road trip over the Owyhee Desert and a steep climb up through rugged mountains. Here, for over a hundred years, the hopes, struggles, achievements, and failures of mining in the West were played out against a backdrop of unrivaled beauty.

_____ (VDB01221) 1982

3 hours 29 minutes

Voices From the Snake River Plain

(Adult Fiction)

Authors: Bonnie Dodge, Dixie Thomas Reale, and Patricia Santos
Marcantonio

Read By: Katherine Parker

In this anthology, three award-winning Idaho authors offer thought-provoking tales that range from humorous to haunting, poignant to tragic. But every story comes from the heart of the Snake River Plain and echoes the human heart.

_____ (VDB01234) 2009

5 hours 23 minutes

Some strong language and some sex

Red Thunder

(Adult Fiction)

Author: David Matheson**Read By: Jeff Sollars**

Dave Matheson, a member of the Coeur d'Alene Indian tribe, has written a memoir of a People. *Red Thunder* is a story of man's harmony with the natural world. Here, the oral traditions of the ancestors are written down with the power of heart and soul. The historical setting is the early 1700s prior to European contact. Readers will discover a deep, timely relevance that will bring peace, harmony, and understanding to their own daily lives.

_____ (VDB01238) 2002, 2011

9 hours 38 minutes

The King's Pines of Idaho: A Story of the Browns of McCall

(Adult Nonfiction)

Author: Grace Edgington Jordan**Read By: Rosemary Ardinger**

With the profits from their lumber mill and their tireless and generous civic efforts, the Brown family helped McCall become a strong community, with an infrastructure to support year-round residents. Of course, all of this could not have happened without the abundance of the "King's Pines," the sturdy, tall, and straight white pine trees.

_____ (VDB01247) 1998, reprinted from 1961 10 hours 30 minutes

Idaho Falls (Images of America)

(Adult Nonfiction)

Author: William Hathaway**Read By: Colette Cowman**

This retrospective on Idaho Falls, Idaho relies on newspaper and Museum of Idaho archives as well as local family histories. Although the book consists of mainly photos and illustrations, many of the captions contain interesting historical anecdotes and have been included in the book narration.

_____ (VDB01276) 2006

2 hours 13 minutes

Volt: Stories

(Adult Fiction)

Author: Alan Heathcock**Read By: Kris Query**

Idaho author Alan Heathcock's stark realism is leavened by a lyric energy that matches the brutality of the surface. And as you move through the wind-lashed landscape of these stories, faint signs of hope appear underfoot. In *Volt*, the work of a writer who's hell-bent on wrenching out whatever beauty this savage world has to offer, Heathcock's tales of lives set afire light up the sky like signal flares touched off in a moment of desperation.

_____ (VDB01289) 2011

7 hours 22 minutes
Some strong language**Order the following magazines in the digital format:**

- _____ *Arizona Highways*
- _____ *AARP: The Magazine*
- _____ *Cappers Weekly*
- _____ *Country*
- _____ *Good Old Days*
- _____ *Idaho Falls Magazine*
- _____ *Idaho Landscapes*
- _____ *Idaho Magazine*
- _____ *Idaho Yesterdays*
- _____ *McCall*
- _____ *Owyhee Outpost*
- _____ *Overland Journal*
- _____ *Sandpoint Magazine*
- _____ *Sunset*

Thank you to our volunteers for all you do to improve our services!

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

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BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**



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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.

Digital player and cartridge

We continue to convert our collection over to digital. As a result, locally recorded books produced in 2011 and later are available on digital cartridge only. But don't worry; we have a large supply of digital players. If you don't have one yet or if you would like to replace your standard digital player with an advanced digital player, call 800-458-3271.



The digital player and cartridge

Recent Donations to TBS

General Donations

Lois Beno
Ester & Bobby Bopp
William & Joyce Dodge
Gwen Riedel
Venice Walker
Carolyn Wilkerson

Memorial Donations

Irene Street
Robert & Kathleen Edwards
Ada Gardeners
James & Susan Kwiecien
Virginia Sprague
Donald & Beth Suhr

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!

Author Likes–Romance

Looking for some new romance authors? Customer Service Representative Loretta Paine recommends the following:

PG-Rated Romance:

Read all of Grace Livingston Hill and Nicholas Sparks. Also try:
Tamera Alexander
Wanda Brunstetter
Debbie Macomber
Lauraine Snelling

R-Rated Romance:

Read all of Nora Roberts and Danielle Steel. Also try:
Catherine Anderson
Robyn Carr
Janet Dailey
Susan Mallery
Linda Lael Miller
Carly Phillips
Jodi Thomas
Sherryl Woods

R-Rated Foreign Romance:

Read all of Johanna Lindsey and Catherine Coulter. Also try:
Mary Balogh
Jo Beverley
Lorraine Heath
Stephanie Laurens
Amanda Quick

The Talking Book Service staff is always ready to suggest new authors or genres that you might enjoy. Call us at 800-458-3271.

What Are You Reading?



State Librarian Ann Joslin is reading *The Night Circus*, by Erin Morgenstern. In this romance/fantasy "The Circus of Dreams"—open only from sunset to sunrise—arrives without warning and leaves without notice.

Within its black-and-white striped tents, fantastical events happen and illusionists Celia and Marco face off in an epic magical competition with rules they don't fully understand. The two have been trained since childhood to play out the rivalry of their mentors, unaware that their battle is intended to end with only one survivor.

As Celia and Marco mesmerize the circus patrons and the reader, a deep and magical love develops between them. As the game plays out, their dark mentors call for ever fiercer competition and their love sets off a domino effect of dangerous consequences, leaving their future and the fate of the circus hanging in the balance.

The magic in the story is so skillful that it is sometimes difficult for the circus patrons or the reader to

tell reality from illusion. Ann recommends this book and says that the beautiful descriptions of the nightly wonders at the circus hooked her right away.

Some strong language and descriptions of sex. 2011
Adult Fiction: DB073783

Have a book you'd like to share?

TBS users are invited to share favorite titles or genres. Please send a brief description of the genre or titles and why you like them. Provide contact information so staff can verify that you supplied the descriptions.

TBS 10² Club



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

- Thelma Gurley, Boise, born July 9, 1912
- Mary Lawrence, Twin Falls, born August 23, 1912
- Virginia Hunt, Lewiston, born September 10, 1912

Volunteer Appreciation at the Commission

From January through December 2011, 119 individuals gave 10,000 hours of their time at the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL)!

We recognized their dedication during Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 15-21, 2012 with a tour of the Idaho State Historical Society, goodies supplied by ICfL staff throughout the week at the "Volunteer Café," a photo collage poster, and a photo slide show.

In June we had a "Volunteer Lunch on the Lawn" and were treated with perfect weather for celebrating the 2011 volunteers and their commitment, including the following generous donations of their time:

- 70 recording production volunteers: 4,800 hours
- 33 support volunteers: 3,200 hours
- 16 Telephone Pioneers: 1,200 hours
- 5 groups from schools, counties, and organizations: 800 hours

Milestones for our 2011 volunteers include:

- **5-year service lapel pins:**
Jake Jacobson, Darcie Millard, Jeff Sollars, Sue Vap
- **20-year service lapel pins:**
Shirley Moss, Fred Riddle

- **1,000-hour award:** Roger Vega
- **2,000-hour award:** Ruby Weaver

Statistics for 2011 include:

- **Digital books recorded:** 38 titles (313 hours of recording time)
- **Local digital book titles duplicated:** 373
- **BARD digital book titles duplicated:** 1,775
- **Books converted from reel to digital:** 134 (402 reels converted)
- **Magazine issues recorded:** 27
- **Magazines duplicated:** 3,756

The Commission is grateful to all of our volunteers and their contributions to the services and programs we provide.



Volunteer Coordinator Sheila Winther with volunteers Ruby Weaver and Fred Riddle



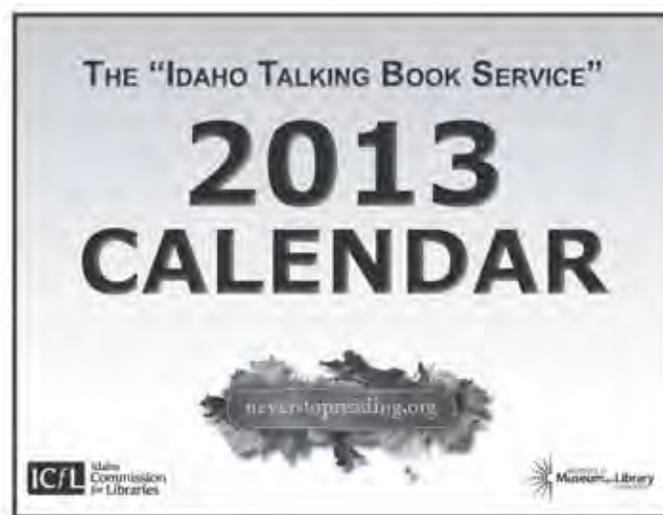
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This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.



2013 Calendar Arrival

The 2013 Talking Book Service (TBS) large-print calendar will be sent to TBS users in November. The 2013 theme is "Never Stop Reading." Each month features a favorite read of staff at the Idaho Commission for Libraries. Please contact the TBS if you haven't received your copy by Thanksgiving.