

# Connections

## Talking Book Service News

### Postal Carrier of the Year Recognition

Talking Book Service (TBS) users nominated almost 90 postal carriers from all parts of Idaho for this year's recognition. So many quality nominations made the selection team's job a difficult one, but they enjoyed reading the descriptions of each postal carrier's kindnesses. Gretchen Young, a Postal Carrier in Boise for more than 20 years, was selected for the 2013 Postal Carrier Recognition.

Gretchen was nominated by TBS user Betty Jordan. Betty appreciates Gretchen's help in filling out a change-of-address form each winter, her reminders to turn over the mailing address card, and delivery of items to the door when the mailbox is too full.

Betty Jordan, Sue Sebranek of the Talking Book Advisory Committee, and TBS staff members Terri King and Sue Walker visited the Boise Overland Branch of the U.S. Postal Service in June to present Gretchen with a plaque and letter



**Postal Carrier of the Year  
Gretchen Young and  
Station Manager Les Miller**

of thanks from State Librarian Ann Joslin. Also in attendance were staff from the Postal Service, including Station Manager Les Miller, Boise Postmaster Daniel Corral, and USPS District Manager Jimmy Wolf.

The recognition event ended with refreshments, which allowed everyone to congratulate Gretchen.

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**Postal Carriers** *(continued from page 1)*

Thanks to all for submitting nominations. Your postal carriers were notified via their Post Offices of your nominations and thanked for their many efforts. The following carriers were nominated to receive the 2013 Postal Carrier of the Year Recognition. (In some cases, no last name was given.) Congratulations to all and thanks for your hard work!

**2013 Postal Carrier Nominees:**

<b>Ammon:</b>	Lance Walker	<b>Garden City:</b>	Lydia Buttram
<b>Ashton:</b>	Linda Bolland		Betty Hotenger
<b>Blackfoot:</b>	Guy	<b>Gooding:</b>	Betty Waugh
	Amber Mangum	<b>Grangeville:</b>	Kristin Frish
<b>Boise:</b>	Vaughn	<b>Hailey:</b>	Lorraine Jesser
	Will Calhoun	<b>Hayden Lake:</b>	Ed Berti
	Brent Ellis	<b>Heyburn:</b>	Sue Aquino
	Deborah Harris		Barbara Rodriguez
	Bill James	<b>Idaho Falls:</b>	Mike Baker
	Chris Morabito		John Garn
	Cindy Oaks		Peter Nixon
	Keith Parbs		Harold Tanner
	Trish Ransom	<b>Kellogg:</b>	Hilary Groves
	Kim Reeder	<b>Kuna:</b>	Larry Reeder
	Cathy Smith	<b>Lewiston:</b>	Rose Love
	Brian Sperling	<b>Malad:</b>	Alan Smith
	Erica Ury		Kevin Smith
	Gretchen Young	<b>Menan:</b>	Konnie Barney
	Jerry Zimmererson	<b>Moore:</b>	Dawn Jensen
<b>Bonnars Ferry:</b>	Mary Dinning	<b>Nampa:</b>	Scott
<b>Bruneau:</b>	Danny Lasuan		Rose Eckhart
<b>Buhl:</b>	Kathy Alexander		Doug Metzger
	Doug Hilbert		Sheryl Newman
	Tina Whited		Angie Thomas
<b>Burley:</b>	Gary King		Diane Verner
<b>Caldwell:</b>	Joe	<b>Paul:</b>	Teresa Knobbe
<b>Coeur D'Alene:</b>	Jessica Carroll	<b>Payette:</b>	Rodney Slabaugh
<b>Craigmont:</b>	Cindy Hill	<b>Pocatello:</b>	Nancy Bauer
<b>Emmett:</b>	Mike Carroll		David Bloxham
	Kathy Gatfield		

*(continued on page 3)*

**Postal Carriers** (continued from page 2)

Troy Cornel	<b>Sandpoint:</b> Vicky Authier
Brandon Darius	<b>Shelley:</b> Gina Nelson
Ed Peterson	<b>Shoshone:</b> Diana Koontz
Dave Rice	<b>Star:</b> Marnie Summers
<b>Pollock:</b> Betty Holderness	<b>Twin Falls:</b> Richard Walker
<b>Rexburg:</b> James Nef	<b>Ucon:</b> Deana Young
<b>Rigby:</b> Doris Drake	<b>Weiser:</b> Sherrie Neesen Smith
Fred Smith	<b>Wendell:</b> Lynda Nichols
Teresa Yeates	

If your carrier was not recognized this year, start noting all those special things he or she does when delivering your TBS materials. You will then be ready to fully describe why he or she deserves to receive the 2014 Talking Book Carrier Recognition when nominations open next year! Details will be announced in the winter issue of the newsletter.

**Magazine Corner**

Do you enjoy information from a variety of sources, but don't have the time to listen to multiple magazine titles every month or two? If so, *Choice Magazine Listening* may be the title for you. Published four times a year, each issue contains 12 hours of unabridged articles on a variety of topics from some of the best known magazines in the world. Sample articles from diverse titles such as *Smithsonian*, *Poetry*, and *Rolling Stone*.

Effective immediately, this title will no longer be distributed on cassette. However, it is now available for download from BARD or by download directly from the magazine website at [www.choicemagazinelisting.org](http://www.choicemagazinelisting.org).

To receive a cartridge directly from the publisher, please subscribe at this website: [www.choicemagazinelisting.org/content/subscribe](http://www.choicemagazinelisting.org/content/subscribe), or contact the publisher toll-free at 888.724.6423.

**TBS 10<sup>2</sup> Club**

Recent centenarians joining the Talking Book Service  
10<sup>2</sup> (Ten Squared) Club are:

Alberta Walker, Pocatello, Born 03/04/1914

Jack R. Graham, Fruitland, Born 09/01/1914



## Recent Donations to the Idaho Talking Book Service

### General Donations

Marien Barton  
Bobby & Esther Bopp  
Deborah DeThomas  
William & Joyce Dodge  
Eagles Auxiliary #115  
Lila Hamley  
Patricia Myklebust  
Bill & Judy Purdom  
Margaret Simons

### Memorial Donations

#### Vernon Gillespie

Margaret & Joe Black  
Mary Holm & John Cristobal  
Frances Guinn  
Isaac Family  
Lloyd & Orla Knight  
Richard & Kay Neal  
Jack & Dena Russell

Donald Parrott  
Connie Kinyon  
Anita McMahan  
Jill Varin

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!**

**Attention: The Talking Book Service will no longer circulate book and magazine titles on cassette after June 30, 2015.**

Users are encouraged to request a digital player from the Talking Book Service at 800.458.3271 and enjoy improved sound quality and ease of use.



The digital player and cartridge

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**New Books Order Form**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

To order, select the VDB numbers of the titles that you want and mail this pre-addressed Order Form or call 800.458.3271.

To download these and other locally produced digital titles:

- 1) Go to <http://webopac.klas.com/id1aopac>.
- 2) Log in.
- 3) Click on Browse and select "Locally Produced Shelf Content" for a list of locally produced titles.

***Anatomy of the Snake River Plain***

\_\_\_\_VDB00135 Read by Mary Jane Marlow pub. 1992 1 hour 40 minutes

***Between these Mountains***

\_\_\_\_VDB00252 Read by Mildred Hoggan pub. 1970 6 hours 33 minutes

***Blazing a Wagon Trail to Oregon***

\_\_\_\_VDB00165 Read by Daniel Baer pub. 1993 5 hours 22 minutes

***Buried Treasures of the Rocky Mountain West***

\_\_\_\_VDB00139 Read by Norma Ericson pub. 1993 5 hours 10 minutes

***The Clearwater Story***

\_\_\_\_VDB00590 Read by Roy Vance pub. 1979 10 hours 21 minutes

***Covered Wagons to Jets***\_\_\_\_VDB00575 Read by J. Wendemvorg unpublished manuscript  
2 hours 22 minutes***The Day Before Idaho***

\_\_\_\_VDB00177 Read by Norma Ericson pub. 1995 6 hours 53 minutes

***Final Harvest***\_\_\_\_VDB00226 Read by Betty Weber pub. 1964 54 minutes  
*Part of the Idaho "Let's Talk About It" collection*

***First Ladies of Idaho, 1890-1990***

\_\_\_\_VDB00082 Read by Maryan Stephens pub. 1990 48 minutes

***Guide to the Oregon and California Trails in Idaho***

\_\_\_\_VDB00198 Read by Jeanne Alzola pub. 1992 3 hours 19 minutes

***Historical Treasures From Idaho Kitchens***

\_\_\_\_VDB00206 Read by Madis Chapin pub. 1967 8 hours 16 minutes

***History of Idaho***

\_\_\_\_VDB00196 Read by Larry Weeks pub. 1995 28 hours 27 minutes

***Idaho is Home***

\_\_\_\_VDB00114 Read by Walter Wells pub. 1993 2 hours 13 minutes

***Idaho Loners: Hermits, Solitaries, and Individualists***

\_\_\_\_VDB00170 Read by Carla Stern pub. 1994 9 hours 2 minutes

***Is Idaho in Iowa?***

\_\_\_\_VDB00067 Read by Edith Bond pub. 2003 1 hour 57 minutes

***The Magruder Murders***

\_\_\_\_VDB00089 Read by Edith Bond pub. 1991 5 hours 22 minutes

***Major Andrew***

\_\_\_\_VDB00601 Read by Alice Muscara pub. 1986 1 hour 28 minutes

***On the Way: The Journey of the Idaho Benedictine Sisters***

\_\_\_\_VDB00324 Read by Maryan Stephens pub. 1997 13 hours 2 minutes

***Soiled Doves***

\_\_\_\_VDB00168 Read by Edith Bond pub. 1994 4 hours 25 minutes

***Talk About Tough: Life and Times of a True American Cowboy***

\_\_\_\_VDB00311 Read by John Davidson pub. 1995 6 hours 5 minutes

***This was Cattle Ranching***

\_\_\_\_VDB00254 Read by Mary Croney pub. 1973 5 hours

***Western Idaho Fair***

\_\_\_\_VDB00245 Read by Jeanne Alzola pub. 1997 2 hours 20 minutes

## Locally Recorded Idaho Talking Books on BARD

In April, the Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS) received an invitation from the National Library Service (NLS) to join the first pilot project to evaluate locally recorded books as a first step to adding locally recorded Idaho books to BARD, NLS's national book download site. The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) was pleased to accept the invitation, as we were confident the quality of our books was well within the NLS standards.

Sheila Winther, volunteer services coordinator and recording studio manager at the ICfL, completed all the steps to submitting our first book for evaluation, and we are proud to say we received a flattering response to our book. From the NLS evaluation response, "This is an exceptionally well produced book, far above average. The source files are produced to a high standard; technical and artistic quality is excellent. Carla Stern [a volunteer at the Commission] does a fine job with this book's narration."

Since we passed the test with flying colors, we are now approved to place all of our Idaho digitally recorded books on BARD, making them available to TBS readers nationwide. Karen Keninger, Director of NLS, said in her congratulations letter, "I am pleased to inform you that your book DBC00781, *The Fifth Generation: A Nez Perce Tale*, by Linwood Laughy, is now available on BARD. The posting of your book to BARD marks an important milestone in our effort to increase the quantity of materials available on BARD. Congratulations."



TBS narrator Carla Stern in recording booth

As part of the process to become eligible to place our books on BARD, we have a new book number prefix, DBC. From this point on, all books released from our studio will have this prefix. Any books with the new prefix announced in this and future newsletters will be accessible on BARD, and of course you can still order them from us as a cartridge to play in your machine. As previously recorded Idaho books become

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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  
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The TBS newsletter with this order form is available on cartridge 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>. To download via the online catalog, search "*Connections, Idaho Talking Book Service News.*"

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### Idaho Books on BARD *continued from page 7*

available on BARD, their book numbers will also be changed to the new prefix.

At this time, there are eight regional TBS libraries placing their books on BARD. Idaho is proud to be included in this first group. Our Volunteer studio production team takes great care and pride in their work, narrating, monitoring, editing, and assembling our Idaho Talking Books. They love to hear feedback from you, the readers, so if you read and enjoy any of the locally produced books, please send your comments, and they will be shared with our volunteers.

You or a family member or friend can download books and magazines from BARD if you have a computer and high speed Internet access. Contact the TBS at 800.458.3271 for more information.

## Volunteer Highlight—Bob Evans

Bob Evans volunteers at the Idaho Commission for Libraries every Tuesday, and he is always willing to come on other days if we need extra help. In the past six years he has volunteered over 200 hours. He inspects returned Talking Books, making sure the content is correct and there is no damage to the cartridge or cassettes before the book is sent to another user.

Bob's daughter, Dale Drew, got him into volunteering at the Commission. In fact, volunteering is a family affair, with daughter Leigh Evans also helping to inspect TBS books.

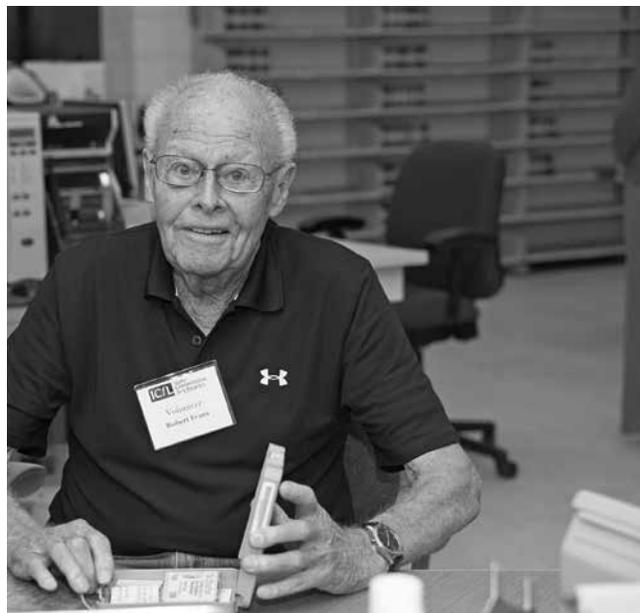
Bob likes volunteering because of the friendliness of everyone at the Commission and the fact that he is helping out.

Volunteer Coordinator Sheila Winther says, "Bob is a very friendly guy, always quick with a smile and a 'good morning.' Commission staff often comment on how nice he is to work with. He is also generous with his time, often filling in for other volunteers who need to take time off. Thanks to Bob and all the other Talking Book inspectors, returned books get checked-in in a timely

manner, which in turn triggers the system to send the next book to our readers."

Bob is a woodworker and in his spare time he enjoys making furniture and cabinetry, which he often gives as gifts. So it may come as no surprise that what he enjoys reading most is woodworking magazines.

We are grateful to Bob for his dedication and all the time he gives to help with the Talking Book Service program.



**Volunteer Bob Evans inspects a returned TBS title**

## Loretta Paine Retires

If the only constant in life is change, this fact was demonstrated again on August 15th when Loretta Paine retired after almost 25 years working with the Talking Book Service (TBS).

In January 1990 Loretta joined TBS as a records clerk. She began her duties as a Reader's Advisor in 1998 and continued working directly with users until her retirement. Over the years she saw changes in book and magazine formats, equipment, quality of recordings, the ability to download books and magazines directly, and the software used to serve TBS users. What did not change was her dedication to help each user find just the right reading material.

Along the way Loretta's quality customer service resulted in the receipt of a large donation from a patron which allowed the digital studio to be constructed. Another of Loretta's users is so fond of the service that he makes donations in memory of deceased family and friends.

Loretta enjoyed seeing the ways the Talking Book Service changed users. Some users who had never been big readers discovered the joy of reading while others expanded their reading horizons and shared good authors and titles with her. As one user stated, "TBS allows me to soar with eagles."



When asked if she has any regrets, Loretta stated, "I feel sad that so many eligible persons are unaware of this great service. We joke that TBS was the best kept secret of the 20th century. I hope it doesn't remain that way in the 21st century." In addition to missing Loretta's expertise and customer service, staff will also miss her delicious cookies, cakes, and pecan pie. We may see a change in our waistlines!

Change continues now that Loretta has more time to enjoy gardening, discover more authors, and of course, spoil those grandsons!

## Free U.S. Currency Readers for TBS users

Free currency readers will be available to Talking Book Service (TBS) users thanks to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's U.S. Currency Reader Program. The currency reader, developed by Orbit Research ([www.orbitresearch.com](http://www.orbitresearch.com)) and now in its second generation, instantly and accurately identifies all U.S. bills in circulation including denominations of \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100. Normally priced between \$120 and \$130, iBill Talking Money Identifiers will be available free to users by the end of 2014.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) has announced a two-phased approach in broadening its U.S. Currency Reader Program. In phase 1, the BEP plans a four-month pilot program beginning on September 2, 2014.

"The pilot program allows the government to test its ordering and distribution processes and gauge demand for currency readers," the BEP stated in a news release.

The test program partners the BEP and the Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) which administers the Idaho Talking Book Service.

"The fact that we already have a process in place to provide reading materials to individuals who are blind or visually impaired made our partnership with the BEP a natural fit," explained Isabella Marques de Castilla, NLS Deputy Director. "Our role in the U.S. Currency Reader Program will be to process orders and distribute currency reader devices to eligible individuals."

When phase 1 launches on September 2, NLS patrons can request a free currency reader by calling 888.NLS.READ or by calling the Talking Book Service at 800.458.3271 and requesting a currency reader. Your name will be placed on the order list, and a currency reader will be sent when it is available.

Phase 2 starts on January 2, 2015, when the BEP makes free currency readers available to the broader U.S. population with individuals able to submit applications to receive them.



The currency reader

This newsletter is available on cartridge 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>. To download via the online catalog, search "Connections, Idaho Talking Book Service News."



This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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### Try an Idaho Author, by Terri King

**John H. Austin—VDB01175**

***So You Gotta Get Right Back ON???***

John Austin, Jr. shares his many amusing, and sometimes slightly embellished accounts of his lifetime adventures. These include stories of growing up on a ranch in Salmon, Idaho where he learned to hunt, fish, and cowboy. Austin is a multi-talented artist, a craftsman at working wood, metal, leather, glass, or stone. He now adds writer to that list of accomplishments.

**For high school and adult readers.**

**Vardis Fisher—VDB0402**

***In Tragic Life***

The story of an Idaho pioneer

family, seen through the eyes and mind of a young, impressionable boy. Vridar Hunter struggles to find meaning and understanding in a harsh and sometimes brutal environment.

*Contains some descriptions of violence and some strong language.*

**Patrick McManus—DB056691**

***They Shoot Canoes, Don't They?***

In these tongue-in-cheek tales about a sportsman's life, McManus celebrates the hidden pleasures, and the opportunities for disaster, in the recreations of camping, hunting, and fishing. He includes amusing accounts of his dog and an incorrigible old woodsman.