

PERM COPY North Dakota State Library



Discovery

Volume 13 Issue 2

Summer 2008

Volunteers – An Essential Piece of the Puzzle

Every year the North Dakota State Library Disability Services Department celebrates their volunteers with a Volunteer Appreciation event. This year the recognition reception was held Friday, April 25th at Trinity Community Center in Bismarck, ND. Chuck Suchy from Mandan, one of the foremost musical voices of the American Great Plains, provided a wonderful program of music for the volunteers and staff.

By using the theme “Volunteers – An Essential Piece of the Puzzle” volunteers were given the opportunity to see how each job interconnects to make it all come together for the Disability Services Department, just as a jigsaw puzzle is not complete until every piece has been carefully put into place. It is caring volunteers who make the whole operation “fit together” so nicely.

Volunteers at the North Dakota State Library Disability Services Department narrate books and magazines, read the daily newspapers for Dakota Radio Information Service (DRIS), act as substitute readers for DRIS, inspect, repair and duplicate tapes, pull and shelve books, check quality assurance of recordings, prepare mailings and cut news articles for the North Dakota resource file. There were 71 books and 39 magazines recorded by State Library volunteers this past year.

The State Library has 75 volunteers on the roster who donated a total of 4383 hours between April 2007 and March 2008, an average of 366 hours per month. Volunteers receiving special recognition for the hours they have accumulated over the years were: 300 hours—Kennard Friesz and Lori Orser; 750 hours—Harry Vadnie, Gerri Brakebush and Bob Westermeyer; 1000 hours—Priscilla Hanson; and 2000 hours—Mary Elizabeth Mason OSB. Three volunteers who retired after many years of service were recognized: Eva Braun since 1998, Clarence Freimarck since 1989, and Victor Lemke since 2000.

You can see why the North Dakota State Library is very grateful for the time and work that volunteers give to help make the Talking Books and DRIS programs successful. The State Library staff salutes all volunteers and their efforts! THANK YOU!

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- Talking Books Service 1-800-843-9948**
 - Dakota Radio Information Service 1-701-328-2185**
 - Machine Lending Agency 1-800-421-1181**

Macular Degeneration

If you are looking for a comprehensive source of information on Macular Degeneration check out www.mdsupport.org. Macular Degeneration Support is a non-profit public service organization that has been providing web-based information and support since 1995. The organization's website contains links to agencies and organizations for the blind, state agencies, vision centers, dealers in low vision devices, a complete low vision store, and an informational library. There is also a public awareness program for those without internet access. To contact them by mail, write: MD Support, 3600 Blue Ridge Blvd., Grandview, MO 64030.

Tips for Better Service

- There are four sides to each cassette tape. Be sure to listen to sides one and two, then press the side selector switch to the right and listen to sides three and four.
- If you want to put a temporary stop on your library service, please call the State Library at 1-800-843-9948. You will need to call again to start your books. The State Library will not generally stop magazines when a temporary hold is put on a user's account, but this is possible if a patron requests it.
- Always rewind the last tape in each box.
- If you receive a damaged cassette, please put a rubber band or string around the tape that is bad and place it in the box. Do not put the rubber band around the mailing container. Turn the mailing card over, check the "Defective" box, and return the container to the State Library. If you want another copy of the book, please call to request a replacement. Please refrain from putting notes in the books or mailing containers.

Communicating

with the State Library is very important. State Library Reader Advisors will be happy to assist you in any way to make your experience with Talking Books as pleasant as possible. Please call toll free at **(800) 843-9948** or **(701) 328-1408** for any of the following:

- If you change your name, address, or telephone number, temporarily or permanently.
- To make book requests.
- If you want to change the types, number, or frequency of books you receive.
- When you have problems with books or machines.
- If you want to change the format of the newsletter or catalogs you receive.
- To cancel your service, temporarily or permanently.
- Any other questions or problems.

Include your full name, address, and telephone number on all correspondence, request lists, e-mails and telephone messages. In order to serve you in the best way possible, it is essential that the State Library has the correct information.

Machines and Books: Gone But Not Forgotten

North Dakota Vision Services is the machine lending agency of the National Library Service (NLS). NLS is part of the Federal Government's Library of Congress and is responsible for keeping track of all equipment distributed to talking book patrons. Please be aware that all items, except for correspondence and catalogs, are property of the U.S. Government.

If you currently have more than one cassette machine, please return the extra unit to the State Library as soon as possible, as there is currently a shortage of machines. One machine is allowed for each registered patron; institutions may have more than one machine depending on the number of qualified individuals who are using the service.

Occasionally when a patron of Talking Books is unable to use the service anymore or has passed away, the equipment ends up in donations to Goodwill, put in a yard sale, or simply tossed away. Players and any other equipment, such as headphones and book markers, must be returned to North Dakota Vision Services. Books or magazines must be returned to the North Dakota State Library Disability Services. Please inform a responsible party that your talking book player and books need to be returned. There is no postage required when returning items; it is "Free Matter for the Blind" by U.S. mail.

If you have questions concerning these matters, please call 1-800-843-9948 or 701-328-1408 and State Library staff will be happy to advise you how or where to return items.

Keep in Touch

If you are planning to move out of North Dakota, please let the North Dakota State Library know as soon as possible. The State Library can advise you about the transfer procedures and help you contact your future regional library with a minimum of service interruption.

Please call if you're having difficulty using your cassette machine. State Library staff might be able to help you repair the problem

over the phone. If it is not able to be repaired, you will be sent a replacement.

If you are not using the service and would like to cancel, please call the State Library at 1-800-843-9948 or 701-328-1408 for advice about how to return any books and equipment in your possession.





Attention Veterans

To honor you for the time spent serving your country, federal regulations state that you will be the first to receive new digital talking book players. In order to provide this service, we need to know who you are. Please call, write, or email the State Library if you are a veteran of the U.S. military service.

Downloadable Digital NLS Books

National Library Service has begun offering downloadable digital recorded audio books to anyone who is an active reader in good standing, who has purchased a commercially available digital player, and who has an email address and a high-speed internet connection. This download project includes all of the currently produced audio books along with some magazines. Users will also have the option of receiving automatic daily or weekly notifications of new titles added to the site. There is an online application at www.nlstalkingbooks.org/dtb.

Humanware's Victor Reader Stream is a commercially produced digital machine that enables users to download NLS digital talking books and navigate complex books, such as reference manuals and schoolbooks. The current price is approximately \$330. Contact Humanware at 1-800-722-3393 or e-mail us.sales@humanware.com.

Please refrain from refusing any mail that's connected with this library service. If you do, it could adversely affect your service while the State Library investigates why you refused the delivery.

Book Request Tips

- ◆ Please read your talking books in the order you receive them and return them as soon as you finish them. The goal is to turn books over as quickly as possible. This will ensure that other patrons receive titles in a timely manner.
- ◆ Remember that if you request a book, it will be mailed to you as soon as a copy is available.
- ◆ Let the State Library know if you are getting too many or not enough books, don't like the books you are receiving, have any special book requests, or have a damaged book and want another copy.
- ◆ If you order for children, please notify the State Library of changes in their reading level so books of the appropriate age level can be sent.
- ◆ If you want extra books for vacations or other special times, it would be helpful to call at least two weeks beforehand and make your request.

On the Shelf

Summer 2008

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

ND 00046

The Persian Pickle Club

AUTHOR: Sandra Dallas

As the crops wither without rain, members of the "Persian Pickle Club" keep up their spirits by swapping gossip and fabric scraps while quilting. The bonds among the "stitch and itch" ladies are tested when a newcomer investigates a murder in the small Kansas town of the 1930's. 1995. Five sides.

ND 00183

Children of the West

AUTHOR: Cathy Luchetti

In writing "Children of the West," Ms. Luchetti used old letters, diaries and journal excerpts to chronicle the lives of children on the American frontier. Ms. Luchetti discusses the experiences of the children including their home lives, daily chores and schooling. The treatment of orphans and the lives of children of various ethnic groups are also described. 2001.

ND 00196

Home Spun Heritage: How It Was / How It Is

AUTHOR: Glennys Mcquade Medenwaldt
A collection of brief, humorous reflections on the way we used to live our lives. From the many uses of corn cobs to the "chivaree" after a wedding, these anecdotes bring back memories of many family and community traditions. 2001.

ND 00245

Secret Death-Defying Escape

AUTHOR: Wally Wolsky

This book tells of the "Heaven and Hell" experiences of a determined group of people in their daring escape from Communist Russia, the Ukraine. It is a novelization of journals written by the author's grandfather, found hidden within the walls of his house in North Dakota. 1995.

ND 00255

Return to Harmony

AUTHOR: Janette Oke

Jodie Harland and Bethan Keane had little in common until a homeless dog brought them together. The two girls, different as night and day, became best friends until faith itself drove a wedge between them. As Jodie prepared to leave for college, war in Europe drew its dark cloud over their hometown of Harmony. The time came for reconciliation, but could they rebuild their love and respect for one another? 1997.

ND 00457

Sophie's Dilemma

AUTHOR: Lauraine Snelling

Sophie struggles in choosing to either follow her heart by leaving home with her beau or to bow to the decision of her father in this touching story of love and loss. When tragedy strikes and a heartbroken Sophie wishes to return to Blessing, she may not be welcome. 2007.

ND 00459

Ageless Tear

AUTHOR: Linda Gale Vettel

Follow Tia and Fence on their fast-paced journey from the coast of Florida across the mountains of Montana to the beaches of Jamaica. This novel is full of twists and turns and is a timeless story of raw emotion and courageous strength. 2004

ND 00460

When It Snows In Sarasota

AUTHOR: Kevin Kremer

While trying to find out if it's ever snowed in Sarasota on Christmas, three teens who have recently moved to Siesta Key from North Dakota and Minnesota are fascinated with the mystery involving a fisherman named Captain Sarasota who disappeared under unusual circumstances. Their attempt to solve this mystery takes the teens all over the Suncoast. They meet many interesting people and a super dolphin named Jack Lambert. Will the mystery of Captain Sarasota be solved? Who is the man that is following them everywhere? 2004.

ND 00463

No Eye Can See

AUTHOR: Jane Kirkpatrick

Blind and widowed Suzanne Cullver travels with eleven women who have banded together to travel on the Oregon Trail after losing their men folk. 2004.

ND 00464

Saturday Morning

AUTHOR: Lauraine Snelling

Broken by life's disappointments, Hope Benson, Andy Taylor, Julia Collins and Clarice Van Dam forge a friendship that leads in unexpected directions. As they fight to save a women's shelter from becoming a commercial development these women find their longings for home answered by the solace of faith and friendship. 2005.

ND 00465

Geezettes

AUTHOR: Mary Ellen Erickson

Every week, seven 60-something retirees meet for the Old Broads Breakfast Club at their wintertime retirement community in Arizona. One morning they agree it's time to boost the

excitement and passion in their lives. This uplifting tale is about what it really means to love and be loved and how much fun life can be when you grow into it with wild and wonderful, lasting friends. Some descriptions of sex. 2006.

ND 00466

Wager with the Wind

AUTHOR: James Greiner

A biography of Don Sheldon, the Alaskan bush pilot, emphasizing his thirty-three year flying career and his contribution to the development of bush aviation. 1974.

ND 00467

Purgatory Curve

AUTHOR: Ernest Francis Schanilec

Two wealthy elderly farmers accumulate substantial wealth. One of the brothers is killed in a suspicious train/pickup crash. Jolene Hunt has ties to the victim, but the farmer's antagonistic nephew uses threats and force of violence to impede her fight for justice. The investigation is unproductive because of the corruption within the local law enforcement. Violence. 2004.

ND 00468

Quentin Burdick: The Gentle Warrior

AUTHOR: Dan Rylance

An insightful and warmly written biography of the late Senator Quentin Burdick. Senator Burdick served in the U.S. Senate from 1960 until his death in 1992. The book is based on interviews with Burdick, his family, colleagues and many citizens from North Dakota. 2007.

ND 00486

Great People of the Great Plains

AUTHOR: Keith Norman

This is a compilation of twenty five biographical vignettes of people who impacted the Dakotas. 2004.

ND 00471

Gray Riders

AUTHOR: Ernest Francis Schanilec
Gray Riders is a heartwarming and heart-wrenching story of the people who lived in western Missouri during the years 1861 through 1863. A farm couple is murdered while returning from a supply trip from Tarrytown. The local citizens react by organizing an armed group of horsemen who become known as the Gray Riders. The Riders not only defend their families and properties, but also ride with the Confederate Missouri Guard. The Gray Riders novel is a flashback to the Hastings Series mystery novels where Tom Hastings is the main character. In this novel, Tom's great-grandfather, Thomas, lives on a farm with his parents, brother and sister near Tarrytown. Contains descriptions of violence. 2004.

ND 00472

Every Fixed Star

AUTHOR: Jane Kirkpatrick
Widowed with two young boys following a family tragedy, a battle of survival and a test of faith, Marie Dorion starts all over in the rugged northwest landscape in the Okanogan Country of Washington State. While struggling to find her purpose and worth, Marie discovers that inside every challenge is a gift to be treasured. 2003.

ND 00474

Sleep Six

AUTHOR: Ernest Francis Schanilec
Revenge made Birdie Hec quit her job in Kansas City and move to New Dresend, Minnesota after her mother's death. She plots the demise of the four men she suspects as her mother's abusers but has difficulty identifying the last two men. Tom Hastings was one of her suspects. 2005.

ND 00475

It Can't Happen Here

AUTHOR: Sinclair Lewis
It is 1936. America has just elected Berzelius Windrip to the presidency, and his fascist policies turn the U.S. into a totalitarian state. Written in 1935, this political satire depicts the United States ruled by a President who slowly morphs into a dictator. It astonishingly mimics developments in Nazi Germany before they happened. Some descriptions of sex, violence. 2007.

ND 00479

Oceans Apart

AUTHOR: Karen Kingsbury
Pilot Connor Evan failed his family only once, long ago, but they never knew about it. Now his life and marriage are going great, until he finds himself face-to-face with his past in the form of a seven-year-old boy. 2005.

ND 00480

Attica: A Survivors Story

AUTHOR: John Michael Domino
This is a true testimony of a man's experience living in one of the toughest prisons in the country and how he changed his life to be an advocate for Jesus Christ. This story explores what prison ministry experience is like for the prisoners and the people on the ministry team. 2006.

ND 00473

Queer Person

AUTHOR: Ralph Hubbard
This story relates the experiences of an out-cast deaf-mute Indian boy, called Queer Person, as he grows to adulthood and eventually becomes a great leader. 1930.

ND 00481

From the Ashes of Sobibor: A Story of Survival

AUTHOR: Thomas Toivi Blatt

This is an account of Thomas Toive Blatt's life during the German occupation of Poland. He and his family lived in the largely Jewish town of Izbica, Poland, a district that was the site of three of the six major Nazi extermination camps: Belzec, Sobibor and Majdanek. Blatt tells of the horrifying events that led to his deportation to Sobibor, his separation from his family and his six months at Sobibor before taking part in the most successful uprising and mass breakout in any Nazi camp during World War II. He shares his story of escape and his five years of eluding both the Nazi's and later anti-Semitic Polish nationalists. 1997.

ND 00482

Night Out in Fargo

AUTHOR: Ernest Francis Schanilec

Tom Hasting becomes suspicious with the series of unusual activities at his lake-neighbor US Senator Sean McDougal's property. It all begins with McDougal's nephew's fatal race car accident and continues with the malicious acts that are happening within the Borders Lake and Fargo areas. Tom Hastings wants to know what the mystery is behind all this and why it is happening. 2006.

ND 00483

Story of the Peace Garden State

AUTHOR: Erling Nicolai Rolfsrud

This informal history of North Dakota covers subjects from the first people, to the homesteaders and up to the 1980's. This book, written for young and old, chronicles the colorful

history of those who have lived in and loved this prairie land. 1990.

ND 00487

From Breckenridge to Bastogne

AUTHOR: Merle McMorrow

Merle McMorrow, from Breckenridge MN, tells of his experiences as a US Army Paratrooper serving in the European campaign of World War II. 2004.

ND 00489

Make Room for God

AUTHOR: Susan K. Rowland

Susan Rowland shares with us her time and experienced-tested methods that will help us simplify and unclutter our lives, and most importantly, our spirits. The author takes us on her own journey of self-discovery and self-simplifying, and in the process she became stronger, healthier and more spiritually cleansed with plenty of room for God. 2007.

ND 05004

Miss Peggy Lee: An Autobiography

AUTHOR: Peggy Lee

The singer's reminiscences reveal her difficult childhood at the hands of an abusive step-mother and her innocence in the tough world of show business. 1988.

ND 05019

The Pledge

AUTHOR: Jane Peart

Johanna's daughter falls in love with a semi-nary student who is cast out from the southern community when he chooses to fight for the North. Sequel to "The Pattern" (ND 00316). 1996.

Mail this form to:
North Dakota State Library - Disability Services
604 E. Boulevard Ave. - Dept. #250
Bismarck, ND 58505-0800

New Talking Book Players in 2009



In early 2009, North Dakota State Library Disability Services will begin changing from the use of 4-track cassettes to digital cartridges for Talking Books. Disability Services will receive a limited number of the new digital players on a monthly basis for distribution to patrons.

According to federal mandates, veterans will have first priority for getting the new players and then patrons over 100 years of age who wish to receive digital players. After these patron's needs are satisfied, players will then be sent to existing patrons and new patrons.

Initially, you will have two Talking Book players: a 4-track cassette player for playing books from the current collection and a digital player for new books. Cassette players and cassette books will continue in service for a few years. However, once the digital collection catches up with the 4-track collection, you will return the cassette tape player and use only the digital player. Patrons will also need to use the cassette players for magazines even after the digital players are issued, since most magazines will be the last materials to transition to digital. The North Dakota State Library will keep you informed about the progress of this conversion process.

Free Matter for the Blind

“Free Matter for the Blind” is a privilege granted to all Talking Book patrons by the United States Post Office that allows all Talking Book Libraries to mail talking books to their qualified patrons free of charge. This also allows patrons to mail the talking books or machines back to the library free of charge in the provided container. The post office allows free postage because Talking Book patrons are being provided services in a special format. **The State Library asks that patrons please refrain from including hand-written notes in the book, machine box or book orders, as it then becomes regular correspondence mail and therefore requires postage.** Also, this is not a reliable way to contact the State Library.

If you need to use a regular box instead of a machine box for mailing, or to put a book order in a regular envelope, you may write “Free Matter for the Blind” in the upper right-hand corner. North Dakota State Library Disability Services asks to please be respectful of this privilege granted by the U.S. Post Office. It is for these very reasons this program is available to qualifying patrons as “Free Matter for the Blind.”

If you need to call with questions or concerns regarding your library service, please contact the State Library at 1-800-843-9948 or 701-328-1408.



Thank you Contributors!



Donations given to Talking Books from:

Norris and Ruth Olson	Myrtle Jorgenson
Mandan Lions Club	Judy German
Iris Westman	Edna Schroeder
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Doris Ott

State Librarian

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ND Department of Public Instruction

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