



BITS OF GOLD

Montana Talking Book Library (MTBL)
 A Department of the Montana State Library
 Regional Library of the National Library Service
 for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
 (NLS/BPH)

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LIBRARIAN'S LOG: from the desk of Christie Briggs, Regional Librarian.



TESTING TO BEGIN ON NLS DIGITAL SERVICES!

We are excited to announce that this summer eight U.S. Talking Book Libraries will participate in the National Library Service's (NLS) Pre-launch phase to test the new digital services. Although Montana is not a test site, we anticipate the results will contribute valuable information to the final training materials produced by NLS to be used by all talking book libraries. In preparation, we currently are developing digital book and machine policies.

NLS has implemented quotas of DB copies and machines for all libraries, based on the number of patrons served. Initially, Montana will receive comparatively fewer digital materials. We are hard at work on ideas to build our collection. As the digital transition develops, we will keep you informed.

In a future newsletter issue, I will address another phase of the digital service referred to as BARD. This is patron downloading of digital books to your personal "NLS approved" digital player. Please note: this will require a personal computer, high speed internet and email.



DONATIONS AND MEMORIALS - The Montana Talking Book Library staff appreciates the thoughtfulness of those who contributed to our library in 2008. Acknowledgements are sent to all donors. Our patrons enjoy many years of pleasure from these gifts. Please remember to include the name of the person for whom a memorial is made and the name and address of those to be notified. All gifts are tax-deductible. Many thanks and blessings to the following contributors:

DONATIONS (January-December 2008)

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MEMORIALS (July-December 2008)

Jon Beck – Nancy & Jack Glaser.

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Rosemary Lewis – Lavina Lubinus.

Helen Machler – Esther Jenni; Dr. Marcus & Mary Ellen Johnson; Mary Louise & Larry Lund; Prudential Financial.

Joe Nelson – Leila Proctor Memorial Kalispell MAB Chapter.

Edna Newton – Karen Lee.

Michael O'Donnell – Linda Anderson; Alta Dean; Viola Devries; Delilah & Everett Glenn; Connie Rae Handford; Sharon L. Schmidt Herron & Gary Herron; Gerry & Herbert Mangis; Weldtech Services Employees; Weldtech Services Inc.
John Wilson – Roberta Paterson.

EQUIPMENT ACCESSORY UPDATE - We will no longer be offering the “bookmarker” for the C-1 player. This device stops the player if the listener falls asleep, replacing a manual device held by the listener. Bookmarkers are still available by direct order for a nominal charge. Contact the MTBL for ordering information.

RECORDINGS FOR RECOVERY REMINDER - Montana Talking Book Library patrons are eligible to receive music tapes from Recordings for Recovery. Many varieties of music are available through the mail as free matter from its music library in Michigan. Individual memberships are \$10.00 per year. For more information, call **1-800-798-1192**.



CHANGES IN MAGAZINE OFFERINGS - AUDUBON magazine is now available, offering articles on conservation, wildlife and wilderness appreciation. However, due to funding cutbacks at the agencies producing them, subscriptions to the following magazines are no longer available: **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TRAVELER, SOUTHERN LIVING, SMITHSONIAN, and HUMPTY DUMPTY.**

REGARDING OVERDUE BOOKS - Budget constraints also are affecting the collection at our library. We are ordering fewer numbers of new titles and we have to make new copies of lost or damaged books. Please honor the check out period of two months per book—others are waiting!

DB (DIGITAL BOOK) ENTRIES IN TBT (TALKING BOOK TOPICS) - Later this year, NLS will start including digital titles (with a **DB** prefix) in all issues of TBTs. These will **not** be immediately available for circulation in Montana. Order the same number but with the **RC** prefix if you want that title.

LIBRARY CLOSINGS- We will be closed Memorial Day, May 25, 2009.



**Montana Talking Book Library
1515 East Sixth Avenue
PO Box 201800
Helena, MT 59620-1800**

**Free Matter
for the Blind**

Address Service Requested

This newsletter is available on cassette, e-mail and large print upon request or visit our website: <http://msl.mt.gov/tbl>

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PHONE NUMBERS: 1-800-332-3400
WEBOPAC: <http://klasweb.msl.mt.gov>

PHONE HOURS: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
(in Helena) 406-444-2064
WEBBRAILLE: <http://loc.gov/nls/braille>

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