

# **OLBPD DIMENSIONS NEWSLETTER**

**Ohio Library for the Blind & Physically Disabled  
At Cleveland Public Library**

**17121 Lake Shore Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44110**

**Phone: 800-362-1262**

**Web: <http://olbpd.cpl.org>**

**Email: [olbpd@cpl.org](mailto:olbpd@cpl.org)**

**Volume 12, Number 26**

---

## **The Year in Review, and Moving Forward to 2012**

**As another year quickly comes to an end, the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled (OLBPD) has enjoyed a very busy, productive, and successful 2011. In 2011, the initial distribution of digital talking book machines was completed, and over 10,000 patrons received their digital talking book players. OLBPD circulated nearly 750,000 items directly to readers, and our collection is now more than 62,000 titles. Patrons using OHIO-BARD downloaded close to a 100,000 books and magazines. OLBPD inspected over 136,000 returned books and more than 25,000 were damaged or missing media. OLBPD repaired over 5,700 cassette and digital talking books and added over 3,000 copies of high-demand digital talking books to meet patron reading needs. OLBPD answered nearly 22,000 patron phone calls requesting service and over 8,500 mail requests.**

**In 2011, OLBPD and the State Library of Ohio Talking Book Program were co-recipients of the National Library Service (NLS) 2010 Network Library of the Year. OLBPD and NLS celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with OLBPD being one of nineteen charter libraries of the National Library Service. OLBPD also finished tallying the results of the 2010 patron satisfaction survey with an overwhelming amount of positive feedback on the job we are doing.**

**This year has definitely raised the bar for us in 2012. In 2012, we hope to continue providing readers with the best service possible and keep building on and improving services. OLBPD plans to resume recording and producing books of local interest to our readers. OLBPD also plans to continue offering and adding more new Playaway audio books as well as described Blu-Ray and DVD titles to the collection. OLBPD will also closely watch as NLS develops the means of offering magazines on digital cartridge, as well as popular series and older titles on digital cartridge once they are converted from analog to digital recordings, and begin circulating these items once they are available.**

**Also, OLBPD and the State Library of Ohio Talking Book Program will soon begin a marketing and promotional campaign to help raise public awareness about our service. Quite often, new readers comment on how they never knew this program was available or that it existed. In 2012, our goal is to change this, and patrons can help by simply telling anyone who could benefit from and is eligible for service about OLBPD. Thank you for a great 2011 and all of your continued support, and we will be working hard for an even better year in 2012.**

---

# Digital Player Firmware Update Now Available

The NLS Materials Development Division (MDD) modifies the digital talking-book machine (DTBM) software from time to time to correct faults, improve usability, or to incorporate additional features. Firmware is the programming that tells your player what to do when you press buttons or insert or remove a cartridge or flash drive. On October 17, 2011, MDD released version 2.1.7, which addresses some minor issues. New players manufactured after this date will contain the new software. However, players currently on loan to patrons can be updated following these instructions:

1. Obtain the latest software from the NLS website:

<http://www.loc.gov/nls/DTBM/DTBMsoftware-2.1.7.zip>

2. Extract (unzip) this file onto a cartridge or USB drive so that the “upgrade” directory appears in the root directory of the drive.
3. Turn on the player.
4. Insert the cartridge or USB drive containing the software.
5. The player will announce, “Upgrading your player’s software.”
6. Wait until the upgrade is complete and the player restarts (about 40 seconds), then remove the cartridge after the completion message is heard.

The upgrade will only occur if the player’s version is older than the version of the software on the cartridge; reinserting the cartridge will not repeat the upgrade. BARD users will be notified of the availability of the upgrade when they log in. For patrons who do not feel they can update their own player, this software update, including the revised user guides, will be added to most new book cartridges in the fourth quarter of 2011. In this way patrons’ players will be upgraded automatically when they receive a new book, and those patrons who do not feel they can update their own player can ignore these instructions.

There are several significant enhancements to note:

- A new user guide and key describer message discusses the use of the “bookshelf feature.”
  - USB flash drives connected to the side AT port are no longer suspended between uses by default. This will mean that all conventional USB flash drives can be used to play books, albeit with a 30 percent reduction in available battery play time.
  - Books on a multi-book cartridge are now ordered by alpha-numeric folder and filename.
-

## **Digital Talking Books Plus Now Available**

Digital Talking Books Plus 2010 is now available from NLS. This catalog lists audio books produced during 2010 for adult and young adult readers. These catalogs were released later than expected this year. Patrons who have not received their catalog or any patrons interested in receiving Digital Talking Books Plus 2010 should contact OLBDP.

---

## **Receiving Books around the Holidays**

The mail service around the holidays can tend to slow down. Therefore, OLBDP staff would like to remind our readers to place their book orders early to ensure that patrons will have enough books to get them through the holiday season. Patrons can call OLBDP at 216-623-2911 or 1-800-362-1262 or by email at [OLBDP@cpl.org](mailto:OLBDP@cpl.org) to make arrangements for book service around the holidays or to make any changes to their service.

---

## **Online Book Club Discussions**

OLBDP hosts a monthly online book discussion on the second Thursday of each month, from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Please visit the OLBDP home page at <http://olbpd.cpl.org> for more information about the Cyber-Dialogue discussions, such as book titles, instructions for logging in, and a direct link to download books for discussion when available. Patrons can participate using their own computer with a sound card and Internet connectivity. Patrons who do not have computer access can also participate in book discussions from their telephone. For more information or to participate via telephone, please contact OLBDP.

---

## **BARD and Internet Explorer 9**

Microsoft has been auto-updating Internet Explorer 8 (IE8) to Internet Explorer 9 (IE9). Many patrons who use Microsoft software have automatic update enabled, so they could have received IE9 and not know it, and may find that their computer no longer works with BARD.

When you download a book with Internet Explorer 9, the prompt to download or save appears in the Information bar. You have two options for handling this. One is to press Alt-N, which leads you to the Information bar, where you can choose whether to open or save the file. The other is to press Alt-S, which bypasses the Information bar and saves the file.

Once you press Alt-N and choose to save, or press Alt-S, the file begins to download. To see the progress of the download, press Control-J to open the Download Manager. Within the Download Manager dialog box is an Options button that takes you to a dialog where you can choose whether to be notified when downloads are complete.

---

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: I'm leaving Ohio for the winter and returning next spring. Can I get my books delivered outside of Ohio?**

**A: Yes. Patrons leaving the State of Ohio for the winter can arrange to have their book service delivered to another address, even if the address is located outside Ohio. Likewise, patrons can also arrange to have their book service delivered to a temporary address anytime throughout the year.**

**Q: Does OLBDP have any "good" book recommendations?**

**A: Surprisingly, this question is asked quite often. So in 2012, the newsletter will feature a new section highlighting recommended reading from staff. Here are a few suggestions, and remember that staff may recommend books that contain sex, strong language, or violence, so be sure to check before ordering:**

**DB 68889 "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett – Historical Fiction**

**DB 64183 "Find Me" by Carol O'Connell – Mystery**

**DB 66787 "The Art of Racing in the Rain" by Garth Stein – Fiction and Dogs**

**DB 72049 "Life" by Keith Richards – Biography and Rock Musicians**

---

## Season's Greetings

In keeping with the traditional season's greeting, the staff of OLBDP wishes you a happy holiday season, and peace, good health and good reading in the New Year.



OHIO LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND  
AND PHYSICALLY DISABLED  
AT CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY  
17121 LAKE SHORE BOULEVARD  
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44110  
TOLL FREE: 1-800-362-1262

**FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND  
AND PHYSICALLY  
HANDICAPPED**