

OLBPD DIMENSIONS NEWSLETTER

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

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Talking Book Topics and Braille Book Review Update

With the January–February 2014 issues of Talking Book Topics (TBT) and Braille Book Review (BBR), NLS will introduce some subscriber-requested changes. The large-print, online, and audio versions of TBT have returned to the fifty-word format for announcing books, and in both TBT and BBR, books are now announced in a structured, alphabetical format to make it easier for patrons to find books by subject and author. The change is as follows:

- 1) As before, the titles are listed under broad headings: Books for Adults, Books for Children, and Foreign Language Books.
- 2) Within Books for Adults and Books for Children, titles are subdivided into Fiction and Nonfiction. Fiction will now be listed first, since it comes first alphabetically.
- 3) Inside the Fiction and Nonfiction genres, titles are listed by their subject categories in A-to-Z order. For example, the Adult Fiction titles for this issue of *TBT* are ordered by subject from Adventure to Westerns.
- 4) Within each subject category, the titles are arranged alphabetically by the author's last name.
- 5) If there is more than one title by a given author, the titles are further organized alphabetically by title.

For example if you are interested in Stephen King's latest novel *Joyland*, you would look under Adult Fiction, then in Mystery and Detective, and then for the last name King. The new arrangement eliminates the need for an index. In addition, the 2013 edition of Digital Talking Books Plus will be the last audio book catalog produced and the 2011–2012 edition of *Braille Books* will be the last braille book catalog. The biennial *For Younger Readers* catalog will stay.

Save the Date: Family Fun and Learning Day 2014

OLBPD will host its annual Family Fun and Learning Day here in Cleveland on Wednesday, July 16, 2014. Full details will follow in the next newsletter.

Magazine Update

The braille magazines *Parenting Early Years* (PAE1) and *Parenting School Years* (PAS1) have ceased publication. Subscribers who previously were receiving either magazine will now receive *Parents* (PAR1) without taking any action.

The magazine *Smart Computing* has ceased publication and NLS has selected *Wired* as a replacement. *Wired* is a monthly magazine that presents wide-ranging news and opinion concerning technology industries and the digital environment. *Smart Computing* subscribers will receive *Wired* automatically on digital cartridge unless they choose to cancel their subscription by notifying OLBDP. *Wired* is also available for download in BARD.

Further, following extensive discussion, analysis and declining interest, NLS has indefinitely suspended the Young Adult Magazine of the Month program. This change is effective January 1, 2014.

Digital Talking Book Cartridge Cable

NLS is introducing a new equipment accessory—the digital talking-book (DTB) cartridge cable—to facilitate the use of DTB cartridges with a personal computer (PC). The accessory connects a digital talking-book cartridge to a universal serial bus (USB) port on a personal computer (PC). The cable is three feet long with a standard USB type A plug on one end and a USB type A socket and plastic molding – conforming to the “D” shape of the cartridge – on the other. This molding assists in the alignment of the cartridge with the USB socket upon insertion.

When connected to the PC, the cartridge will be available as a removable storage device (a Microsoft Windows PC user will find this under “My Computer”). A user may then transfer DTB files from the PC to a personal cartridge for playback on the digital talking-book machine. The cable does NOT allow books to be played through a computer as this feature is not offered.

OLBDP Book Discussion

OLBDP hosts a monthly book discussion on the second Thursday of each month, from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. 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.

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. For more information or to participate via telephone, please contact OLBDP.

OLBPD Kids and Teens Reading Club

OLBPD has launched our Kids and Teens Reading Club for patrons eighteen years old and younger. Kids and teens earn rewards as they read books and achieve new member levels. Our goal is simple: we want to make reading fun for you at any age but especially now! Please contact OLBPD for more information or to sign up by phone at 1-800-362-1262 or email us at olbpd@cpl.org.

Locally Produced Magazines

OLBPD offers the following Ohio locally produced magazines to patrons: Cincinnati Magazine, Cleveland Magazine, Columbus Monthly, Good Old Days, Ohio Magazine, and Timeline: Western Reserve Historical Society. The OLBPD Dimensions newsletter is also available in braille and audio formats.

OLBPD also offers the following locally produced magazines from other NLS network libraries: AARP News Bulletin, AARP – The Magazine, Audubon, Cowboys and Indians, Grit, Guidepost, Humpty Dumpty, Kiplinger’s Retirement, National Geographic in Spanish, National Geographic Traveler, Organic Gardening, Red Book, Saturday Evening Post, Seventeen, Smithsonian, Southern Living, Texas Monthly, Vital Speeches, Woman’s Day, Yankee, and Your Dog. Patrons interested in receiving these magazines should contact OLBPD.

Braille Literacy Resources

The OLBPD “Additional Service Resources” web page now includes reference links for those who are interested in more information about learning to read braille and braille literacy. The NLS Braille Reference Literacy Circular lists instructional materials, supplies, and equipment currently available for learning braille, and cites sources about braille literacy. The resources given are intended to assist sighted individuals who are interested in learning braille or want to transcribe print materials into braille; instructors who teach braille; persons with visual impairments who are interested in learning to read and write braille; and family members, friends, and professionals who desire information about braille literacy.

The State of Ohio Department of Education – Blind and Visually Impaired Resources page provides links to various information, programs and resources related to students who are blind, have visual impairments or print disabilities in Ohio.

For more information about these braille literacy resources, please visit the OLBPD home page at <http://olbpd.cpl.org> and select the “Additional Service Resources” link or contact OLBPD.

Recommended Reading from the OLBDP Staff

Listed below are reading recommendations from OLBDP staff. Remember that staff may recommend books that contain sex, strong language, or violence, so be sure to check before ordering.

Michelle: "The Time Traveler's Wife" by Audrey Niffenegger – DB 57102; Fiction

Ken: "Never Go Back – Jack Reacher" by Lee Child – DB 77346; Mystery

Stephanie: "Killing Jesus: A History" by Bill O'Reilly – DB 77565; Non-Fiction

Will: "To Kill the Irishman" by Rick Porrello - DCL 00004; True Crime

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where can I get tax forms?

A: The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) provides online tax products and services for taxpayers with disabilities. Individuals may visit the IRS Accessibility page (www.irs.gov/uac/IRS.gov-Accessibility) to download forms, publications, and other products and to access tax-related videos in English and American Sign Language. The IRS recommends checking the website often as it is continuously adding more products to assist persons with disabilities.



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