

Discovery

PERM
COPY

PERM
COPY



Volume 9 Issue 3

Winter 2005

Recording Program a Big Hit with Patrons and Volunteers

When patrons of the Talking Book Program get a book in the mail, they put it in their machine, push play, and voilá they get to hear the story they requested. This all sounds easy, but there is more to it than just mailing books out to our patrons. The National Library Service (NLS) currently has over 47,000 titles available for loan, but what happens if you are interested in reading a book that is not currently available and is not likely to be recorded?



Recording booth at the State Library

The North Dakota State Library Disability Services offers its patrons the opportunity to request titles they would like to read that have not been previously recorded. Sue Bicknell, Manager of the book recording program, says patrons can request up to two books per calendar year. According to Bicknell, "NLS focuses mainly on best sellers and can't specialize, so we strive to give people what they want and need; it's part of our mission." Bicknell says if you are unable to find a particular book in your catalog or online, you should let our staff know, and we will do our best to find it for you. If we are able to locate the book, we will do our best to record it for you.

Bicknell says volunteers have already recorded over 350 titles on various subjects and genres including Christian Fiction, North Dakota History, product manuals, drivers license handbooks, and even cookbooks. Once recorded, the books are made available to other talking book patrons across the country. She says Christian Fiction seems to be the most popular special request at this time, especially North Dakota books by author Lauraine Snelling.

The book recording program currently has ten volunteer readers who donate their time by recording books requested by our patrons. Volunteers are paired with each book request depending on gender, age, ability, and personal preference. The whole process usually takes a couple of months from the time it is requested until the book is on the shelf and ready for circulation. Once the book is recorded, it goes through a rigorous checklist to ensure quality, and then it is put on our shelves and ready for circulation.

Talking Books Service 1-800-843-9948
Dakota Radio Reading Service 1-701-328-4189
Machine Lending Agency 1-800-421-1181

(cont. from page #1)

Rebecca Sundhagen of Minot is a volunteer reader for the Talking Book Program, and is currently recording Lauraine Snelling's book "The Reaper's Song." She says she's a volunteer because she loves to read. "This is a fabulous service, this is a mission I can really get behind, and they let me read the most fun books." Sundhagen is also fluent in the Norwegian language which is a big plus when reading books with a Norwegian flavor, like books by Lauraine Snelling.



Volunteer Rebecca Sundhagen records "The Reaper's Song"

Sundhagen says sometimes the books she reads make such an impact on her that she actually gets emotional while in the recording booth. She says it means a lot to get feedback from the patrons after she narrates a book for them.

To request a catalog that contains the most up-to-date, locally produced books, please contact Disability Services at 1-800-843-9948.

Talking Book Topics Catalog



If you are receiving a catalog every other month titled *Talking Book Topics (TBT)*, it's because you're an active patron of the Talking Book Program. This publication is available in large print, computer disc, and cassette for your convenience. It includes a listing of the newest books and magazines that are currently available for loan. Once you receive your catalog, you can use it to order your own material, or you are welcome to ask a family member or friend for assistance in placing your order.

If you are interested in ordering books from this catalog, place an "x" next to the RC number that coincides with the book(s) you would like to order. The order form for the large print catalog is located in the back of the catalog, or if you are receiving the computer disc or cassette version, a printed order form is included in the package with your catalog. After you have marked your choices on your order form, please call us at 1-800-843-9948 to place your order, or mail the form to North Dakota State Library Disability Services Department at 604 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck, ND 58505-0800. For questions or assistance, please call Bernie or Marla at the North Dakota State Library Disability Services Department.

If you are not receiving this catalog but would like to, contact the Disability Services Department and they will order it for you.



It's All About Choices

One of the greatest things about the Talking Book Program is the many choices you have concerning your service. In order to make the best decision about the type of service that will suit you best, you need to decide how many books you would like, how often you would like them, and whether or not you would like to choose your own books or need assistance choosing your books. Below is a list of the type of services available to help you with your decision. You can change your service at any time by contacting Disability Services at 1-800-843-9948.

Type of Services

- **On Demand:** You only get books when you call and place an order.
- **Number of Days:** You choose the number of books you want, as well as how many days you would like between receiving them (i.e. 2 books every 7 days, 10 books every 30 days). It's all up to you!
- **Turn Around:** Each time you return a book, we will mail another book out. You may have a number of books on hand at all times. New titles will be mailed to you when you return the books you have read.

To choose your own books, either call us with your book order, or mail it to the North Dakota State Library at 604 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. #250, Bismarck, ND 58505-0800. If you would like help selecting books, please call one of our reader's advisors at 1-800-843-9948 and talk with them about the type of books you are interested in reading. They can help you choose books based on your reading interests. If you would like to request a specific book, author, or specific subject, you are free to do this at any time. If you have questions about your service, we encourage you to give us a call so we can serve you in the best way possible.

Best Service Tips

- Let us know of any changes in your address, reading interests, or name.
- Please contact us with questions, or problems with your talking book machine, DRIS radio, your service, or your talking books.
- Always include your name and phone number with all your talking book requests.



Teens Choose Favorite Novels

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) recently conducted a survey of teen readers across the country in order to create a "Teens' Top Ten Booklist." Teens were encouraged to vote for their favorite young adult books during Teen Read Week, from the official nomination list posted online at the Teens' Top Ten site. Over 2,000 online ballots were cast and the results determined a final ranking of the ten top books of the year.

The North Dakota Talking Book Program has many of these titles on the shelf available for your listening pleasure.

2004 Teens' Top Ten List

1. *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* by J.K. Rowling (RC 56062) & BR 14705
2. *Eragon* by Christopher Paolini (RC 57232)
3. *Pirates!* By Celia Rees (BR 15430 in process)
4. *Trickster's Choice* by Tamora Pierce (Sorry not currently available on Talking Book or Braille)
5. *Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke (RC 57116 & BR 14997)
6. *A Great and Terrible Beauty* by Libby Bray (RC 58201 in process)
7. *The Goose Girl* by Shannon Hale (RC 58713)
8. *Princess in Pink* by Meg Cabot (RC 58085 in process)
9. *The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things* by Carolyn Mackler (RC 57557)
10. *Curse of the Blue Tattoo* by L.A. Meyer (Braille in process)

If you are interested in ordering these titles, please call Disability Services at the North Dakota State Library at 1-800-843-9948.

Interesting Web Sites

The International Center for Disability Resources at <http://www.icdri.org/index.html>. Their mission includes the collection of a knowledge base of quality disability resources and best practices, and provides education, outreach, and training based on these resources.



American Printing House for the Blind at <http://www.aph.org>. The American Printing House for the Blind promotes independence of blind and visually impaired persons by providing specialized materials, products, and services needed for education and life.

On the Shelf
Locally Produced
North Dakota Books
Winter 2004



Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

ND 00337

Becoming Olivia; Coming Home to Brewster, #3

Author: Roxanne Henke

Olivia Marsden struggles with depression even though she has a loving family, close friends, and accomplishments to take pride in.

Sequel to ND 0028

ND 00061

The Checkered Years

Author: Mary Dodge Woodward

A diary kept by a homesteader in the Red River Valley from 1884 to 1889.

ND 00365

Charlie's Gold and Other Frontier Tales

Author: Kent Kamron

This is a collection of western and pioneering tales set during the years 1860 to 1900 in the lands beyond the Mississippi.

ND 00349

Pearl; Dakotah Treasures #2

Author: Lauraine Snelling

Pearl Hossfuss, a young school teacher is being pressured into marriage by her Father.

Sequel to ND 00324

ND 00359

Hidden Crossing; Prairie Rose #2

Author: Hadley Hoover

Cate and Luke plan to marry after a 24 year pause in their high school romance, but a stranger carrying a secret could upset Cate and Luke's plans.

Sequel to ND 00270

ND 00345

Dakota Born: Buffalo Valley, #1

Author: Debbie Macomber

Lindsay is Buffalo Valley's only schoolteacher and learns she has a serious disadvantage since she is not Dakota born.

Prequel to ND 00346

ND 00372

Dakota Printer

Author: Janet Elaine Smith

Joseph's granddaughter becomes jealous over his relationship with his new employee at the newspaper.

ND 00370
**Dakota Boy: A Childhood In
Memory**
Author: Rob Woutat
A memoir of a boy growing up in
Grand Forks during the 1940's
and 1950's.

ND 00367
Sacagawea
Author: Liselotte Erdrich
Relates the experiences of
Sacagawea, a young Shoshone
woman who joined the Lewis and
Clark expedition.

ND 00375
Murder on Ice
Author: Carolyn Keene
Nancy Drew hunts for the
midnight prowler responsible for
causing a string of accidents.

ND 00356
**The Enchanted Prairie; A
Heart for the Prairie, #1**
Author: Esther Loewen Vogt
Having lost her parents, Barbara
leaves her home to live with
homesteading relatives on the
Kansas Prairie.
Prequel to ND 00357

ND 00355
**Beneath a Harvest Sky;
Desert Roses #3**
Author: Tracie Peterson
Archeologist Duncan Hartford
is working as an undercover
tour guide investigating the
theft of Native American
artifacts.
Sequel to ND 00353

ND 00360
Storm Path
Author: Hadley Hoover
Turmoil in a friend's marriage
threatens the stability of Al and
Joy's 30 year marriage.
Sequel to ND 00359

ND 00361
Dakota December
Author: Lauraine Snelling
The story of a woman's flight
from an abusive husband and
her struggle to build a new life
on her own.
Sequel to ND 00156

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

## Our Readers Top Ten Most Read Books of 2004



- #1. RC 56483 Johnny Angel, by Danielle Steel
- #2. ND 00048 An Untamed Land, Red River of the North, #1, by Lauraine Snelling (rerecord)
- #3. RC 49353 The Meeting Place; Song of Acadia, #1, by Janette Oke and T. Davis Bunn
- #4. ND 00049 A New Day Rising; Red River of the North, #2, by Lauraine Snelling
- #5. RC 57100 Safe Harbour, by Danielle Steel
- #6. RC 57800 Ransom, by Danielle Steel
- #7. RC 56696 The Sky-Liners, The Sacketts, #15, by Louis L'Amour (rerecord)
- #8. RC 57174 Shepherds Abiding: Mitford Christmas Story, by Jan Karon
- #9. RC 57470 Beyond the Gathering Storm; Canadian West Series, #5, by Janette Oke
- #10. RC 56382 From the Listening Hills, by Louis L'Amour

## We Want Your Phone Calls



If you call the Talking Book Library and get our voice mail instead of a staff member, please don't hang up; leave a message so someone can call you back when they are available. Make sure to leave your name and phone number, along with a brief message.

If you called to place a book order, you are welcome to leave the order on the voice mail. If you leave an order on the voice mail, please remember to indicate the format in which you would like to receive your books in. Please leave your name and phone number along with your order and any special instructions so if we have questions about your order, we are able to contact you.

If the books you ordered are available, they will be mailed out the following business day. If the books are unavailable at this time, your request will be processed and books will be mailed to you as soon as a copy is available.

For questions about orders, talking books, or equipment, please call 1-800-843-9948. Our reader's advisors are available from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## Frequently Asked Questions



Is there anything coming along that will be better than cassettes?

NLS is developing a means of delivering new digital technology that will replace cassettes. Efforts are underway to develop a digital talking book player that will be portable, allow readers to easily navigate through books, and provide a superior reading experience. This new technology will not be available for several years.

Has NLS ever considered developing a smaller cassette machine?

NLS has seriously studied the possibility of developing smaller talking book players. The smaller units exhibited problems in the areas of ruggedness and usability for people with limited dexterity. Smaller machines that will play NLS tapes are available for purchase from several sources. If you are interested in more information about purchasing a smaller talking book machine, call North Dakota State Library Disability Services Department at 1-800-843-9948.