



Spring 2007

CTBL News

Colorado Talking Book Library • Denver

Highlighting Assistive Technology

Wondering what to do with that piece of equipment that you no longer use? Wondering how to find a CCTV or other technology? Wondering how to pay for these sometimes expensive solutions? Two new resources are available to help with these issues.

AT Match is a fully accessible web-based product exchange program that assists individuals purchasing used AT devices or equipment for low- or no-cost. Individuals and organizations can post items for sale or donation on the site. Potential customers can scan the site for desired AT devices. Assistive Technology Partners, University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, has partnered with other states in creating this exchange program. As an introductory offer, Colorado residents can post items for donation or sale at no cost to them.

<http://www.atmatch.com/>

continued on page 2

**CTBL will be closed on the following days in 2007:
May 28th, July 4th, & September 3rd**

Assistive Technology continued from page 1

The second resource is AT Funding Sources, a fully accessible statewide on-line database system that enables individuals to have a single point of entry to determine where they should seek adequate funding to meet their current AT device or equipment need. The site allows the individual to search for funding by location, diagnosis, age, and/or the specific type of device needed. Once a potential funding source is identified, the individual is directed to information and instructions on how to apply for the funds.

<http://www.at-partners.org/ATFunding/>

From the Director

In May I will attend the Western/Midlands Regional Conference for NLS in Scottsdale, Arizona. The hot topic of the meeting will be the upcoming transition to digital talking books. I will be moderating a panel on the topic as well. We anticipate the transition beginning next summer and continuing for at least four years. We will need to do many things to get ready for the change over. Look for more detailed information in the September newsletter.

Debbi

Veterans Alert

Please call the library and let us know who you are. Our old applications had no way for you to indicate if you were a veteran and we do need to know. So please call a reader advisor and have them add this to your patron record.

Reader Advisors

Is Danielle Steel taking too much time writing her newest title? Read everything by James Patterson? Have you tapped out the library's supply of all your favorite authors due to your book addiction? Well, never fear, your Reader Advisors are here to help you. We can find you authors in the genres you most enjoy.

Say you really enjoy the serious, regal romances of Lisa Kleypas, but you have read all of her books...twice. We are here to suggest to you some titles you would enjoy by Laura Kinsale who writes in the same genre. Never heard of Laura Kinsale? The library carries nine titles by her.

Have you read all of the light, comedic, "Cat Who..." mysteries by Braun? We are pleased to tell you that there are other authors who write humorous mysteries about pets. Have you ever read Marian Babson? We have four pet mysteries by her at CTBL. So don't re-read that dusty title anymore; give us a call and we will help you find new authors to enjoy.

Summer Reading is Gearing Up Again!

"Get a Clue" is this year's national theme with libraries in many states joining in the fun. We will have suggestions for fun mystery stories for all age groups in Braille, cassette and large print, but there are no limits to what you can read. As always, parents are encouraged to get involved with their children and engage in the exciting world of reading.

Look for information and registration forms in the mail soon to students, parents, and teachers. If you would like to participate and you did not receive a packet, please call the library to request one. The program runs from June 18th through August 10th.

The Grand Prize drawing will include the names of the top 10 readers. This winner will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate to amazon.com!

Contributors to the Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library and the Colorado Talking Book Library

An additional way to contribute to either the Friends or to CTBL is through a charitable bequest as part of a will or through life insurance. You do not have to rewrite your current document but can add a written amendment called a codicil. Such a bequest only becomes irrevocable at your death. Giving to the library helps support the programs and service we provide to our patrons.

Tech Talk—Unabridged

Over the last several months we continue to increase our participation in the digital book download program known as Unabridged. We want to remind our patrons again of the program bringing books directly to your computer. The Unabridged collection now contains 1,688 titles and 1,918 copies. Call the library for more information.

Michael Jones writes "The unabridged service is wonderful. Books and old time radio programs are available to download so I can enjoy them immediately. I really enjoy this service."

<http://unabridged.lib.overdrive.com/>

CTBL Staff Changes

After many years as the network systems administrator, part time reader advisor and participant in many outreach events at CTBL, Alex Hernandez has moved on to apply his skills at the Colorado Department of Human Services. Join me in wishing him good luck in his new job!

Replacing Alex in the network administration position is Teresa Kalber who transferred from another unit within the Colorado Department of Education. Teresa received her degree in Computer Information Systems while previous working for the State Library. We look forward to her contributions to the library.

Outreach

Debbi continues to visit with many vision support groups and attended workshops sponsored by CLIC, the Colorado Library Consortium in Greeley, Grand Junction, and Pueblo. She also attended the Transition Fair in Aurora and Alex represented CTBL at several low vision support groups. April was 9Health Fair month and CTBL was represented by staff at ten fairs around the metro area while Debbi attended one in Pueblo. She also was on a panel for the ACBCO annual meeting in Denver. If you would like Debbi to visit a support group, meet with a group, or know of an event that CTBL should attend, please contact her.

Patron Survey News

The final report for the 2007 Patron Survey is complete. We thank the Library Research Service for their continued support on this project. CTBL has maintained the high quality of service to our patrons with 99% of respondents saying our overall quality is excellent (85%) or good (14.6%).

We also identified the lack of knowledge on alternate formats for the newsletter. It is available in both audio and Braille formats. If you would like a different format, please call the library.

All in all, we are pleased that we can maintain our service levels in the face of limited resources. Thanks to all who took the time to fill out the survey.

Spring Cleaning

Please look around your residence and send back any books that you are finished reading. Timely return of books and materials means others can read the book next without having to wait long. We will begin sending out overdue notices so that you will know what books have been checked out to you. Getting your account in good standing will be important as we look towards the transition to digital talking books.

Volunteer News

April is always a great time to celebrate the volunteers! After a successful 9Health Fair, CTBL celebrated National Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 23th-27th. Using the theme "Volunteers Rock!" the library was decorated with vinyl records and bobby socks! We "Rocked Around the Clock" and twisted our way through a fun party all week.

During this year the volunteers helped CTBL celebrate the 75th anniversary, host the 9Health Fair, build shelving for the mailroom, repair talking book machines, and inspect and rewind the cassette books. They have labeled large print and Braille books and assisted staff in nearly every aspect of running the library. Many projects and small jobs got done because of the volunteers who willingly applied their special talents to the tasks!

A special thanks to all the staff who help put together the five day long rock 'n roll party to celebrate our volunteers!

Collection News

New large print books continue to arrive almost daily. These are the new descriptive video movies added into the collection:

- Descriptive Videos:**
- Brokeback Mountain
 - Cheaper by the Dozen #2
 - Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire
 - Jarhead
 - King Kong Part 1
 - Narnia
 - The Bells of St. Mary's
 - The Christmas Wife
 - The Miracle of the Cards
 - The Producers
 - Wedding Date

Here are several new audio books we've added.

Colorado Collection:

CC 8090**

Touching Tomorrow: The Emily Griffith Story

Author: Debra Faulkner **Narrator: Joanne Rudoff

As told by this historian author, Emily Griffith's life story is as intriguing as it is inspiring. From teaching in a one-room schoolhouse on the Nebraska prairie to founding Denver's ongoing and thriving Opportunity School, Miss Emily pursued her vision for all who wished to learn.

CC 8088**

Land That Moves, Land that Stands Still

Author: Kent Nelson **Narrator: Sharon Huckins

Abruptly widowed at 44, Mattie not only has to struggle to keep the family ranch running, but she also must come to terms with hurtful and confounding revelations regarding her late husband. Her college-age daughter, Shelley, moves back home to mourn and help out, but her life has its own difficulties. They are joined by Dawn, a gifted hired hand with a mystical streak. The lives of the women change significantly with the arrival of Elton, a reticent teenaged Native American runaway, who becomes indispensable to them but whose loyalty nearly leads to tragedy. Colorado Book Award Winner, 2004. (Adult content)

CC 8080**

Extreme Indifference

Author: Stephanie Kane **Narrator: Cathy Gloeckner

Jackie Flowers reluctantly takes on a new client, Judge Glenn Ballard, who once told her she'd never make it as a lawyer. Ballard is accused of kidnapping and torturing a college student who is the daughter of a rich businessman. When the young woman dies of exposure while escaping her captor, the charge becomes murder. That Ballard's cabin and handcuffs were used in the crime is damning enough, but the discovery of a videotape apparently filmed during the torture makes Flowers despair of ever clearing her client. Colorado Book Award Winner, 2004.

[continued on page 10](#)

Colorado Collection continued from page 9

CC 8033**

Meadow Lark

Author: Mary Peace Finley **Narrator: Ellen Ranson

Leaving her home in Taos, Mexico, in 1845, thirteen-year-old Teresita joins a wagon train, hoping to find both her brother Julio and a new life for herself that is different from that of her mother.

CC 8020**

Western Voices: 125 Years of Colorado Writing

Colorado Historical Society, Edited by Steve Grinstead
and Ben Fogelberg **Narrator: Louise Hausburg

The Colorado Historical Society is home to a mother lode of Colorado's literary legends. This compilation of the best of the best in Colorado writing commemorates 125 years of dedication to Colorado's history.

CC 8092**

Mostly Sunny, Partly Cloudy

Author: Pam Daale, Edited by Mark J. Shaw
**Narrator: Jean Schneider

In the summer of 2002, Pam was diagnosed with breast cancer. She used her battle with cancer to help others, and her words have inspired thousands fighting the disease. Pam died from breast cancer in April 2004 but left behind a rich legacy, one of courage, faith, and hope.

Upcoming Events of Interest

- **Center for People with Disabilities** OIB program is planning Connections, a vendor fair, on June 15th, 2007 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Wheat Ridge Senior Community Center, 6363 W. 35th Ave.

Community Connections is for people who are low vision or blind. In addition to resources, attendees will have the opportunity to hear two speakers. Dr. Robert Gold is an optometrist who is low vision from Macular Degeneration and other causes. The other Speaker has not confirmed, yet, but we hope to have Kathleen O'Donnell, an artist who, after losing her sight, writes wonderful poetry. She has written two books; one is titled "Wonder in my Soul".

For more information contact Debra Johnson, OIB Skills Trainer, 303-442-8662 ext. 125

- **The Achilles Track Club** is coming to Denver!
<http://achillestrackclub.org>

Achilles is a running club for people who are visually impaired or have other physical disabilities and enables them to participate in recreational and/or competitive running. Each participant can run or walk as much or as little as he/she wants and will be matched with a volunteer to guide him/her.

Please contact Susan Wolff at achillesclubdenver@gmail.com or 303-552-5408 to learn more.

Colorado Department of Education
Colorado Talking Book Library
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Free Matter for the
Blind & Handicapped

How to Reach Us:

Colorado Talking Book Library
180 Sheridan Blvd.
Denver, CO 80226

303-727-9277—metro Denver
1-800-685-2136—outside Denver

www.cde.state.co.us/ctbl

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