



Winter 2008

CTBL News

Colorado Talking Book Library • Denver

Highlighting The Colorado Collection

As you may know, The Colorado Talking Book Library has an in-house recording studio that enables us to provide this newsletter in audio format for patrons preferring the audio version. We also record books of local interest or by local authors and books that patrons request. Books that are not available in the network and the reader advisors identify as consistently requested by the patrons are also included. It can generally take over a year to get a book through our process. These books become part of the Colorado Collection.

The studio migrated to digital technology three years ago, to the relief of most volunteers since it made the recording process much easier. It was hard to make corrections in the reel-to-reel tape format. We have a team of about 45 volunteers who narrate, monitor or review the books that are recorded.

There are about 156,000 book titles published in the United States every year. The National Library Service provides the network with about 2,000 titles so there are many books that don't make it into the national collection. Many of the network libraries also have local recording studios and have developed local collections. We share

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these additional titles through interlibrary loan and overall it helps to grow the total collection.

We have several titles from the Colorado Collection highlighted in this issue. We hope you will explore this collection and enjoy some of the books. We do not have a complete list but the reader advisors can help you find some titles that will match your interests.

From the Director

A word about our mailing list. We never provide our list of patrons to anyone. Your privacy is of the utmost importance to CTBL. We do, however, get requests from organizations to send out information. This is how that works: if I think the information would be of interest to you, our patrons, then the organization provides the mailing to CTBL. We run mailing labels and put those labels on the material ourselves and mail it out.

Debbi

CTBL Staff Changes

We welcome Sara Drongesen as our new Reader Advisor. Some of you may have spoken with her already. She comes to us from the Northeast BOCES (Boards of Cooperative Educational Services) and had experience with setting up students with CTBL's services.

Outreach

The fall has been a busy outreach time. Debbi continues to visit with many vision support groups. She ventured to Springfield, Colorado and met with the librarians in Walsenburg and Trinidad in September, and to Glenwood Springs in October. Also in October, with the help of staff, CTBL was at Auraria Disability Day; the Possibilities Fair & NFBCO convention; Foundation for Fighting Blindness Denver Seminar and the Rocky Mountain MS Center's Making Life Easier with MS seminar. 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.

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.

Mail Room News

We would like to thank people for their notes inside the tape boxes. They are shared with the library staff. If you get a bad tape, it would most helpful if you could write on a note which tape and side is bad so it will take us less time to repair.

Reader Advisors

Here it is, the beginning of 2008. Does it seem like last spring when you sent in your broken talking book machine for repair? Did you call us when you sent it in?

It is very important if you are sending in your broken talking book machine for repair that you call one of your reader advisors so we can rush a replacement to your door. If you don't call us many days of enjoyable reading could be lost. Often notes in machine boxes are overlooked, and not every machine sent back needs a replacement. So pick up a phone and let us know so we can replace your broken talking book machine the next day.

Are your books delayed in shipment or you are not receiving your magazine subscription? Now would be a good time to call the library and verify your address and phone number. Sometimes a simple address verification will solve your problems and you will start receiving your books and magazine subscriptions in a timely fashion. So Pick up your phone and give us a call, it will only take a minute!

Braille Instruction

Occasionally we have people requesting where they can learn Braille. The National Braille Press now has a website where you can get this kind of information. Check out www.everythingbraille.com and if you click on the About Braille link and then the Braille Instruction link you will find a list of places where you can find instruction and aids for learning.

Accessible MP3 Player ** Zen from Perkins

For those of you interested in digital audio books and our Unabridged program, the Perkins Store, associated with the Perkins Library for the Blind in Massachusetts, is selling the Zen Stone. This is an accessible MP3 player with 1 GB of storage and larger controls. The price is \$43.99. Perkins has written directions in large print and Braille that are shipped with the player. If you are interested, you can order from www.perkinsstore.org or call 617-972-7308.

Donations 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.

**CTBL will be closed on the following days in 2008:
January 21st, February 18th, and May 26th**

Upcoming Events of Interest

- **Eye Ball Masquerade**—Charity Event for People with Vision Needs
Lions Club of Denver & American Council of the Blind of Colorado
February 9th—6:30 pm
Marriott Denver City Center
For more information call 720-941-8882
- **9Health Fair at CTBL**
April 15th—7:00 am to Noon
- **American Council of the Blind/Colorado Chapter—State meeting**
April 25th and 26th
Crown Plaza (formerly Holiday Inn Denver City Center)
1450 Glenarm Place, Denver
For more information call 720-941-8882

Volunteer News

The annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch was held at the Lakewood Country Club on December 1st. The Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library sponsored this event to honor the many volunteers who have given hundreds of hours to record books, repair machines, rewind cassettes and assist the staff in providing the outstanding service that CTBL is known for.

State Senator "Moe" Keller was our honored guest who joined in the celebration of our volunteers. Former Readers Advisor, Tonya Jillings Ellins delighted everyone with her lovely harp music while we dined. Entertainment was provided by PHAMALY (The Physically Handicapped Actors and Musical Artists League) who performed selected pieces from some of their recent productions.

The highlight of the event was when Debbi MacLeod presented certificates and gifts to each of the volunteers listed here, who have reached important milestones in their volunteer service.

5 Year Awards (2002):

George Beard, Harry Haberman,
Sharon Huckins, Danielle Paullin,
Mable Thompson, Joe Tourtelot

15 Year Awards (1992):

Frank Duff, Dean Haynes,
Bob Orton, John Taylor,
Elmer Tilstra

10 Year Awards (1997):

Timothy Englert, Veralyne Fenty,
Tom Holland, David Knutson, Tony
Mattern, Thomas McLaughlin, Jr.,
Moni Monismith

20 Year Awards (1987):

Nelson Embleton, Ted Schmidt

For more information on this volunteer opportunity, please call Terri Marcotte, Volunteer Coordinator at 303-727-9277.

Collection News

Listed below are new additions to the library:

- Descriptive Videos:**
- VO 287 Eight Below
 - VO 286 Chicken Little
 - VO 282 One Eyed Jack
 - VO 284 Santa Fe Trail
 - VO 285 Abilene Town
 - VO 2831 Vengeance Valley

Suggestions from the hundreds of Large Print books:

PR16286

A Long Way Gone

Author: Iahmael Beah

The author recalls experiences as a war refuge and as a thirteen year-old soldier forced to join the Sierra Leone army. Beah describes participation in mass slaughters, his rehabilitation, immigration to America, and involvement with UNICEF.

PR16241

Blood Bond: Shootout At Gold Creek

Author: William W. Johnstone

Matt Bodine and Sam Two Wolves don't look for trouble—it's usually there when they wake up in the morning. When they ride into the little gold mining town of Jordanville, high in the Colorado Rockies,

all they want is a hot meal and something cold to wash it down. When they see an unarmed man getting brutally beaten, their plans suddenly change. Before they can spit, they find themselves in the middle of a violent land war.

(Call reader advisors for ID numbers)

Mossy Creek Hometown Series

Author: Deborah Smith

Welcome to Mossy Creek, Georgia, where you'll find a friendly face at every window and a heartfelt story behind every door that will make you laugh—or smile through your tears. Six award-winning authors blend their unique voices in a collective novel about the southern town that insists it "Ain't going nowhere and don't want to."

From the Colorado Collection:

CC8113

Telling Christina Goodbye

Author: Lurlene McDaniel **Narrator: Nancy Crandall

Trisha Thompson and her best friend Christina are having a great senior year. Trisha and her boyfriend, Cody, are making plans to attend Indiana University together in the fall, while Christina has already received a scholarship to the University of Vermont. Everything would be perfect if only Trisha got along with Christina's controlling boyfriend Tucker, who is trying to convince Christina not to go away for college. But suddenly their lives change one night when Tucker is driving the four home from an away basketball game.

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CC8117

Lincoln's Melancholy

Author: Joshua Wolf Shenk **Narrator: Louise Lederhos

Drawing on seven years of his own research and the work of other esteemed Lincoln scholars, Shenk reveals how the sixteenth president harnessed his depression to fuel his astonishing success. Lincoln found the solace and tactics he needed to deal with the nation's worst crisis in the "coping strategies" he had developed over a lifetime of persevering through depressive episodes and personal tragedies.

CC8118

Side Canyons

Author: Laurie Wagner Buyer **Narrator: Kate Van Wyhe

A fictionalized account based on journal notes taken during a trip on the Colorado River, *Side Canyons* is a tale of intimate relationship with the earth and the personal evolution of an impressionable woman in nine challenging, life-changing days. The grandiose, inspirational setting of the river and the canyon, coupled with an intricate drama of the human heart, provides an unsurpassed story revealed through daily narrative, poetic musing, and prose reflection.

CC8091

Brilliant

Author: Marne Davis Kellogg **Narrator: Ellen Ranson

Meet Kick Keswick, an elegant and self-possessed American who has been at London's venerable Ballantine & Company Auctioneers for over thirty years. She is an expert on paintings, jewelry, and furniture, and so far has lived a perfectly happy life with things on her mind other than love. But when American industrialist, scoundrel, and womanizer Owen Brace grabs the faltering Ballantine & Company in a corporate takeover, he turns Kick's world upside down, opening her eyes to large-scale love and romance.

CC8111

A People's History of the United States: 1492 to Present

Author: Howard Zinn **Narrator: Jim Foster

This unconventional history of the United States is examined from the viewpoint of citizens who were not necessarily beneficiaries of American democracy. Beginning with Christopher Columbus' landing in the Bahamas in 1492 through the 2000 presidential election and the "War on Terrorism", this book concentrates on the experiences of women, factory workers, African-Americans, Native Americans, working poor, immigrant laborers, and other disenfranchised groups and how they were affected by major events in American history. Nominated for the American Book Award in 1981, *A People's History* has sold more than one million copies around the world and persists as an important volume in American history.

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

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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201 E. Colfax Ave.
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- Dwight D. Jones, Commissioner
- Eugene Hainer, State Librarian
- Debbi MacLeod, Director, CTBL



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