

Connections

Talking Book Service News

New Patrons Are "Saying Yes" to TBS

The Idaho Talking Book Service (TBS) returns the joy of reading to more than 3,200 Idahoans who are unable to read standard print due to a physical disability. In an effort to reach additional people in the Gem State who could benefit from the well-regarded service, the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) began conducting its "Say Yes to TBS" promotional campaign in the fall of 2017 -- and it garnered rapid results. The TBS program achieved a 60 percent increase in new applicants in December, 2017 over the number of new patrons in December, 2016.

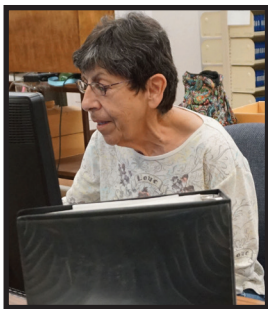
Whether you're new to the Talking Book Service or have been enjoying it for years, there may be questions or concerns that arise -- or perhaps you are just ready for your next adventure. The TBS customer service representatives are available to help, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., MT, excluding certain closures, which are listed on Page 12 of this newsletter. To reach a TBS customer service representative, call 208-334-2150 or 800-458-3271. Other useful resources are as close as your public library, where you will find programs, audio books, large print books, and much more. If you or someone you know would like information about the Idaho Talking Book Service, visit: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/landing/talking-book-service> or call the number listed above.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) administers the TBS program with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), disbursed through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). There has been a proposal at the federal level to defund the IMLS and other agencies; however, to date, that defunding has not become proposed legislation. History shows that federal funding for libraries has survived previous defunding attempts, back to the Reagan administration.

Idaho's Brightest Stars Honored

Each year, the Idaho's Brightest Star Award celebrates the outstanding dedication and accomplishments of Idaho volunteers and organizations that support volunteerism in their communities. The award is presented by Serve Idaho, the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) and four of its volunteers were nominated for the prestigious Idaho's Brightest Star award for 2017. The four ICfL volunteers who were nominated work hard to make their communities a better place:



Casey Haroian

Casey Haroian has been volunteering with ICfL for seven years. She has donated more than 230 hours in the last year. Casey volunteers in the TBS circulation department, helping to check books in and out to patrons. She always stays until the work is done and fills in for other volunteers whenever needed. Casey was also highlighted in our Nexus newsletter for her donation of the 2017 Capitol Christmas Tree. To read more about Casey and her donation, please visit page 26 of the Nexus newsletter at: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/files/Nexus-newsletter-Fall2017Winter2018final.pdf>.

Sue Vap has volunteered with the ICfL for 12 years. In the past year, she has given more than 500 hours to the Commission! Sue is a jack-of-all-trades volunteer in the TBS recording studio. She is a narrator, monitor, reviewer/ editor, and audio book producer. Sue's dedication and hard work help to ensure that TBS patrons have access to local magazines, books by Idaho authors, and books about the Northwest region. Sue has also greatly assisted the ICfL's new volunteer services coordinator, who joined the Commission upon the retirement of its long-time volunteer coordinator. Sue was also instrumental in keeping the TBS studio up and running during the transition time.



Sue Vap
(& her niece)

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Idaho's Brightest Stars Honored

Fred Riddle has volunteered with the ICfL for 26 years. He donated more than 100 hours to the Commission in the past year. Fred's work is focused on the TBS players. He leads the team who troubleshoots, repairs, and refurbishes the TBS players. Fred and his team also help build the "beeping eggs" for visually impaired children to hunt for at Easter.

Fred Riddle

Continued
from Page 2.



All of the ICfL's volunteers are shining stars for the work they do to enrich their communities. But one ICfL volunteer was honored as a 2017 Idaho Brightest Star award recipient in the "Veteran" category. His name is **Truman Stewart** -- and he is 92 years young. At the awards ceremony, Truman was the only winner who received a standing ovation.



Truman Stewart

Truman has volunteered with the ICfL for 16 years. In 2017, Truman donated 310 hours to the ICfL, where he primarily supports the Talking Book Service. Truman empties the large mail springers and organizes the books so they can be sent out to new eager readers as quickly as possible. Truman also leads the intake process of the new digital books.

Truman served in the United States Army Air Corps during WWII. His slightly less than perfect vision barred Truman from the cockpit during the war, so he served as part of the groundcrew that kept B-17's, B-24's, and B-25's properly maintained and ready for their mission. After the war, Truman met and married the love of his life and spent his career working for the Idaho phone company. His professional retirement didn't slow Truman down much. He has volunteered with many organizations over the years, in addition to the ICfL. In fact, just last year, Truman ceased his volunteer work as a ski patroller -- after 45 years!

The Idaho Commission for Libraries and the patrons of its Talking Book Service know how many amazing, dedicated people volunteer their time and talents to the ICfL, but it was particularly gratifying to have four of them nominated for -- and have one win! -- a 2017 Idaho Brightest Star award.

Recent Donations to the Idaho Talking Book Service

General Donations:

Carl & Joyce Bingham	Nona Janvier
Naomia Bliss	Rosemary Kunkel
Donald Brown	Dick & Deaun
Mrs. Merle Brown	Messersmith
Wannetta Cooke	Margaret Mortensen
Pat Curtis	Juanita Parke
Trudy DeRosa	Verla Peter
David Fitch	Barbara Ridihalgh
Melicia Friel	Margaret Rigby
Fay Gilkey	James Shutterfield
Dale Goode	Margaret N. Simons
Dorothy Griffiths	Susanna Sokol
Christine Haggerty	Agnes Wolf
Margaret & Vern Herzog	

Memorial Donations:

For Elizabeth Jane Custer

Marien Barton

For Kenneth Fallon, Sr.

Kenneth Fallon, Jr.

For Joy Sherwood

Marien Barton

Donations are used to enhance the Idaho Talking Book Service and are fully tax deductible, as allowed by law. Acknowledgements are sent to donors and honorees, so please include the name and address of all those to be notified.

Make checks payable to the Idaho Commission for Libraries and mail to:

Idaho Talking Book Service
325 West State Street
Boise, ID 83702

Credit card donations may be made online from the Idaho Commission for Libraries website: <http://libraries.idaho.gov>. Click on the "Donate Here!" button in the lower left corner of the page.

If you need tax credit information regarding a donation you made in 2017 to a public library and/or the Idaho Commission for Libraries, please visit: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/public-library-contribution-tax-credit>.

Our sincere thanks to all who give so generously.

TBS Order Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

A new locally recorded book is available on digital cartridge, along with several books that have recently been converted to cartridge.

To order, write your name and address in the space indicated above, and mark on the line(s) next to the number of the title(s) you want. Then, mail the form (pages 5 through 8). Postage is not required.

These titles are also available for download from BARD. Call the Talking Book Service at 800-458-3271 to register for BARD or visit: <http://NLSbard.loc.gov>.

Alaska & Beyond: A Novel

(Adult Fiction)

Author: M.D. Kincaid

Read By: Tom Jaramillo

The continuing adventures of Alaska Trooper/Bush Pilot, Jack Blake and his new bride, Jet. Hot on the heels of the bad guys, Jack's investigations take him out of Alaska to Washington, Idaho, and Nevada. Sequel to Alaska Justice.

_____ **(DBC00844) 2009**

7 hours, 33 minutes

Order Form continued on Page 6.

TBS Order Form

Continued from Page 5.

Converted Books

The Arams of Idaho: Pioneers of the Camas Prairie and Joseph Plains (Adult Non-Fiction)

Author: Kristi M. Youngdahl

Read By: Rita Markel

The Arams of Idaho tells of the settling of the Camas Prairie, the Nez Pierce Indian War, the growth of Idaho County, and life on the Joseph Plains as experienced by three generations of one pioneer family. This is a tale of the determined people who once populated this remote region, the tasks that consumed their daily lives, the dangers they faced, and the heartbreak they overcame.

_____ (DBC07319) 1999 7 hours, 14 minutes

Diamondfield Jack (Adult Non-Fiction)

Author: David H. Grover

Read By: Betty Worster

In the closing days of the western frontier, a young cowboy named Diamondfield Jack Davis hired on as a gunman for powerful cattle interests in southern Idaho. His job: to terrorize sheepmen in the erupting Cassia County range war.

_____ (DBC07320) 1968 5 hours, 10 minutes

Life of Charles Erskine Scott Wood (Adult Non-Fiction)

Author: Erskine Scott Wood

Read By: Daniel Baer

Wood was a soldier, explorer, and Indian fighter in Washington and Oregon.

_____ (DBC07322) 1991 4 hours, 52 minutes

Continued on Page 7.

TBS Order Form

Continued from Page 6.

The Sterling Years: A True Story

Author: Bonnie Sterling

(Adult Non-Fiction)

Read By: Jeanne Alzola

The story of a young couple's experiences -- disheartening hardships and hilarious incidents -- as roving ranch hands, trappers, guides, log cabin builders, cooks, and eventually as homesteaders in the Hells Canyon region. Strong language. For junior high, senior high, and adult readers.

_____ **(DBC07321) 1995**

6 hours, 19 minutes

All Along the River

Author: Nellie Ireton Mills

(Adult Non-Fiction)

Read By: Norma Ericson

Simple narrative of settlement and pioneer life along Idaho's Payette River.

_____ **(DBC07323) 1995**

11 hours, 57 minutes

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Tax Time

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) offers free assistance to people who are unable to complete their tax return because of a physical disability. The IRS also provides publications and federal tax forms which are available for download in Braille, large text, and accessible PDFs. Visit: <http://irs.gov/accessibility> or call 1-800-906-9887.

What Are You Reading?

John Shinn joined the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) as the agency's receptionist. John assists patrons, volunteers, and members of the public who call and come into the ICfL's Boise office. John also supports the various initiatives and programs offered by the ICfL, such as the Talking Book Service. A book John enjoyed was *Aurora*, by Kim Stanley Robinson. Published in 2016, the sci-fi novel takes readers on a multi-generational, 160-year-long voyage beyond the solar system. A group of volunteers travel at 1/10th the speed of light in search of a new home. But, spoiler alert, once the explorers reach the new planet, they find it is uninhabitable, and they must return to Earth.

Continued on Page 10.

Idaho Talking Book Service
Idaho Commission for Libraries
325 W. State Street
Boise, ID 83702-6055

**FREE MATTER for the
BLIND or HANDICAPPED**



**Idaho Talking Book Service
Idaho Commission for Libraries
325 W. State Street
Boise, ID 83702-6055**

For assistance, or to comment about the Idaho Talking Book Service, please call 1-800-458-3271, weekdays, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., MT.

To order this newsletter on cartridge:

_____ Connections: Idaho Talking Book Service News on cartridge

To order this newsletter in Braille:

_____ Connections: Idaho Talking Book Service News in Braille

For a podcast, PDF, or to subscribe to this newsletter via email, visit: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/connections-tbs-news>. To download this newsletter via the online catalog, search: "Connections, Idaho Talking Book Service News."

To order the book from the "What Are You Reading" article on Page 7:
_____ (DB082021) *Aurora*, by Kim Stanley Robinson

TBS Info to Know

Your traditional TBS cartridge has a check-out period of four weeks. If you need a little more time, please call a TBS customer service representative, who can extend the check-out time by two weeks. The cartridge's due date may be found on the white side of its mailing label.

Nominate YOUR Postal Carrier as the Best

Each year, the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL) recognizes one postal carrier as being the very best. The selection is made from the nominations submitted by you, the patrons of the Talking Book Service (TBS). So, think about how your postal carrier enhances your TBS service. Do they help make sure you're never without books, even during the dog-days of summer and through the harshest Idaho winter?

If you would like to nominate your postal carrier, the process is easy. Fill out the form on this page. Then tear the page out, fold it in half with the address side showing (which is on Page 10), and staple or tape it closed. It is pre-addressed for you and postage is not necessary. Nominations are due by **April 2, 2018**. Nominate a postal carrier **ONLY** if:

1. You are a current user of the Idaho Talking Book Service;
2. You are nominating your postal carrier -- not someone else's;
3. The nomination is based on the service the postal carrier provided in 2017 related to delivering and/or picking up TBS materials.

Nominator's Name: _____

Nominator's Phone Number: _____

(So we can contact you, if necessary.)

Postal Carrier's First and Last Name: _____

Postal Carrier's Post Office Address: _____

(If unknown, please list your mailing city and zip code.) _____

Explain why you are nominating this postal carrier. Include specific details.

Mail this application back or fax it to
Sue Walker at: 208-334-4016.

Tape or Staple
Closed

**FREE MATTER for the
BLIND or HANDICAPPED**

Tape or Staple
Closed

Tape or Staple
Closed

**Idaho Talking Book Service
Idaho Commission for Libraries
Attn: Sue Walker
325 W. State Street
Boise, ID 83702-6055**

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What Are You Reading? Continued from Page 7.

John said, "I really found the point of view of this book to be very interesting. The majority of the novel is narrated by the ship's artificial intelligence. So, you get to see the ship develop an awareness of its awareness." John added, "I also like sci-fi novels like this one, which are based on plausible science and go a thousand years into the future." Author Kim Stanley Robinson is recognized as one of the foremost living writers of science fiction. Some of his other novels include: *Blue Mars*, *Green Mars*, *Red Mars*, *Pacific Edge*, *Icehenge*, and *The Wild Shore*.



John Shinn

John has lived in Boise since he was 13 years old and has a degree in Communications/Visual Arts from Boise State University. John is also a talented photographer whose work has been displayed several times in Boise shows. When he's not working hard, being creative, or going on a space adventure with a favorite author, John enjoys coffee, reading Wikipedia articles, and watching TV -- probably with his orange tabby, Xuxa (pronounced "Shu-sha").

Show Your Support

For the many Talking Book Service (TBS) patrons who receive their audio books in the mail, rather than by downloading the titles, the arrival of their postal carrier with that little cartridge is much anticipated -- and appreciated.

Each year, the Idaho Commission for Libraries gathers your submissions to recognize one Idaho postal carrier as being the best. (This year's application is on Page 9 of this newsletter, if you would like to nominate your postal carrier.)

If you would like to thank your postal carrier directly, we have drafted a letter you can use. It is on the bottom of this page of the newsletter. Just sign your name and leave it for your postal carrier, as an expression of your appreciation for all they do to bring you those cartridges filled with knowledge, romance, adventure, and more.

Thank you for supporting the Idaho Talking Book Service. If there is someone in your life who might benefit from the TBS program, have them, or their caregiver, call the TBS at 800-458-3271 for more information and/or to receive an application.

To My Mail Carrier,

Thank you so much for being a part of my Talking Book Service. Each time you deliver a plastic box with an audio book or magazine, or a Braille book, I travel to different places, experience exciting adventures, and learn about new topics.

Without your assistance, I could not continue to experience the joy of reading. Thank you for helping me to **never stop reading!**



Your Friend,



FREE MATTER for the BLIND or HANDICAPPED

Idaho Talking Book Service
325 W. State St.
Boise, ID 83702-6055

To request this newsletter on cartridge or in Braille, call 1-800-458-3271. For a podcast, PDF, or to subscribe to the newsletter via email, visit: <http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/connections-tbs-news>. To download the newsletter via the online catalog, search "Connections, Idaho Talking Book Service News." If you have comments and/or questions about this newsletter, please call 1-800-458-3271.



This project was made possible, in part, by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Customer service representatives are available to assist TBS patrons, **Monday through Friday**, from **8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, MT, except for State of Idaho holidays and two staff training days per year.

**208-334-2150 /
800-458-3271**



2018 TBS Closures

January 1	New Year's Day
January 15	Martin Luther King Day
January 25	Staff Training Day
February 19	President's Day
May 28	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
July 12	Staff Training Day
September 3	Labor Day
October 8	Columbus Day
November 12	Veteran's Day
November 22	Thanksgiving Day
December 25	Christmas Day