



NLC *Interchange*

May 2007

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<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/tbbs>

Newsletter
of the
Nebraska
Library
Commission
Talking Book
& Braille
Service

New Admirals in Nebraska Navy

Salute to Talking Book and Braille Service volunteers Marjory Gloe and Jeff Schroeder – now Admirals in the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska. Library Commission Director Rod Wagner bestowed the awards during a Celebration of Volunteers event, February 27, 2007. Jeff received his admiralship in recognition of sixteen years of volunteer service in tape duplication; and Marjory was recognized for fifteen years as a volunteer narrator.

Freddie Peaco, Volunteer Specialist

from the Library of Congress, helped to recognize narrators Frances Buell, Beth McNeil, and John Sposato, clerical support, for ten years of volunteer service each. Dick Shasteen, also a volunteer narrator, received a framed certificate for five years of service.

Other volunteers receiving individual recognition included Ana Kalin, Paul Killion, Derek Maley, Fred McCormick, Margery McNabb, and Pat Schreurs. ■

New Members Join Advisory Committee

Two new members were recently appointed to the Advisory Committee of the Talking Book and Braille Service, and one was reappointed for an additional two-year term. New on the committee are Joan Davis, of North Platte; and Ana Kalin, of Lincoln. Reappointed for an additional term is Bob Deaton, of

Lincoln. Other members include Carolyn Bennett, of Beatrice; Sandra Kelsey, of Fremont; Ryan Osentowski, of Lincoln; Shirley Schmidt, of Columbus; Mike Steinmeyer, of Hebron; and Avis Wiest, of Ogallala. ■



Magazines Celebrate Nebraska's Good Life

Here are some cassette magazines which focus on the good life we enjoy here in our state:

Nebraska Farmer, published monthly, offers crop reports, articles on farm life, and new agricultural methods and technology. Another magazine from our studios, *Nebraskaland*, showcases Nebraska's beautiful state parks and other outdoor recreational opportunities. It is published ten times a year by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

Also published by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, *Trail Tales* is a quarterly magazine for younger readers who love Nebraska's outdoors and nature.

Nebraska Life, published bimonthly, features events, travel, and community profiles. A bimonthly magazine that includes Nebraska, *Midwest Living* covers places to visit, recipes, gardens, hobbies, restaurants, editorials, and more—all about Midwest states.

Published ten times a year, with an emphasis on Husker football, the *Big Red Report* attempts to cover the wide range of sports that are part of the University of Nebraska's athletic program.

To request any of these magazines, please use the order form on page 7 or contact your Readers Advisor.



Movies for Younger Viewers

With school soon in summer recess, families may have more leisure time to enjoy movies with audio description. These are home entertainment movies with an additional sound track which describes the action, character, locations, costumes, and sets. Some of these movies, mostly on VHS, are intended for children. Thirty-nine movies feature the popular public

television series *Arthur*, the world's most famous aardvark. Other family fare include *Dumbo*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *A Girl of the Limberlost*, *Harry Potter*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and *The New Adventures of Heidi*. To find out more, or to sign up for free movies with audio description, please contact your Readers Advisor.



New Cassette Books from Our Studios

Non-fiction

RC 991 *Forever Red: Confessions of a Cornhusker Football Fan*, by

Steve Smith

read by Norman Simon

2 cassettes

Award-winning journalist, who grew up in a small Nebraska town, presents hilarious insights into the mad world of Cornhusker football through the eyes of its fans. In this personal, soul-baring account, the author describes the passion that unites fans with the team and with each other.

RC 1007 *Song of the Sirens*, by

Ernest K. Gann

read by Michael Cartwright

2 cassettes

Best known for his books on flying, the author presents a personal

account of his experiences as sailor and ship captain. He tells of ocean crossings where he survives storms and emergencies. But mostly he writes lovingly of seventeen of his ships, including a commercial fishing vessel, a beautiful 117-ton brigantine, and a craft not much larger than a raft with patchwork sails. Contains some strong language.

RC 1020 *The Worst Hard Time: the Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl*, by

Timothy Egan

read by Judy Hanefeldt

2 cassettes

Horrorific account of life on the western Great Plains during the darkest years of the Depression, when drought and wind storms produced blinding black

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New Cassette Books from Our Studios

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blizzards, crop failure, and even death. Based on interviews with survivors, diaries, and newspaper accounts, this book chronicles the dust bowl years of the 1930s that terrorized the region and the determination of those who stayed.

RC 1001 *Miss Adams, Country Teacher: Memories from a One-Room School*, by Treva Adams Strait read by Margaret Polk

1 cassette

In 1928, at the age of 18, the author began her adventurous career as a teacher at the Wild Springs Ranch School, on the western Nebraska prairie. During the next fourteen years, she went on to teach at five different country

schools, where the number of students ranged from six to thirty-six, spanning grades one through eight.

Fiction

RC 965 *A Cafecito Story (Spanish version)*, by Julia Alvarez read by Daniela Bautista

1 cassette

Fictionalized, Spanish-language account of a Nebraska school teacher and farmer who started an organic coffee farm in Dominican Republic. They help to establish a cooperative for small coffee growers. (For English-language version, order RC 939.



2007 Great Decisions Now Available

Courtesy of the Arizona Regional Library, the *2007 Great Decisions Briefing Book* is now available on cassette. Published annually by the Foreign Policy Association, Great Decisions for 2007 covers The Middle East, Climate Change, Mexico, Migration, South Africa, War Crimes, Central Asia, and Children's Rights.

To borrow a copy, please use the

order form on page 7 or contact your Readers Advisor.

Begun in 1954, Great Decisions is the oldest and largest grassroots world affairs educational program in the country. It is designed to help anyone who wishes to gain a deeper understanding of the current challenges we face in the world today.



Books to Celebrate Warm Weather

May is a month for gardening, yard work, and baseball. Here are some books, fiction and nonfiction, to welcome that time of year when outdoors beckons.

RC 48889 *The Glory of Their Times: The Story of the Early Days of Baseball Told by the Men Who Played It*, compiled by Lawrence S. Ritter

The history of baseball in the early 1900s as recorded in first-person accounts by twenty-six major league players. Contains the complete text of the 1966 edition plus four later interviews.

RC 49627 *In the Ballpark: The Working Lives of Baseball People*, by George Gmelch and J. J. Weiner
Interviews with twenty-one people who work in baseball but are not big stars—food vendors, ushers, scouts, reporters, front-office personnel, and minor-league players and their managers. Jerry Collier, a bond trader during the day, describes his job selling beer at Camden Yards; Mark Letendre explains the role of a trainer.

RC 50338 *Leota's Garden*, by Francine Rivers

At eighty-four, Leota can no longer tend her once-beautiful backyard. And her born-again granddaughter, who is rebelling against her domineering mother, needs guidance. Then a college boy volunteers to help

restore Leota's garden. Together the three come to find a peace and solace amid the blossoms.

RC 50470 *The Green Guide to Herb Gardening*, by Deborah C. Harding
Provides the description, history, magical qualities, and folklore for the herbs basil, calendula, chamomile, chives, garlic, lemon balm, mint, oregano, parsley, and thyme. Offers tips on growing, harvesting, and storing them. Lists remedial, culinary, cosmetic, aromatic, ornamental, and other uses for each plant. Includes recipes.

RC 51924 *A Garden in Lucca: Finding Paradise in Tuscany*, by Paul Gervais
When the author moved with his friend Gil from California to an Italian villa in 1982, he knew little about gardening. He writes of becoming a knowledgeable gardener and transforming an old, half-abandoned garden into an acclaimed stop on a horticultural tour. Some strong language.

RC 52405 *Travels with My Aunt*, by Graham Greene
Retired banker Henry Pulling, a sheltered bachelor, encounters spry Aunt Augusta at his mother's funeral. When she persuades

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Books to Celebrate Warm Weather

Henry to leave his gardening and accompany her on some journeys, Henry's adventures begin.

RC 58208 *Ten Rings: My Championship Seasons*, by Yogi Berra with Dave Kaplan
Autobiography by baseball Hall of Fame

catcher highlighting his ten championship seasons with the New York Yankees between 1947 and 1962. Recalls the "golden years" of baseball, his famous contemporaries, and rival teams, and relates how the game has changed since the 1950s. ■

Questions and Answers

Question: My Readers Advisor selects books for me. Many of these are wonderful, but some books don't especially interest me. Is there any way to make sure I receive only the books I really want?

Answer: The best way would be for you to order your own books. *Talking Book Topics*, which lists the newest selections from Library of Congress, is available free in large print, on cassette and computer diskette, as well as online. New books from our own studios are listed in each issue of our newsletter.

Your Readers Advisor would be happy to select all or some of the books we send to you. Ongoing communication with us would improve the chances that you will enjoy what we send. Your reading needs are likely to change over time, so the reading preferences that we may have listed for you at the onset of

service may no longer be true. It is very important for your Readers Advisor to know:

If you wish to receive books written for juveniles, young adults, or adults.

If you wish to receive fiction, nonfiction, or both.

If you have favorite subjects and favorite authors.

If you are offended by books that contain strong language, violence, or sex.

If you enjoy reading short and moderate length books only, which means three cassettes or less, or if you also enjoy longer books.

If you are receiving too many or too few books. ■

Golden Oldies From Our Studios

Here are some more great books recorded several years ago in our own studios. To order, please check the box next to the RC number and return this page to Talking Book and Braille Service, or contact your Readers Advisor.

RC 725 *Critical Care*, by Richard Dooling
2 cassettes Fiction. Contains some strong language and descriptions of sex.

RC 726 *The Drownt Boy: An Ozark Tale*, by Art Homer
2 cassettes Memoir

RC 727 *Swimming in the Congo*, by Margaret Meyers
2 cassettes Family story

RC 728 *Crane Music: A Natural*

History of American Cranes, by Paul A. Johnsgard
1 cassette Natural history

RC 729 *The Good Green Witch from Ipswitch*, by Garnett Bond
1 cassette Juvenile fiction for grades Pre-2

RC 730 *What Was It Like, Grandma?* by Virginia Bish
1 cassette Autobiography

RC 731 *Mari: A Novel*, by Jane Valentine Barker
2 cassettes Pioneer story

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Order Form and Mailing Instructions

Use pages 7 and 8 to mark the books and magazines you wish to order, then put the page into an envelope and mail it to the Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book & Braille Service, 1200 N Street, Suite #120, The Atrium, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023.

Big Red Report

Great Decisions
Briefing Book

Midwest Living

Nebraska Farmer

Nebraska Life

Nebraskaland

Trail Tales

RC 965

RC 991

RC 1001

RC 1007

RC 1020

RC 48889

RC 49627

RC 50338

RC 50470

RC 51924

RC 52405

RC 58208

Golden Oldies From Our Studios

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❑ RC 732 *Nebraska Off the Beaten Path*, by Hannah McNally
2 cassettes Nebraska travel

❑ RC 733 *Schoolwomen of the Prairies and Plains: Personal Narratives from Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, 1860s-1920s*, by Mary Hurlbut Cordier
3 cassettes Pioneer stories

❑ RC 734 *Fourteen Plus: Homesteading in Nebraska's Sandhills 1911-1949*, by Don Linebeck

1 cassette Pioneer story

❑ RC 738 *A Marriage in Wartime: The World War II Letters of Howard and Doris Huddell*, compiled by Doris Bishop Huddell
3 cassettes Autobiography

❑ RC 742 *Black Elk and Flaming Rainbow: Personal Memories of the Lakota Holy Man and John Neihardt*, by Hilda Neihardt
1 cassette Autobiography

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Talking Book and Braille Service
Nebraska Library Commission
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Free Matter
For the Blind or
Handicapped