



# NLC *Interchange*

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<http://www.nlc.nebraska.gov/tbbs>

## Free Magazines for History Buffs

Newsletter  
of the  
Nebraska  
Library  
Commission  
Talking Book  
& Braille  
Service

If you wonder how the past affects the present or have an interest in current events that are shaping history, you might be interested in the following free recorded magazines from the Talking Book and Braille Service:

*American History* covers personalities, as well as social, political, military, and artistic themes that played a role in the development of our country. This bimonthly publication is produced by Recorded Recreational Reading for the Blind.

*Smithsonian*, a monthly publication, offers a wide variety of articles about science, history, art, archaeology, and ecology. It also covers events at America's foremost museum, the Smithsonian Institution. It is produced by the Florida Regional Library.

If you would like to learn about your own state, you would enjoy

*Nebraska History*, a quarterly publication of the Nebraska State Historical Society. This publication is recorded in our own studios.

If you enjoy a fond flashback to the good ol' days, you would enjoy *Reminisce* and its companion magazine, *Reminisce Extra*. Published in alternating months, these two magazines are also recorded in our own studios.

To keep in touch with current events, you should try *Vital Speeches of the Day*. Produced monthly by the Florida Regional Library, each issue features eight to ten speeches by individuals who have attained leadership in such fields as economics, politics, finance, education, government, or business. Another option would be *Choice Magazine Listening*, for selections of articles, poetry, and fiction from over a hundred magazines. Created in 1962 by the Lucerna Fund, this

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# Free Magazines for History Buffs

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publication is produced bimonthly. To find out what is happening at the Nebraska Library Commission and at Nebraska libraries and media centers, try *NCompass*, a newsletter published by the Nebraska Library Commission.

To sign up for any of these recorded magazines, please use the order form on page 7 or contact your Readers Advisor. ■

## Questions and Answers

Question: I wish I knew more about my new Library of Congress digital player. I am sure it has features I am not using. How can I find out more about it?

Answer: When you receive a digital player, information about it is literally right at your fingertips. Enclosed with your new player, you will find a "Getting Started" sheet, along with "Digital Talking Book Player, Important Safety Instructions." Both sheets are in large print.

The player also has built-in instructions. Before you insert a cartridge into the front of your player, hold down the red power button until you hear, "Player on." At that point, any key you touch will announce its function. When you press the power button a second time, you will hear the power button's function and how much battery charge is remaining. When you press the power button a third time, the player will shut off.

If you want to hear detailed instructions and you have been assigned a standard digital player, press the red power button, then hold down the green play/stop button. You will then hear the built-in player guide. Press the play/stop button a second time to exit the player guide, or press the red power button again to turn your player off.

If you have been assigned an advanced player, press the red power button, then press and hold the diamond-shaped information button for 1.5 seconds. You will then hear the built-in player guide. Press the play/stop button to interrupt or exit the player guide, or press the power button again to turn your player off.

The final source of information about your new player is your telephone. Feel free to call your Readers Advisor with questions about your new player. Call toll-free 1-800-742-7691 or (402) 471-4038. ■

## What to Read First?

Receiving books and magazines on cassette as well as on digital cartridge? If so, you may be wondering what to read first. You might consider moving books and magazines on cartridge to the top of

your reading stack. We have limited quantities of cartridges; so their prompt return is very much appreciated. ■

## Extension Newsletter for Home / Garden

*Nebline Newsletter*, published by University of Nebraska – Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County, is now available, but only on digital cartridge, from the Talking Book and Braille Service. Produced eleven times a year, this newsletter provides information about 4H clubs and

projects, lawn and garden, acreage, farm and ranch, and nutrition, health and safety. Includes recipes. To request *Nebline*, please use the order form on page 7 or contact your Readers Advisor. ■

*Interchange* is published bimonthly by the Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book and Braille Service, 1200 N St., Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508-2023. Phone 402-471-4038 or 800-742-7691 (in Nebraska only).

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# Volunteer Profile: Laura Johnson

The Continuing Education Coordinator within the Library Development Department of the Library Commission, Laura Johnson is also one of our studio volunteers. Laura has recorded numerous issues of magazines, such as *Angels on Earth*, *Big Red Report*, *Country*, *Grit*, *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, *Midwest Living*, *Mother Earth News*, *Nebraskaland*, *Nebraska Farmer*, *Nebraska Game and Fish*, *Nebraska History*, *Nebraska Life*, *Reminisce*, and *Taste of Home*. She has also completed *Nebraska Kitchens Cookbook: Favorite Recipes of Our State, Volume 1*, by Nebraska Life Magazine (DB/RC 1127).

Laura came to Nebraska from a Chicago suburb, where she worked for twelve years with the

Metropolitan Library System. Her family had moved to Omaha while she was working on her undergraduate degree.

Laura volunteers because reading has always been important to her, so it seemed like a good idea to volunteer in a place that helps people to read. Her favorite author is Lois McMaster Bujold, who writes science fiction and fantasy. Her favorite series is the *Lord Peter Wimsey* mysteries, by British author Dorothy L. Sayers.

Laura's hobby is antiques. Her favorite food is Sam's Choice Pecan Chocolate Chip Cookies. She enjoys checking out new sites on the web. Currently her favorite site is: <http://marylaine.com/neatnew.html>.



## New on Digital

**DB 1013 *Play Action***, by Jack Botts  
Suspense

**DB 1025 *Summer of Discovery***, by Melody Herr  
Archaeology. For grades 6 to 9.

**DB 1037 *The Seanachie***, by Bob Huerter  
Historical fiction

**DB 1062 *Heed the Thunder***, by Jim Thompson  
Crime novel

**DB 1071 *Interior Places***, by Lisa Knopp  
Natural history

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# New on Digital

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**DB 1074** *Nebraska Quilts & Quiltmakers*, edited by Patricia Cox Crews and Ronald C. Naugle  
History of quilts

**DB 1081** *Mayor Helen Boosalis: My Mother's Life in Politics*, by Beth Boosalis Davis  
Biography

**DB 1083** *Miles Maryott: His Life & Times*, by S. A. Sullivan  
Nebraska biography

**DB 1085** *My Brushes with Death and Other Outdoor Blunders: a Family Man's Guide to Hunting and Fishing Woe*, by Steven Paul Barlow  
Humor

**DB 1095** *The Last Flight of Kilo*

*Mike*, by Kenny Miller  
Suspense

**DB 1098** *Gracie Gannon: Middle School Zero*, by Mary Elizabeth Anderson  
Family story. For grades 5 to 8.

**DB 1109** *Escape from Saigon: How a Vietnam War Orphan Became an American Boy*, by Andrea Warren  
Biography

**DB 1116** *Spell It Murder*, by Ivy Ruckman  
Mystery. For grades 5-8.

**DB 1130** *Justice in January: The Emily Sinclair Mystery Series, Book 2*, by Pam Broderick  
Mystery ■

## Great Books about the Presidency

Presidents Day, the third Monday in February, has its origins in George Washington's birthday but has since been set aside as a day to honor the office of the Presidency. Here are some remarkable books, fiction and nonfiction, concerning our country's chief executive.

**RC 531** *Jean Rides a Tiger to Washington: A Family Story*, by Jean Simmons Wear  
The daughter of Nebraska Congressman Robert Simmons recalls the fascinating

1920s. Her memoirs include campaigning with her family in a Model-T, going to parties at the White House, and meeting President Coolidge in the Oval Office.

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# Great Books about the Presidency

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**RC 60815 *Wackiest White House***

*Pets*, by Kathryn Gibbs Davis

Describes various kinds of pets, including grizzly bears and alligators, kept at the White House by several presidents. Claims that Theodore Roosevelt had the biggest menagerie with more than forty animals, most belonging to his six children. For grades 2-4.

**RC 65839 *The Preacher and the Presidents: Billy Graham in the White House***, by Nancy Gibbs and Michael Duffy

The authors interviewed Billy Graham before examining the relationship between the evangelist and the eleven American presidents—from Harry Truman to George W. Bush—he befriended over six decades. Emphasizes Graham’s lack of an agenda. Examines the rise of faith-based political activism in both parties.

**DB/RC 66303 *Write It When I’m Gone: Remarkable Off-the-Record Conversations with Gerald R. Ford***,

by Thomas M. DeFrank

Former White House reporter DeFrank presents “an anecdotal memoir” of U.S. President Gerald Ford’s life in politics, which Ford asked to remain unpublished until after his death. Using interviews

from 1991 to 2006, DeFrank highlights Ford’s character and his candid assessments of contemporaries, including Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter.

**RC 66415 *Alice: Alice Roosevelt Longworth, from White House Princess to Washington Power***

*Broker*, by Stacy A. Cordery

Uses personal papers to detail Alice Longworth’s influential life (1884-1980). Includes descriptions of her formative years as Teddy Roosevelt’s daughter, her White House wedding and marriage to Republican representative Nicholas Longworth, and her affair and child with Senator Bill Borah. Also discusses her role as “the other Washington monument.”

**DB/RC 66727 *A Remarkable Mother***, by Jimmy Carter

Former U.S. president Jimmy Carter pays homage to his mother, “Bessie” Lillian Gordy Carter (1898-1983). Describes “Miss Lilly’s” childhood in rural Georgia, training as a nurse during World War I, marriage, and 1968-1969 trip to India as a Peace Corp volunteer. Highlights her humanitarian ethic at home and abroad.

# Survey

Here is a brief survey from the Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book and Braille Service. Please mark the response to each question that comes closest to your own experience. Return this survey, postage-free, to the Talking Book and Braille Service. If you prefer to complete the survey by phone, please call your Readers Advisor toll-free: 1-800-742-7691 or 402-471-4038.

1. Downloadable audio books, magazines, and information about our library are now available over the Internet. Which of the following responses comes closest to your experience? Access could mean either on your own or through another person, such as a family member.

- I currently have access to the Internet.
- No. I do not have access to the Internet but I expect to have access within the next few years.
- No. I do not have access to the internet, and I do not anticipate having access within the next few years.

2. There is often a time lag between when a person first qualified for talking book service and when they actually signed up for service. Which of the following describes your experience?

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## Order Form and Mailing Instructions

**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. Borrowers currently using a Library of Congress digital player will receive Nebraska magazines on cartridge when available.

- |   |   |                                      |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American History             | <input type="checkbox"/> Reminisce                    | <input type="checkbox"/> RC 60815    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choice Magazine<br>Listening | <input type="checkbox"/> Reminisce Extra              | <input type="checkbox"/> RC 65839    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NCompass                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Smithsonian                  | <input type="checkbox"/> DB/RC 66303 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nebline Newsletter           | <input type="checkbox"/> Vital Speeches of the<br>Day | <input type="checkbox"/> RC 66415    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nebraska History             | <input type="checkbox"/> RC 531                       | <input type="checkbox"/> DB/RC 66727 |

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- I would have signed up sooner, but my eye doctor didn't tell me.
- I would have signed up sooner, but my medical doctor didn't tell me.
- I would have signed up sooner, but a rehab counselor didn't tell me.
- I would have signed up sooner, but a librarian didn't tell me.
- I would have signed up sooner, but some other service provider didn't tell me.
- I would have signed up sooner, but another talking book borrower didn't tell me.
- No one failed to tell me. I signed up as soon as I was ready.

3. The Talking Book and Braille Service uses its own studios to record books about Nebraska or written by Nebraskans. Which statements come closest to your reading interests?

- I enjoy reading both Nebraska fiction and Nebraska nonfiction.
- I mostly enjoy Nebraska fiction.
- I mostly enjoy Nebraska nonfiction.
- I don't care to read Nebraska books of any kind.