



NLC *Interchange*

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

Cassette Magazines for History Buffs

Newsletter
of the
Nebraska
Library
Commission
Talking Book
& Braille
Service

If you enjoy history and wonder how the past affects the present or have an interest in current events that are about to become history, you might be interested in the following free cassette 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 the studios of the Nebraska Library Commission Talking Book and Braille Service.

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 both recorded in our own studios.

To keep in touch with current events, you should try *Time Magazine Monthly*. Produced by Associated Services for the Blind, this publication consists of selected articles from each weekly issue of *Time*. Another way to track current events is to read *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.

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

January



Book Lists on Favorite Subjects

National Library Service provides 22 mini bibliographies to alert borrowers on what is available on various subjects or authors. The newest is "Actors and Actresses," which features books on cassette or in Braille on the lives of dozens of movie and television actors. The range stretches from early Hollywood stars Lillian Gish and Rudolph Valentino to current television names Teri Hatcher and Brooke Shields.

Another book list covers Caldecott Medal Winners, an award presented annually by the American Library Association for the best-illustrated American picture book for children. Many of these award-winning books have delightful and imaginative narratives that complement their award-winning illustrations. On a similar theme, "Newbery Award and Honor Books in the NLS Collection"

lists authors who have been awarded the John Newbery Medal for the most distinguished contribution to juvenile literature.

"The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis" book list is sure to please children and lovers of fairy tales. Written by the renowned British novelist, medievalist, poet, and literary critic, C. S. Lewis, these stories take place in a magical land called Narnia, where animals behave as equals with humans, witches wage war, and dragons and horses fly.

Other popular book lists include "The Best American Fiction: 1900-1945"; "The Horatio Hornblower Series by C. S. Forester (1899-1966)"; and "The Sackett Stories by Louis L'Amour (1908-1988)". To find out more about mini bibliographies, contact your Readers Advisor. ■

Questions and Answers

Question: Why do some talking books play at one and 7/8 inches per second instead of 15/16, and how can I tell them apart?

Answer: Some of the older books in our collection play at one and 7/8 inches per second. This includes Library of Congress cassette books produced before 1975, but is also true for radio dramas and old-time radio

programs. Most of the books which play at one and 7/8 have a large-print label affixed on the inside lid of the cassette box. For these books, if the voice on the cassette sounds unusually slow, make sure your cassette player rocker switch is pressed on one and 7/8 instead of 15/16. Just remember, for most talking books and magazines, that switch should be on 15/16. ■

New Cassette Books from Our Studios

Fiction

Calling Me Home

RC 1059

by Patricia Hermes

read by Nathalie Freeman

1 cassette

Twelve-year-old Abbie tries to be content with her new life on the Nebraska prairie in the 1850s after she and her family leave their house with a piano behind in St. Joseph. Living in a sod house, she longs for life in town where she could attend school. Her family helps her discover the faith and strength to survive their hardship. For grades 3 to 6.

The Cleanup

RC 1069

by Sean Doolittle

read by Tami Works

2 cassettes

Though he comes from a proud line of cops, Matt Worth finds his career on the skids after losing his temper and decking a detective. His love life has taken a hit, with a ten-year marriage ending in divorce. On provisional work status, he is assigned night patrol at a supermarket in a high-crime Omaha neighborhood. He finds himself drawn to Gwen, the checkout girl who has been battered by her drug-dealing boyfriend. Worth tries not to get involved, but he comes to Gwen's rescue in spite of himself. He ends up driving a car with the boyfriend's body in the trunk and contending with rogue cops whose hands are dirty with drug money. Contains some strong language, violence, and sex.

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New Cassette Books from Our Studios

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Prairie Whispers

RC 1086

by Scott E. Miller

read by Karen Boyer

1 cassette

Based on true events from the 1880s, John and Maggie McKay and their two young daughters, Claire and Abbie, settle on the Nebraska prairie. They make their way to their homestead along the Niobrara River in a wagon pulled by oxen. First task is to clear the grassy fields of rattlesnakes; then plant their first crop of wheat and vegetables. John and his oldest daughter, Claire, make a three-day trip to the nearest town, Niobrara City, to purchase supplies so they can frame their cabin. Their first winter is challenging, and summer brings an addition to the family, with the birth of a baby brother. For grades 4 to 7.

Non-Fiction

America: Our Next Chapter: Tough Questions, Straight Answers

RC 1073

by Chuck Hagel

read by Dick Shasteen

2 cassettes

Nebraska's senior senator presents strategies for dealing with America's problems, including economic, foreign policy, security, and leadership. He challenges the underlying assumptions steering our course of action in Iraq and offers assessments regarding Israel and Palestine, China, the global economy, and rebuilding our military. To overcome the current partisan impasse, he makes a case for a new independent party or bipartisan ticket.

A Flowering of Quilts

RC 1075

edited by Patricia Cox Crews

read by Judy Hanefeldt

1 cassette

From the Ardis and Robert James Collection of the International Quilt Study Center at the University of Nebraska, this book highlights 53 examples of nineteenth century appliqué quilts. The book explores women's interests in botany and similarities between designs of flower gardens and quilts during that period.

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New Cassette Books from Our Studios

Continued from page 4

Nebraska's Cowboy Trail: a User's Guide

RC 1076

by Keith Terry

read by Tim Gaskell

1 cassette

The nation's longest recreational rail-to-trail project, the Cowboy Trail follows a 321-mile corridor across Nebraska once used by the railroad to carry supplies to the Black Hills during the 1870s gold rush. Stretching from Norfolk to Chadron, the trail passes through eastern farmland on the Plains ranchland and across the northern Sandhills and on to the Pine Ridge. This book serves as a companion for those who plan to hike, bike, or ride horseback along this unique trail.

Living Blue in the Red States

RC 1078

edited by David Starkey

read by Alice Timm

3 cassettes

"Progressive" novelists, poets, essayists, and professors describe what it is like for them to live in conservative "Red" states and often feel out of step with the predominate political culture. These individuals search for ways to close the political divide between the left and the right, or at least understand it.

Husker Numbers: a Nebraska Number Book

RC 1094

by Rajean Luebs Shepherd

read by Nathalie Freeman

1 cassette

A counting book provides a way for young readers to explore the Cornhusker State. Beginning with western Nebraska's "1 majestic Chimney Rock," the numbers progress through other attractions, such as "4 ancient Indian petro glyphs," "7 black-tail prairie dogs," and "15 American flags . . . for veterans at Fort McPherson." For grades 1 to 4.

The Path to Pelini: The Stories Behind the Shakeups that Led Nebraska Back to Bo

RC 1096

by Lincoln Journal Star Books

read by Janene Sheldon, Dennis

Lorance, Judy Hanefeldt, Michael

Cartwright, Amy Miller, Marilyn Palmer, and Brad Meurrens

2 cassettes

Bo Pelini's career took him from Nebraska to Oklahoma and Louisiana State, and then back to Nebraska as head coach. New insider commentary from veteran Husker writer Steve M. Sipple is included. ■

Good Books for Winter Nights

Nebraska winters can be challenging, but winter is a favorite season for some who love outdoor adventures. Here are some great books that portray winter as anything but quite and restful.

RC 51377 *Tough Cookie*, by Diane Mott Davidson

When her kitchen is shut down by inspectors, Goldy Schultz begins hosting a TV cooking show and working as a personal chef. She also plans to sell a valuable pair of skis to ex-boyfriend Doug Portman. Then Doug's body is found on a ski slope and everything goes terribly wrong. Includes recipes.

RC 55018 *True Friends*, by Robin Jones Gunn

Sixteen-year-old Christy and her friend Katie head to the ski slopes of Lake Tahoe. Christy becomes part of the fast crowd. But Katie warns her of trouble and Christy remembers her religious values. Christy is also frustrated because she hasn't heard from Todd. For junior and senior high readers.

RC 55239 *Alpine Achievement: a Chronicle of the United States Disabled Ski Team*, by Lori J. Batcheller

A brief history of skiing in which adaptive equipment is used to compensate for physical disabilities. Discusses challenges faced by world-class athletes including vision-impaired skiers and amputees who participate in the United States Disabled Ski Team.

RC 57927 *Winter World: the Ingenuity of Animal Survival*, by Bernd Heinrich

New England biologist explains how animals cope with their harsh winter environments. He describes the innovative techniques used by insects, birds, and mammals to avoid freezing to death and to find food in a time of scarcity.

RC 58489 *It's Winter!*, by Linda Glaser

A little girl watches the coming of winter and its effects on the weather, animals, and plants. Includes suggestions for wintertime activities. For preschool-grade 2.

RC 59158 *Powder Burn: Arson, Money, and Mystery on Vail Mountain*, by Daniel Glick

Journalist relates his investigation of the still-unsolved arson fires that ravaged Vail, Colorado, in October 1998. Glick's probe into political, social, and economic problems of the ski resort town, owned and controlled by a Wall Street investment firm, illustrates the continuing debate over growth and development throughout the West.

More Golden Oldies From Our Studios

Here are some great books recorded in our studios during past years. 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 935 *Still Water Fifties*, by Ken Widergren
2 cassettes Fiction

RC 936 *The Good Old Days*, by Van C. Duling and Jerry Mapes
2 cassettes Nebraska history

RC 937 *We Rode the Orphan Trains*, by Andrea Warren
1 cassette History

RC 938 *Moving Out: A Nebraska Woman's Life*, by Polly Spence
2 cassettes Autobiography

RC 939 *A Cafecito Story*, by Julia Alvarez
1 cassette Fiction

Continued on page 8

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.

American History

Nebraska History

Reminisce

Reminisce Extra

Smithsonian

Time Magazine

Monthly

Vital Speeches of the

Day

RC 1059

RC 1069

RC 1073

RC 1075

RC 1076

RC 1078

RC 1086

RC 1094

RC 1096

RC 51377

RC 55018

RC 55239

RC 57927

RC 58489

RC 59158

More Golden Oldies From Our Studios

Continued from page 7

❑ RC 940 *A Time to Sink Her Pretty Little Ship*, by William Kloefkorn
1 cassette Short stories

❑ RC 941 *Love, Sex and Tractors: the Eternal Triangle*, by Roger Welsch
2 cassettes Humor

❑ RC 942 *Platte Valley Chronicles: Tales from Nebraska's Pioneer Trails*, by Robert N. Manley
2 cassettes Nebraska history

❑ RC 943 *My Journey Through*

the Twentieth Century, by Frank B. Morrison
2 cassettes Autobiography

❑ RC 944 *To Bucktail and Back—A Million Miles of Memories: A Collection of Stories from Tom Allan*, Omaha World-Herald Byways Columnist, by Tom Allan
2 cassettes Autobiography

❑ RC 945 *Big Red: The Three-Month Voyage of a Trident Nuclear Submarine*, by Douglas C. Waller
3 cassettes Armed Forces

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Talking Book and Braille Service
Nebraska Library Commission
The Atrium • 1200 N St. • Suite 120
Lincoln NE 68508-2023
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Free Matter
For the Blind or
Handicapped