

***Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc.***



***Since 1971***

# **2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

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## 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia Herrling – President / Librarian

Constance Risjord – Vice President

Karen Perzentka – Secretary

Sue Nelson – Treasurer

Sandy Adams – Board Member

Joan Sholdt – Board Member

Melody Moore – Board Member

Kathy Dorn – Board Member

## Office Staff

Aaron Konkol – Office Manager

Sue Danz – Braille Coordinator

## President's Message

February 6, 2021

The last year during this COVID crisis has been a time of challenges and adjustments for BLTS, which reflects many of the same concerns our general society has had to face. But we are very fortunate that we have been able to continue with our work and service to the blind and visually impaired. Social distancing and face masks have allowed BLTS to continue loaning braille books to our readers. Many of them have expressed joy at having this service during these times when many of their other sources of reading materials are not accessible. I know I have certainly taken comfort in escaping into the world of fiction.

Sue Danz (braille coordinator) and Aaron Konkol (office manager) have been able to keep our office and transcribing services running smoothly and efficiently. Luckily our braille transcribers are able to work from home, with only short visits to the office for necessities. Those short visits gave us all a sense of connecting as a community when those opportunities are few and far between lately. A bonus was enjoying the wide variety of colors and patterns in face masks! We have also been able to connect virtually via Zoom for continuing education, board meetings, and teaching new braille students. We have all become more technically savvy than we ever imagined :-)

BLTS has also been able to use this time to explore some new projects. We now have volunteers who help us prepare embossed materials in a way that maintains the quality of the braille raised dots. Kathy Dorn helped us look at our braille cookbook collection and we offered for sale those materials which were either less frequently used or supplanted by newer materials. This resulted in money for BLTS, good homes for old books and much needed shelf space for new additions. We also explored new braille translation software. While Braille2000 remains our mainstay, we purchased four Duxbury licenses. This allowed us to explore a software which may be more user-friendly for Macintosh computer users and keep our options open for any future developments in the use of computer programs for braille transcribing.

As we look toward celebrating 50 years as an organization in 2021, we celebrate the strength of our organization in these trying times. We are truly blessed.

Patricia Herrling, BLTS President

## Production Totals

### Embossed and E-mailed Pages

2000 – 43,186	2011 – 41,357
2001 – 55,467	2012 – 42,270
2002 – 41,781	2013 – 34,947
2003 – 41,092	2014 – 40,037
2004 – 45,314	2015 – 39,417
2005 – 54,218	2016 – 29,632
2006 – 68,750	2017 – 34,898
2007 – 66,107	2018 – 36,512
2008 – 59,510	2019 – 33,820
2009 – 59,181	<b>2020 – 39,140</b>
2010 – 43,036	

## 2020 New Pages Allocation

School Materials	6	braille pages
Lending Library	14,510	braille pages
Individual Sales	2,602	braille pages
Business Sales	583	braille pages
Office and Class	58	braille pages
<u>Non-Profit Agencies</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>braille pages</u>
<b>Total (New Pages)</b>	<b>17,759</b>	<b>braille pages</b>

## BLTS Lending Library Report 2020

### LOANED

<u>Year</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Total</u>
2006	773	547	1,320
2007	810	450	1,260
2008	755	468	1,223
2009	847	454	1,301
2010	836	347	1,183
2011	801	340	1,141
2012	706	652	1,358
2013	708	656	1,364
2014	702	523	1,224
2015	633	610	1,243
2016	707	624	1,331
2017	588	576	1,167
2018	529	605	1,135
2019	485	590	1,077
<b>2020</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>1,085</b>

### 2020 Borrowers

**Active: 192 (21 schools total)**

**New: 17 borrowers**

### Collection

Total new books added to collection

**49** new adult books

**40** new children's or print/braille books

**Total Inventory: 2,613 items**

### Observations

Circulation is up slightly from last year. Our Library Committee held three meetings, selecting new books for the library based on our clientele's reading preferences. During this COVID pandemic year we received many thanks from our library users! They appreciated that our library was still open for business during this challenging time. A priority goal for 2020 was to look at our braille library collection to make room for new additions and remove unused/poor condition books. With the help of Kathy Dorn and other volunteers we were able to weed our cookbook collection, resulting in sales of many still useable books to happy clientele. We did the same for the children's book collection.

**Goals for 2021** include exploring alternative library database options to our current Works database, which would allow for easier access to our collection, as well as completing the weeding of the adult fiction/nonfiction collection.

## 2020 Active Membership

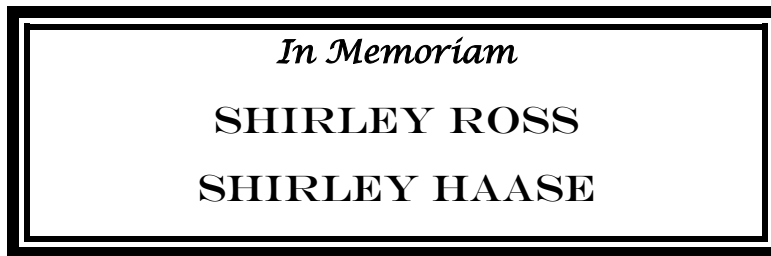
Active Brailleists – 14

Other Active Members – 4

## 2020 Volunteer Hours

Braille Transcribing (completed in 2020)	3,660 hours - 18,186 pages
Service Hours	1,285 hours
Library	383 hours
<b>Total Volunteer Hours</b>	<b>5,328 hours</b>

## 2020 Membership



Sandy Adams

Judy Amacker

Carol Birch

Giso Broman

Pat Bunders

Mémée Chun

Mary Ann Damm

Sue Danz

Joel DeVore

Kathy Dorn

Jill Dumphy

Pat Foltz

Kay Goepfert

Lori Hanson

Patricia Herrling

Lois Kibbe

Mary Kienitz

Aaron Konkol

Ron & Debbie Konkol

Lynn Mack

Alyson McKee

Linda Mitchell

Melody Moore

Sue Nelson

Betty Oakley

Karen Perzentka

Bev Pfister

Pat Popp

Elnor Reichel

Constance Risjord

Barb Schlinkert

Julie Schoepp

Judy Sherry

Joan Sholdt

Jane Stark

Lealisa Stefl

Betty Stern

Betty Stoffel

Julie Sumwalt

Lindy Walton

Vickie Warner

## 2020 Fundraising

Community:	\$18,770.15
Membership:	<u>\$16,138.51</u>
<b>Total Contributions:</b>	<b>\$34,908.66</b>

## 2020 Contributors

\*designates a BLTS Member

### Over \$1000

M. Jane Ayer	*Melody Moore
Epic Systems Co	Jack DeLoss Taylor Trust
Helen & Jeffrey Mattox	*Joan Sholdt

### \$500 to \$999

*Joel DeVore	Constance Risjord
Middleton Lions Club	*Jane Stark
*Linda Mitchell	Sub-Zero Wolf Foundation
*Sue Nelson	Thrivent Choice Financial
Pleasant Rowland Foundation	

### \$200 to \$499

Jane Eisner	Strand Associates, Inc
Herb Kohl Philanthropies	*Elizabeth Stoffel
*Patricia Herrling	*Julie Sumwalt
Mcfarland Lions Club	Ronald Thorstad
Gerald Ring	Westmorland Combined Health Fund

**\$100 to \$199**

\*Sandy Adams

\*Judy Amaker

Norman & Barb Berven

\*Pat Bunders

\*Memee Chun

\*Mary Ann Damm

\*Sue Danz

\*Kathy Dorn

\*Jill Dumphy

\*Pat Folz

\*Barb Henning

Burton Kushner

Ladies Auxiliary VFW 8216

Abigail Loomis

Madison-Monona Lioness Club

McFarland Lioness

\*Beverly Pfister

\*Barb Schlinkert

\*Lindy Walton

Wisconsin Council of the Blind

**To \$99**

American Legion Post 501

\*Carol Birch

\*Giso Broman

Cindy Collins

\*Kay Goepfert

\*Lori Hanson

Mary Hoepfinge

Barbara Kehrein

\*Mary Kienitz

\*Lynn Mack

Jane Maher

\*Alison McKee

\*Betty Oakley

Pay Pal Giving Fund

\*Karen Perzentka

\*Pat Popp

\*Elnor Reichel

\*Julie Schoepp

\*Judy Sherry

Amazon Smile Foundation

\*Lealisa Stefl

\*Betty Stern



**Comparative Statement**  
**2019 and 2020**

<b>Income</b>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Community Contributions	30,671.49	18,970.15
Member Contributions	11,594.36	15,938.51
Braille Income	6,962.34	4,855.29
Mutual Fund Income	6,084.28	4,534.59
Miscellaneous Income	134.00	0.00
Class Fees	0.00	250.00
<b>Total Income</b>	55,446.47	44,558.54
<b>Expenses</b>		
Salaries	29,370.16	12,542.86
Rent	14,220.53	14,576.10
Braille, Library Supplies	2,351.34	4,614.14
Proofreading	5,343.00	6,325.90
New Embosser	0.00	3,695.00
Office cleaning	875.00	770.00
Office Supplies	4,142.11	3,089.64
OnPay & Professional Fees	587.40	585.40
Social & Awards	501.24	0.00
Training/Class Materials	324.00	1,120.00
Moving Expense	30.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	209.18
<b>Total Expenses</b>	57,744.78	47,528.22
<b>Net Income/Expense</b>	(\$2,298.31)	(\$2,969.68)

## Financial Comparison

<i><b>For the Year Ended</b></i>	<i><b>Income</b></i>	<i><b>Expenses</b></i>	<i><b>Excess Income (Loss)</b></i>	<i><b>Mutual Fund &amp; Checking Market Value</b></i>
12/31/1996	\$40,558.15	\$51,329.08	(\$10,770.93)	\$153,390.00
12/31/1997	\$33,485.22	\$56,867.32	(\$23,382.10)	\$159,351.00
12/31/1998	\$25,071.84	\$52,391.63	(\$27,319.79)	\$145,985.00
12/31/1999	\$32,778.11	\$49,589.79	(\$16,811.68)	\$151,194.00
12/31/2000	\$40,324.21	\$52,515.14	(\$12,190.93)	\$122,434.00
12/31/2001	\$37,915.77	\$61,778.94	(\$23,863.17)	\$81,804.00
12/31/2002	\$39,663.27	\$51,589.18	(\$11,925.91)	\$61,595.00
12/31/2003	\$37,050.43	\$50,560.05	(\$13,509.62)	\$67,365.00
12/31/2004	\$47,496.81	\$48,771.04	(\$1,274.23)	\$53,146.00
12/31/2005	\$47,088.57	\$47,224.39	(\$135.82)	\$54,965.00
12/31/2006	\$59,202.00	\$58,721.00	\$481.00	\$154,497.00
12/31/2007	\$59,473.45	\$74,002.41	(\$14,528.96)	\$153,165.33
12/31/2008	\$51,603.35	\$39,817.01	\$11,786.34	\$132,582.95
12/31/2009	\$49,027.00	\$42,344.62	\$6,682.38	\$152,214.00
12/31/2010	\$40,682.86	\$44,068.71	(\$3,385.85)	\$153,632.13
12/31/2011	\$34,121.27	\$38,144.29	(\$4,023.02)	\$147,848.71
12/31/2012	\$38,411.00	\$39,277.00	(\$866.00)	\$156,314.00
12/31/2013	\$42,438.00	\$39,140.00	\$3,298.00	\$168,282.40
12/31/2014	\$38,931.00	\$40,216.00	(\$1,285.00)	\$170,307.00
12/31/2015	\$37,449.00	\$47,017.00	(\$9,568.00)	\$150,163.19
12/31/2016	\$35,720.47	\$47,071.35	(\$11,350.88)	\$147,897.62
12/31/2017	\$47,360.61	\$46,702.66	\$657.95	\$153,858.00
12/31/2018	\$53,085.37	\$57,741.18	(\$4,655.81)	\$133,591.82
12/31/2019	\$55,446.47	\$57,744.78	(\$2,298.31)	\$144,812.05
<b>12/31/2020</b>	<b>\$44,558.54</b>	<b>\$47,528.22</b>	<b>(\$2,969.68)</b>	<b>\$144,850.08</b>

Parenthesis indicate negative numbers (losses)