

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



***Since 1971***  
***50 Years of Excellence***

# **2021**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

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## 2021 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

December, 2021

Well, our 50<sup>th</sup> celebration is coming to a close as we end 2021. We had fun putting together a truly memorable anniversary booklet, getting gold pens with our logo (if you would like one contact our office), and getting a new golden anniversary clock for the office. Our celebration at Blackhawk Country Club was a nice opportunity to connect new and long-time members. Hurray for BLTS!

Much has been going on this past year. We are updating our library catalog to a new web-based searchable database, which will be available sometime in January. Many hours of checking and re-checking entries has been done by our wonderful volunteers and the new catalog will have many user friendly features. Check our BLTS webpage for news and a link to this new feature at [www.bltsinc.org](http://www.bltsinc.org)

We have added an additional space to our offices, in the same building at Watts Road. This gives us permanent space for our braille transcriber classes, as well as for other workshops for our current transcribers. We also needed some additional storage space and this office is just down the hall from our main office.

Speaking of our braille classes, we have started a new class this fall of four excellent students, which Connie Risjord and Patricia Herrling are co-teaching. During the study group session we are often bringing in various people involved in the production and use of braille to talk to the students about how their braille is used in real life. This has proved to be very valuable to their motivation😊

Thanks to our volunteers we have done a thorough weeding of our collection of braille books and created room for new items. In particular in the coming year we will be making sure all of our print/braille books for children are in the UEB code.

As always, I want to thank all of the many volunteers and contributors to BLTS. Without your ongoing support we could not survive as an organization serving the reading needs of the blind and visually impaired. THANK YOU.

Here's wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season and a hopeful and joyous 2022.

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	2020 – 39,140
2010 – 43,036	<b>2021 – 51,249</b>

## 2021 New Pages Allocation

School Materials	1,168	braille pages
Lending Library	6,017	braille pages
Individual Sales	5,768	braille pages
Business Sales	519	braille pages
Office and Class	222	braille pages
<u>Non-Profit Agencies</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>braille pages</u>
<b>Total (New Pages)</b>	<b>13,694</b>	<b>braille pages</b>

## BLTS Lending Library Report 2021

### 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
2020	617	468	1,085
<b>2021</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>1,008</b>

### 2021 Borrowers

**Active: 149 (22 schools total)**

**New: 8 borrowers**

### Collection

Total new books added to collection

**33** new adult books

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

**Total Inventory: 2,477 items**

### Observations

During 2020-2021 we have looked at our braille library collection to make room for new additions and remove unused/poor condition books. With the help of volunteers we have completed weeding our handicraft, adult, and cookbook collections. One of our goals for 2021 was to move to a web-based library database. This would allow fuller access to our braille collection. We chose Library Thing, a web-based database used by many small collections and non-profit libraries. Although we could import data from our old Works database, each record needed to be edited to our specific needs. Sue Nelson and Kathy Dorn have spent many, many hours making this migration possible and we hope to make the database available to our library users in February 2022. This is a major accomplishment. **Goals for 2022** also include eliminating all of our EBAE print/braille books and replacing classics and highly used titles with books in UEB.

## 2021 Active Membership

Active Braillists – 16

Other Active Members - 4

## 2021 Volunteer Hours (not completed)

Braille Transcribing (completed in 2021)	3,626 hours – 18,129 pages
Service Hours	936 hours
Library	747 hours
<hr/>	
<b>Total Volunteer Hours</b>	<b>5,308 hours</b>

## 2021 Membership

Sandy Adams	Barb Henning	Pat Popp
Judy Amacker	Patricia Herrling	Elnor Reichel
Jane Ayer	Maggie Hutchinson	Constance Risjord
Carol Birch	Lois Kibbe	Barb Schlinkert
Pat Bunders	Mary Kienitz	Julie Schoepp
Mémée Chun	Aaron Konkol	Judy Sherry
Cindy Collins	Ron & Debbie Konkol	Barb Shoemake
Mary Ann Damm	Lynn Mack	Joan Sholdt
Mary Daniel	Jane Maher	Jane Stark
Sue Danz	Alyson McKee	Lisa Stefl
Joel DeVore	Melody Moore	Betty Stern
Shirley Dieter	Sue Nelson	Betty Stoffel
Kathy Dorn	Betty Oakley	Julie Sumwalt
Jill Dumphy	Karen Perzentka	Lindy Walton
Pat Foltz	Bev Pfister	Vickie Warner
Lori Hanson		

## 2021 Fundraising

Community:	\$36,022.60
Membership:	<u>\$18,380.90</u>
<b>Total Contributions:</b>	<b>\$54,403.50</b>

## 2021 Contributors

(★ Indicates that donor is a Member of BLTS)

### Over \$1000

★ Jane Ayer	Claremont S. Jackman Foundation
Jack Deloss Taylor Charitable Trust	★ Melody Moore
Epic Systems Co	★ Sue Nelson
Evue Foundation, Inc.	★ Joan Sholdt

### \$500 to \$999

★ Sandy Adams	Helen & Jeffrey Mattox
★ Joel DeVore	★ Connie Risjord
★ Kathy Dorn	★ Sue Nelson
★ Pat Folz	★ Jane Stark
Middleton Lions Club	Sub-Zero Wolf Foundation, Inc.

**\$100 to \$499**

★ Judy Amacker

★ Memee Chun

★ Mary Ann Damm

★ Sue Danz

★ Shirley Dieter

★ Jill Dumphy

Jane Eisner

Fidelity Charitable

Hallman/Lindsay Paints

★ Barb Henning

★ Patricia Herrling

Charles Jammer

★ Mary Kienitz

Herb Kohl Philanthropies

Abigail Loomis

McFarland Lions Club

★ Beverly Pfister

★ Elnor Reichel

Gerald Ring

★ Barb Schlinkert

★ Judy Sherry

★ Barb Shoemake

★ Elizabeth Stoffel

Strand Associates

Ronald Thorstad

Thrivent Choice

★ Lindy Walton

Westmorland Combined Health Fund Drive

Wisconsin Braille



## To \$100

Amazon Smile

American Legion Post 501

Betine Lipman

Betty N. Bielefeld

★ Carol Birch

★ Pat Bunders

★ Cindy Collins

C. D. Cornwell

★ Mary Daniel

★ Pat Folz

Faircrest Assn. Health Fund

★ Lori Hanson

★ Maggie Hutchinson

Barbara Dillon Kehrein

Burton Kushner

★ Lynn Mack

★ Jane Maher

Network for Good

PayPal Giving Fund

★ Karen Perzentka

★ Pat Popp

★ Julie Schoepp

★ Lisa Stefl

★ Betty Stern

★ Julie Sumwalt

★ Vickie Warner

**Comparative Statement**  
**2020 and 2021**

Income	2020	2021
Community Contributions	\$18,970.15	<b>\$36,122.60</b>
Member Contributions	\$15,938.51	<b>\$18,380.90</b>
Braille Income	\$4,855.29	<b>\$7,462.16</b>
Mutual Fund Income	\$4,534.59	<b>\$7,168.42</b>
Miscellaneous Income	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Class Fees	\$250.00	<b>\$0</b>
Total Income	<hr/> \$44,558.54	<hr/> <b>\$69,134.08</b>
Expenses		
Salaries & Payroll Taxes	\$12,542.86	<b>\$33,247.72</b>
Rent	\$14,576.10	<b>\$15,892.40</b>
Braille & Library Supplies	\$4,614.14	<b>\$3,640.43</b>
Proofreading	\$6,325.90	<b>\$4,943.00</b>
New Embosser	\$3695.00	<b>\$0</b>
Office Cleaning	\$770.00	<b>\$945.00</b>
Office Supplies	\$3,089.64	<b>\$4,110.52</b>
OnPay Professional Fees	\$585.40	<b>\$585.40</b>
Social & Awards	\$0	<b>\$1,979.49</b>
Training/Class Materials	\$1,120.00	<b>\$508.00</b>
Miscellaneous	\$209.18	<b>\$0</b>
Total Expenses	<hr/> \$47,528.22	<hr/> <b>\$65,851.96</b>
Net Profit/Loss	<hr/> -\$2,298.31	<hr/> <b>\$3,282.12</b>

<b>Financial Comparison</b>				
<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>
12/31/1997	\$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
12/31/2020	\$44,558.54	\$47,528.22	(\$2969.68)	\$144,850.08
<b>12/31/2021</b>	<b>\$69,134.08</b>	<b>\$65,851.96</b>	<b>\$3,282.12</b>	<b>\$159,276.53</b>

Parenthesis indicate negative numbers (losses).