

Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc.



Since 1971

Over 50 Years of Excellence

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia Herrling – President / Librarian

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Aaron Konkol – Office Manager

Sue Danz – Braille Coordinator

President's Report

BLTS has been busy with client and library transcribing, as well as tactiles for schools. To keep us all sharp with our transcribing skills we continue to enjoy our virtual Braille Conversations, led by Lindy Walton. While talking about formatting in these sessions, we realized we needed to update our own format specifications. A subcommittee met and you can now find this updated document ([BLTS Format Specifications 2026](https://bltsinc.org/transcribers.html)) on our website at <https://bltsinc.org/transcribers.html>

We welcomed new braille transcriber Jo Ann Gustavson this year. Our class from this fall is almost completed, and due to demand, we began another braille transcription class this Spring.

We have lots of books to add to our lending library, thanks to donations from Thrivent (via Lynn Mack) and the Wisconsin Braille Project. Come in and take a look at these fun and entertaining children's books.

I look forward to seeing everyone in person at our annual meeting.

As always, many thanks to all our volunteers!

Patricia Herrling, BLTS President

Production Totals

Embossed and E-mailed Pages

2002 – 41,781	2014 – 40,037
2003 – 41,092	2015 – 39,417
2004 – 45,314	2016 – 29,632
2005 – 54,218	2017 – 34,898
2006 – 68,750	2018 – 36,512
2007 – 66,107	2019 – 33,820
2008 – 59,510	2020 – 39,140
2009 – 59,181	2021 – 51,249
2010 – 43,036	2022 – 48,805
2011 – 41,357	2023 – 49,150
2012 – 42,270	2024 – 49,609
2013 – 34,947	2025 – 56,651

2025 New Pages Allocation

School Materials	3,562
Lending Library	12,266
Individual Sales	12,261
Business Sales	1,560
Office and Class	65
E-files only	0
<u>Non-Profits</u>	<u>6</u>
Total (New Pages)	29,720

BLTS Lending Library Report 2025

LOANED

<u>Year</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Total</u>
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
2021	505	498	1,008
2022	508	408	916
2023	448	505	953
2024	523	436	959
2025	414	389	803

2025 Borrowers

Active: 130 (10 schools total) New borrowers: 9

Collection

Total new books added to collection **87**
new adult books **32**
new children's or print/braille books **55**

Total Inventory: **2408** items

Observations

Shelf space is at a premium, so this year we weeded the adult fiction/nonfiction collection. 52 titles were found to be seldom used and removed from the inventory. We offered the books for sale to our library borrowers and 29 of them were sold. After the sale, others were sent to various braille readers. This has allowed us to have the space for new books in the collection.

Library borrowing continues to be steady or slightly lower than in past years. This is a trend that reflects the general reading population, with e-books and audio books becoming equal preferences for book readers.

Goals for 2026:

Some of the library goals for 2026 include the exploration of e-files for book loan, as well as the use of a new Swell embosser for tactiles in general reading and handicraft books.

2025 Active Membership

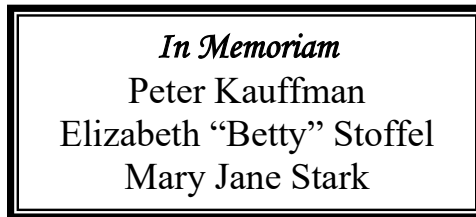
Active Braillists – 14

Other Active Members - 6

2025 Volunteer Hours

Braille Transcribing (completed in 2025)	5,940 hours – 29,656 pages
<u>Service Hours</u>	<u>2,426 hours</u>
Total Volunteer Hours	8,366 hours

2025 Membership



Sandy Adams	Rebecca Gottlieb	Melody Moore
Judy Amacker	Angel Green	Wendy Myers
Carol Birch	Jo Ann Gustavson	Sue Nelson
Dorothy Brar	Patty Haeger	Karen Perzentka
Giso Broman	Deborah Hanson	Bev Pfister
Pat Bunders	Lori Hanson	Pat & Erik Popp
Terry Busby	Barb Henning	Elnor Reichel
Allison Chamberlain	Patricia Herrling	Constance Risjord
Mémée Chun	Connie Jacobus	Mary Roberts
Cindy Collins	Shirley Johnson	Barb Schlinkert
Mary Ann Damm	Elizabeth Kanne	Julie Schoepp
Mary Daniel	Mary Kienitz	Judy Sherry
Sue Danz	Aaron Konkol	Joan Sholdt
Joel DeVore	Ron & Debbie Konkol	Lealisa Stefl
Kathy Dorn	Lynn Mack	Julie Sumwalt
Jill Dumphy	Jane Maher	Lindy Walton
Pat Foltz	Alison McKee	Vickie Warner
Kay Goepfert	Linda Mitchell	

2025 Fundraising

Community:	\$65,709.00
Membership:	<u>\$14,898.37</u>
Total Contributions:	\$80,607.37

2025 Contributors

(★ Indicates that donor is a Member of BLTS)

Over \$1000

Claremont Jackman Foundation	Delta Gamma Foundation
Epic Systems Corp	Evjue Foundation
Fidelity Charitable	Jack Deloss Taylor Charitable Fdn.
★ Mary Kienitz	Madison Community Foundation
★ Melody Moore	★ Sue Nelson
★ Joan Sholdt	★ Jane Stark
Sanford Weisberger	

\$500 to \$999

★ Joel DeVore	★ Pat Folz
Madison Gas & Electric Fdn.	Middleton Lions Club
Pleasant T. Rowland Fdn.	★ Constance Risjord
★ Barb Schlinkert	Thrivent

2025 Contributors (Continued)

(★ Indicates that donor is a Member of BLTS)

\$100 to \$499

★ Judy Amacker	★ Elizabeth Kanne
Norman & Barbara Berven	★ Ron & Debbie Konkol
★ Dorothy Brar	Abigail Loomis
★ Mary Daniel	McFarland Lioness/Lions Club
★ Sue Danz	McFarland Lions Club Fdn, Inc.
★ Kathy Dorn	★ Pat & Erik Popp
★ Jill Dumphy	★ Constance Risjord
Lana Hanlon	★ Barb Schlinkert
★ Deborah Hanson	★ Julie Schoep
★ Lori Hanson	★ Judy Sherry
★ Barb Henning	Strand Associates
★ Patricia Herrling	

To \$100

★ Carol Birch	★ Lynn Mack
Faircrest Community Health Fund Drive	★ Alison McKee
★ Kay Goepfert	★ Wendy Myers
★ Patty Haeger	PayPal Giving Fund
Barbara Dillon Kehrein	★ Karen Perzentka
★ Aaron Konkol	★ Beverly Pfister
Burton Kushner	★ Elnor Reichel
Bettine Lipman	★ Mary Roberts

Comparative Statement
2024 and 2025

Income	2024	2025
Community Contributions	\$43,886.45	\$65,777.75
Member Contributions	\$14,523.01	\$14,948.37
Braille Income	\$12,234.64	\$15,260.25
Mutual Fund Income	\$6,150.64	\$8,835.93
Miscellaneous Income	\$139.05	\$130.00
Class Fees	\$460.00	\$0.00
Total Income	<hr/> \$71,243.15	<hr/> \$104,952.30
 Expenses		
Salaries & Payroll Taxes	\$35,700.56	\$38,725.26
Rent	\$20,578.04	\$20,605.76
Braille & Library Supplies	\$4,025.32	\$7,741.47
Proofreading	\$8,630.10	\$11,759.95
Office Cleaning	\$1,040.00	\$1,375.00
Office Supplies	\$4,402.89	\$4,703.85
Office Equipment & Repairs	\$185.00	\$0.00
OnPay Professional Fees	\$595.38	\$595.38
Social & Awards	\$540.11	\$464.70
Training/Class Material	\$750.00	\$293.04
Banking/Credit Card Fees	\$113.93	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	<hr/> \$75,700.67	<hr/> \$86,264.41
Net Profit/Loss	-\$4,457.52	\$18,687.89

Financial Comparison

<i>For the Year Ended</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Excess Income (Loss)</i>	<i>Mutual Fund & Checking Market Value</i>
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
12/31/2021	\$69,134.08	\$65,851.96	\$3,282.12	\$159,276.53
12/31/2022	\$33,852.44	\$66,713.73	(\$32,861.29)	\$108,570.45
12/31/2023	\$77,617.18	\$70,523.28	\$7,093.90	\$120,436.30
12/31/2024	\$77,381.86	\$75,700.67	\$1,681.19	\$125,287.05
12/31/2025	\$104,952.30	\$86,264.41	\$18,687.89	\$153,324.75

Parentheses indicate negative numbers (losses).