

# DEAR PEARL

March 2022 Volume LI - Number 1

*Answering the Reading Needs of the Blind and Visually Impaired*

## Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Thursday April 7, 2022

Social Time: 11:30 a.m. Lunch: 12:00 p.m.

BLTS Office

6501 Watts Rd, Ste. 149, Madison, WI

Followed by Program, Presentations, and Brief Meeting

Please RSVP by Monday, April 4th



### In this issue

President's Report	2
Nemeth Transcriber	2
50th Anniversary	3
Joel Retirement	3
New Transcriber & Proofreader	4
Donation	4
Titles Done	5
Nominating Slate	6
New Office Space	6
Community Donors	7

BLTS invites you to attend its annual meeting and luncheon on Thursday, April 7, 2022. Please join us at the BLTS Office at 6501 Watts Rd, Suite 149, at 11:30 a.m. to meet and greet old and new BLTS friends. The noon luncheon with feature sub sandwiches, chips, desserts, and soda.



The luncheon will be followed by a brief meeting and award presentations. It should be an enjoyable afternoon. We encourage all members of the BLTS family to attend. We would love to see you!

Don't miss catching up with friends and, of course, talking all things BLTS. So, put it on your calendar. We guarantee beautiful weather. Please RSVP by April 4th by emailing [office@bltsinc.org](mailto:office@bltsinc.org) or calling 608-233-0222. Let us know if you need a ride, and we'll make the arrangements.





## President's Report

As we enter into March 2022 we are all hoping for Spring weather to come early! There are a lot of good things going at BLTS which reflects the growth and energy of our organization as it moves forward from the past 50 years into the next decades.

Some of the news you will read about inside this Dear Pearl includes our new class of braille transcribers, new office space for meeting and workshops for BLTS just down the hall from our current offices, new proofreaders, transcribers and Nemeth transcribers, and a recap of our celebrations in October for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

We will be holding our annual meeting and election of the Board members this year at our offices at Watts Road to showcase the new office space and allow for a more informal gathering of members. More information about this is inside this newsletter. We hope to see many of you in April when warm weather and good news about the pandemic lets us gather together in community. And, of course there will be food!

As always, thank you to all of our many volunteers who contributed so generously this past year both monetarily and in service. You make BLTS the organization it is today. See everyone at the Annual Meeting,

Patricia Herrling,  
BLTS President

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## New Nemeth Braille Transcriber

BLTS would like to announce that Melody Moore has completed the "Nemeth in UEB" course. She has been working with Lindy Walton to complete the "Nemeth in UEB" course. This has been quite a long and arduous undertaking. We have not had a Nemeth transcriber since Helen Hay so we are thrilled to be able to once again offer this level of transcription services.

So join us in congratulating Melody on this monumental accomplishment!

CONGRATULATIONS, MELODY





## 50th Anniversary Celebration

Thank you Deb Dieter, daughter of Shirley Dieter, for acting as our sponsor with Blackhawk Country Club for our 50th Anniversary celebration. As usual Blackhawk served up wonderful food and provided an excellent view of the golf course and lake although it was somewhat cloudy.



It was so good to hear from some of our long time members including Jane Stark and Betty Oakley. Also, it was nice to meet Connie Jacobus who has been with us for a long time. Cindy Hall, who was our treasurer before Sue Nelson, came with a smile on her face. Sue offered her the treasurer's job back but she declined. In all, it was a fun party with lots of good foot to eat.

There is a booklet that was prepared with a bit of our history that is available in the office. If you are interested, stop by and pick one up

Thanks to all who helped put the 50th Anniversary activities together and on to the next 50 years!



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## Joel Devore Retires

In 2005, about the time Joel was retiring, we were talking about the Braille Library and becoming a transcriber. He looked into it and decided to go for it. We both enjoyed having Betty Oakley for our instructor.

Once Joel was certified, he jumped right into some very challenging projects. He and Connie Risjord took on the Ojibwe Dictionary and Guide. Joel also transcribed the New Testament in Ojibwe, among many other projects. He was always ready and willing to take on difficult assignments. Joel also served on the Board of Directors for several years.

We are sorry he is retiring; he will be missed and we wish him the very best in his next adventures in life.

Kathy Dorn



## New Transcriber and New Proofreader

We would like to welcome our most recent volunteer brailist, Mary Henggeler from Montana, and Jo Elizabeth Pinto from Colorado as our new proofreader.

Welcome to the BLTS community!

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## Donation of Historical Materials

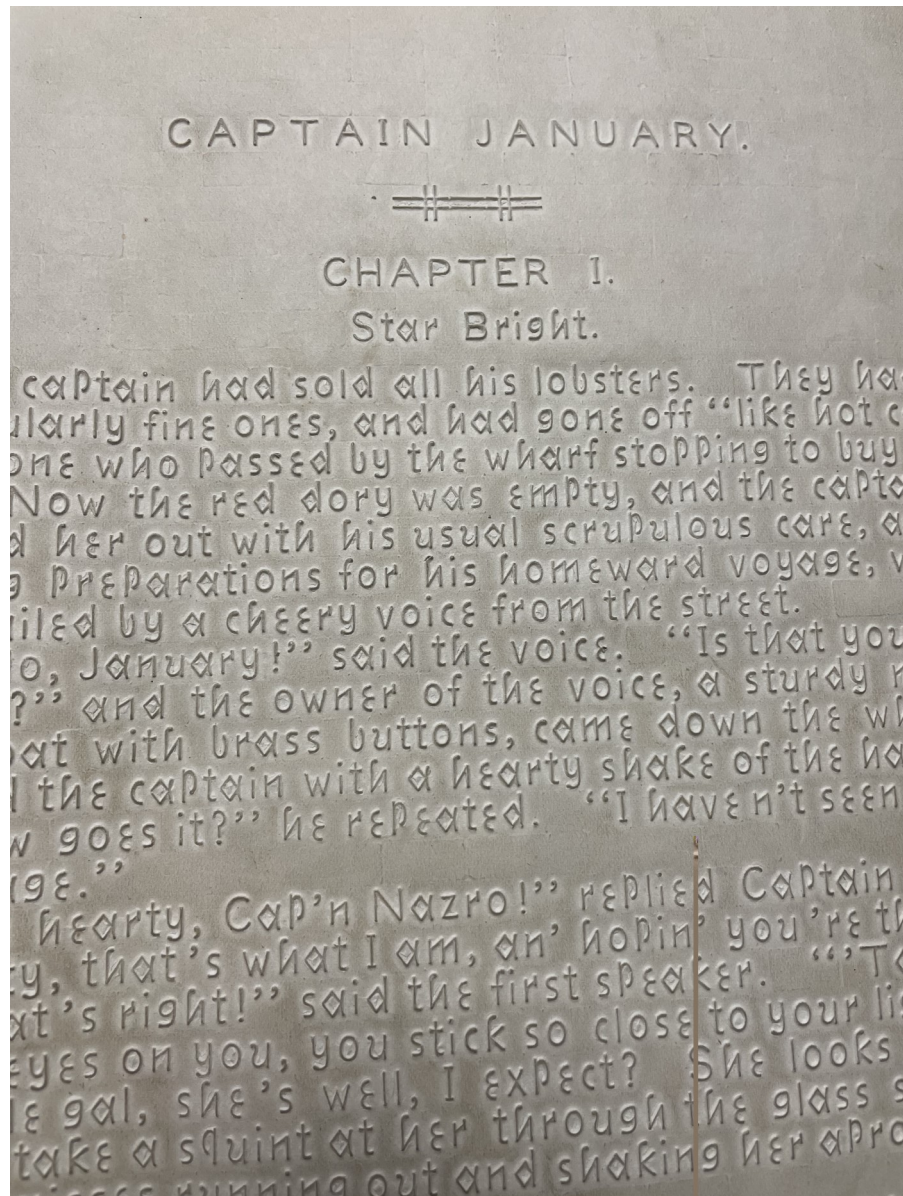
Alison McKee, a long-time vision teacher, member, and supporter of BLTS, has donated two electrotyped books (commonly referred to as Moon type) from the Perkins Institute & Massachusetts School for the Blind.

They are "Tales & Stories from Hans Christian Andersen" from 1882 and "Captain January and Other Short Stories" from 1892.

Alison's family had a connection with the Perkins Institute, Helen Keller and Polly Thompson (Helen Keller's secretary).

We are very grateful to receive these examples of early books for the blind.

Thank you Alison.



Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush.

—Doug Larson



## Titles Done Since September 2021



THANK YOU, BRAILLISTS!  
*(page counts follow names)*



### For children

11 Print/Braille Books (Barb Schlinkert, 119), 12 Print/Braille Books (Barb Schlinkert, 122), 8 print/braille books (Barb Schlinkert, 59), 1 companion book (Barb Schlinkert, 57)

### For adults

Spy (Joel Devore, 448), The Peppermint Tea Chronicles (Debbie Hanson, 516), The Vegetarian Table (Kathy Dorn, 252), Kitchen Yarns (Barbara Shoemake, 344), Crock Pot Slow Cooker Recipes (Sue Danz, 72), The Ebb Tide (Barb Shoemake, 497), A Single Thread (Melody Moore, 533), Miss Benson's Beetle (Barb Schlinkert, 608), How the Penguins Saved Veronica (Debbie Hanson, 610). Beacons of Light and Other Poems (Joel Devore, 343), The Walk (Debbie Hanson, 304)

### For schools, non-profits and businesses

New Friends (Julie Schoepp, 224), More New Friends Workbook (Bev Pfister, 218), New Friends Workbook (Bev Pfister, 196), 3 MGE bills (Kathy Dorn, 28), PUD bill-Sept. (Kathy Dorn, 8), PUD bill-Oct. (Kathy Dorn, 8), 3 MGE bills & 1 flyer (Kathy Dorn, 36), Stars of the Sixties (Overture) (Sue Danz, 9), 3 MGE bills & 1 flyer (Kathy Dorn 45), PUD bill-Nov (Kathy Dorn, 8) Wicked (Fox Cities) (Sue Danz, 47) 3 MGE bills & 1 flyer (44, Kathy Dorn), 3 MGE bills (34, Kathy Dorn), PUD bill Jan (Kathy Dorn, 8), Hadestown program (Sue Danz, 50), 3 MGE bills (Kathy Dorn, 36), Climbing to Good English (Patricia Herrling, 418) 3 MGE bills (Kathy Dorn, 34)

### Special Projects

LSS Vol 16, Iss 7 Jul/Aug 2021 (Joel Devore, 102), CC Radio 3 (Barb Schlinkert, 74), Braiding and Lanyard Instructions (Barb Schlinkert, 28), Miscellaneous documents (Kathy Dorn, 179), BLTS 50th Anniversary Booklet (Sue Danz, 31), BlindShell Quick Start Guide (Barb Schlinkert, 14), LSS Vol 16, Iss 8 Sept 2021 (Joel Devore, 108), geemarc Ampli550/500+ Big Button Telephone (Bev Pfister, 62), LSS Vol 16, Iss 9 Oct 2021 (Joel Devore, 108), P/B Adam's Accessible Airport Adventure (Barb Schlinkert, 26), E-wrap Knit Hat (Barb Schlinkert, 14), ResMed (Barb Schlinkert, 40), LSS Vol 16, Iss 10 Nov 2021 (Joel Devore, 120), LSS Vol 16, Iss 11, Dec 2021 (Joan Sholdt, 109), Pride and Humility (Sue Danz, 69), Our Purple Rose (Bev Pfister, 114), Little Lame Walter (Bev Pfister, 98), LSS Vol 17, Iss 1, Jan 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 106)



## Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc. Annual Meeting, April 7, 2022 NOMINATING SLATE

### Officers:

President	Patricia Herrling	2021-2023
Vice President	Constance Risjord	2022-2024
Secretary	Karen Perzentka	2021-2023
Treasurer	Sue Nelson	2022-2024

### Board Members:

Joan Sholdt	2021-2023
Sandy Adams	2022-2024
Melody Moore	2022-2024
Kathy Dorn	2022-2024

### Office Staff:

Aaron Konkol — Office Manager  
Sue Danz — Braille Coordinator



## New Office Space

BLTS now has additional office space at our Watts Road address. Our present offices met our working, library and production needs very well, but didn't leave much room for meetings, workshops or teaching.

When space opened up down the hall from us, the BLTS Board approved renting this additional office. Currently it serves as overflow for supplies and as our main teaching room for new braille transcribers and committee meetings. We hope to offer some workshops this summer in this space as well. Feel free to drop by any Tuesday or Thursday to check it out!

## Lists of Community Donors

*Member donations not listed. See [annual report](#) for complete donor list.*

### Individuals:

Norman & Barbara Berven	Betty Bielefield	C.D. Cornwell
Jane Eisner	Barbara Dillon Kehrein	Burton Kushner
Bettine Lipman	Abigail Loomis	Helen & Jeffrey Mattox
Gerald Ring	Ronald Thorstad	

### Organizations:

Amazon Smile	American Legion Post 501	Claremont S. Jackman Foundation
Epic	Evjue Foundation, Inc.	Faircrest Association Health Fund
Fidelity Charitable	Hallman/Lindsay Paints	Herb Kohl Philanthropies
Jack Deloss Taylor Charitable Trust	Madison Gas & Electric Foundation	McFarland Lions Club
Middleton Lions Club	Network For Good	PayPal Giving Fund
Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation	Strand Associates	Sub-Zero Wolf Foundation, Inc.
Thrivent Choice Financial	Wis. Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired	Westmorland Combined Health Fund

I do hope that our spring will be starting shortly and we will all be able to enjoy some sunshine again.

—Lesley Garrett



# DEAR PEARL

*Newsletter of the Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc.*



We're on the web

<http://bltsinc.org/>



**Contributors**

Sue Danz  
Kathy Dorn  
Patricia Herrling  
Aaron Konkol

Sue Danz, Editor



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**Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc.**  
6501 Watts Rd. Ste. 149  
Madison, WI 53719  
Phone: 608-233-0222  
Fax: 608-233-0249  
Email: [office@bltsinc.org](mailto:office@bltsinc.org)  
Volunteers braille & lending books for the