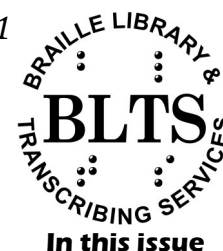


DEAR PEARL

November 2022 Volume LII - Number 2

Answering the Reading Needs of the Blind and Visually Impaired since 1971

President's Report November 2022



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What a gorgeous time of year! I hope everyone has been able to get out and enjoy all the beauties of autumn.

BLTS has had a busy summer. We completed an update of our print/braille books, ensuring that we have quality UEB books for our readers. Due to a grant from Thrivent we purchased 50 new books for this collection. You can read about the workshops which produced these books inside this newsletter.

Our class for braille transcribers has been completed and we hope to welcome newly certified transcribers soon. We will be starting another class in January and we are asking your help in spreading the word to family and friends. (See article inside for details).

Our office has been busy with braille requests and as a consequence we have updated several of our format specifications for recipes, handicrafts, and print/braille. Our Braille Conversations, held bi-monthly, help keep us all current with rules and formatting. BLTS continues to produce accurate, timely, and proofread materials for our clients.

As always, we appreciate your continued support for our endeavors, whether it is monetary or volunteered time. Like all non-profits, we depend on donations to keep our organization strong. Thank you for making that possible.

Patricia Herrling,
BLTS President

PRINT/BRAILLE LIBRARY AND WORKSHOPS



BLTS had a project this summer to **upgrade our print/braille library books to all UEB braille**. In order to do this, we purchased around 50 new children's books suitable to ages Pre-School through 5th grade.

This was made possible through a grant from **Thrivent Financial**. Lynn Mack, one of our newer braille transcribers, is responsible for writing this grant and we thank her!

We then held a two-part workshop in June/July to go over our print/braille specifications and train those new to this process. This was taught by Sue Nelson and Kathy Dorn.

Since children have been learning UEB since 2016 our print/braille library is now upgraded to meet these requirements. We also had a lot of fun getting together



BRAILLE TRANSCRIPTION COURSE COMING THIS JANUARY 2023

We will be starting a new class for those who would like to learn how to transcribe print into braille. If you have any friends or neighbors who you think would be interesting in this rewarding volunteer service, please spread the word! They can contact us at 608-233-0222 or email office@bltsinc.org for more information.



Also, if you know of a senior center, church, or neighborhood bulletin board where we could post a notice about this class, please let us know. Thanks.

LISTS OF COMMUNITY DONORS

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

Individuals:

Norman & Barbara Berven	Jane Eisner	Barbara Dillon Kehrein
Burton Kushner	Bettine Lipman	Helen & Jeffrey Mattox
Gerald Ring	Ronald Thorstad	

Organizations:

Amazon Smile	American Legion Post 501	Herb Kohl Philanthropies
Ladies Auxiliary VFW 8216	Madison Central Lions Club	Madison Gas & Electric Foundation
McFarland Lioness Club	McFarland Lions Club	PayPal Giving Fund
Strand Associates, Inc.	Thrivent Choice Financial	Westmorland Combined Health Fund

THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY

For over 50 years we have been doing **GOOD (EXCELLENT)** work at brailleing, loaning books and training braillists. However, this costs money, **BAD**, and the **UGLY** thing is asking for money.

As many non-profits recently, we are finding it more challenging to keep up with expenses. In looking at our membership dues we found that these dues had not increased in more than 25 years. Therefore, the Board has voted to **increase the annual dues from \$25 to \$50**. This moderate increase will help ensure that BLTS can continue to provide quality material to our readers.

We would also like to ask for any ideas you may have as to how to increase our income. Things like matching contributions from former employers, or groups that could be contacted about donating to BLTS. Any suggestions you have to attain this end would be appreciated. If you think of anything, send an e-mail to scnelson@tds.net or office@bltsinc.org.

If you are interested in making BLTS a part of your will, contact us. We have forms for adding a codicil.



TITLES DONE SINCE MARCH 2022

THANK YOU, BRAILLISTS!

(page counts follow names)



For children

8 Print/Braille books (Sue Nelson, 81), The Secret at Pheasant Cottage (Barb Schlinkert, 176), Star of Light (Barb Schlinkert, 206), Rainbow Garden (Barb Schlinkert 215), 4 Print/Braille books (Sue Nelson, 34), Treasurers of the Snow (Bev Pfister, 300), 5 Print/Braille books (Barb Schlinkert, 57), 5 Print/Braille books (Bev Pfister, 34), 5 Print/Braille books (Kathy Dorn, 42), 4 Print/Braille books (Sue Nelson, 20), 5 Print/Braille books (Melody Moore, 32), 5 Print/Braille books (Patricia Herrling, 52), 5 Print/Braille books (Joan Sholdt, 23), 5 Print/Braille books (Lynn Mack, 54), The Tanglewoods' Secret (Bev Pfister, 226), You Are Mine (Sue Nelson 20 & 19 (PB)), You Are Special (Sue Nelson, 14 & 11 (PB))

For adults

Hinds' Feet on High Places (Julie Schoepp, 375), Instant Pot Holiday Recipes (Debbie Hanson, 80), Murder at the Brightwell (Joan Sholdt, 540), Hello Darkness My Old Friend (Lynn Mack, 475), Incredible Chocolate Recipes- Southern Living (Barb Schlinkert, 162), Mountains of Spices (Bev Pfister, 307), Knitting Yarns (Kathy Dorn, 484), Campbell's Casseroles (Kathy Dorn, 78), A Plain Leaving (Debbie Hanson, 555), The Midnight Library (Julie Schoepp, 455), Mistakes Can Kill You (Joel Devore, 453), The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek (Bev Pfister, 550), The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride (Barb Schlinkert, 438), Everyday Is A Gift (Debbie Hanson, 516), Old Fashioned Christmas Cookies (Sue Nelson, 128), Golden Girl (Debbie Hanson, 736), The Only Woman in the Room (Debbie Hanson, 462), Incredibly Gluten-Free Recipes (Debbie Hanson, 158), Guilty Not Guilty (Bev Pfister, 578), Quaker Oats Old Fashioned Classic Recipes (Sue Danz, 135), 50 Crocheted Afghan Borders (Kathy Dorn, 75), Secret Restaurant Chicken Recipes (Lynn Mack, 92), The Hill We Climb (Sue Nelson, 13), The Orthodox Way (Debbie Hanson, 390), Bisquick Recipes (Sue Nelson, 197)

For schools, non-profits and businesses

Univ Language -Feb, Mar, Apr bills (Kathy Dorn, 24), MGE 3 bills, 1 flyer (Kathy Dorn, 27), MGE 3 bills, 3 flyers (Kathy Dorn, 46), Aging Advocacy Online Event Agenda (Sue Danz, 14), Univ Language, May bill (Kathy Dorn, 8), MGE 3 bills (Kathy Dorn, 26), Univ Language, June bill (Kathy Dorn, 8), UW Health (Sue Danz, 6), Univ Language, July bill (Kathy Dorn, 8), Privacy Practices (Debbie Hanson, 11), COVID Vaccine Record (Bev Pfister, 4), Univ Language, August bill (Kathy Dorn, 8), MGE 3 bills (Kathy Dorn, 43), MGE 3 bills (Kathy Dorn, 35), MGE 3 bills (Kathy Dorn, 35), Univ Language -Sept bill (Kathy Dorn, 8), MGE 3 bills (Kathy Dorn, 35), Univ Language -Oct bill (Kathy Dorn, 8), Arts for All (Sue Danz, 13)

Special Projects

Future Reflections (Bev Pfister, 175), Bible Audio Player Guide (Sue Danz, 55), LSS Vol 17, Iss 2, Feb. 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 110), Chefman Air Fryer Recipe Book (Sue Danz, 37), Chefman Air Fryer Instruction Booklet (Sue Nelson 42), Bonso Stand Mixer Instruction Booklet (Sue Nelson, 16), Denon Turntable Operating Instructions (Sue Nelson, 39), LSS Vol 17, Iss 3, Mar. 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 106), LSS Vol 17, Iss 4, April 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 118), Great American Recipe Cards (Sue Danz, 44), LSS Vol 17, Iss 5, May 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 118), CD Inserts (Sue Nelson, 245), LSS Vol 17, Iss 6, June 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 115), Sharing our Best (Barb Schlinkert, 122), Betty Crocker Country Holidays (Sue Nelson, 186), LSS Vol 17, Iss 7, July-Aug 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 115), Electronic Typewriter Instruction Manual (Sue Nelson, 36), Holiday Delights Cookbook (Sue Danz, 146) WMU Called to Love Cookbook (Kathy Dorn, 503), LSS Vol 17, Iss 8, Sept 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 114)

IN MEMORIAM

In the last year we've sadly lost 3 braillists who served BLTS/VBTI for many years:



**Elizabeth A. (Hofmann)
"Betty" Stern**

September 10th, 1928 -
November 19th, 2021

Certified in 1992



Patt Lang

November 13th, 1931 –
March 11th, 2022

Joined in 2000



Harriet (Sisk) Fish

August 9th, 1924 –
September 7th, 2022

Certified in 1973

Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, & just plain loving one another.

—Erma Bombeck



NEW GREEN CANVAS BAGS!

The new canvas tote bags with our BLTS logo are in! There are 2 ways you can get your hands on one: we're offering them as a "premium" for a \$100 donation, or you can buy them outright for \$10 each. These are the same bags as last time (those had blue straps), so you can expect the same high quality.

Thank you in advance to everyone who plans to increase their regular yearly donation to get one of these bags!

Just call, e-mail, stop by, or send a check to the office, and you'll get your bag as soon as possible.



DEAR PEARL

Newsletter of the Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc.



We're on the web:

bltsinc.org



Contributors

Sue Danz
Patricia Herrling
Sue Nelson
Aaron Konkol

Sue Danz, & Aaron Konkol,
Editors

Answering the Reading Needs of the Blind and Visually Impaired since 1971



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