

DEAR PEARL

March 2023 Volume LII- Number 1

Answering the Reading Needs of the Blind and Visually Impaired

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Tuesday April 11, 2023

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 Tuesday, April 4th



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BLTS invites you to attend its annual meeting and luncheon on Tuesday, April 11, 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 will 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!



Pictures from 2022 Annual Meeting

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 or calling 608-233-0222.

Let us know if you need a ride, and we'll make the arrangements.



President's Report

I always enjoy the Spring newsletter because it is the start of a new year. We look forward to the budding trees, birds returning from migration and warm weather of Spring. And at BLTS we look

forward to the new year of commitment to our mission of serving the braille needs of the blind and visually impaired.

In January we started a new class for braille transcribers, who are very excited to learn all about braille and how they can help make reading and literacy possible for the blind.

Our Library Committee is busy selecting new books to be added to our braille lending library and our transcribers are being kept busy with many projects from clients both new and old.

We have also renewed our association with RSVP, a mutually beneficial arrangement between two volunteer organizations serving Wisconsin. You can read more about that in this newsletter.

We will be holding our annual meeting and election of the Board members this year at our offices at Watts Road. More information is inside this newsletter. We hope to see many of you in there. 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 & Librarian



IN MEMORIAM



Lois Kibbe

April 30th, 1927—
December 5th, 2022

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	Abigail Loomis
Helen & Jeffrey Mattox	Ronald Thorstad	

Organizations:

Amazon Smile	American Legion Post 501	Claremont S. Jackman Foundation
Faircrest Association Health Fund	Herb Kohl Philanthropies	Jack Deloss Taylor Charitable Trust
Madison Gas & Electric Foundation	McFarland Lioness Club	McFarland Lions Club
Middleton Lions Club	Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation	Strand Associates
Thrivent Choice Financial	Westmorland Combined Health Fund	Woodman's Food Market

BLTS Joins RSVP (Again) & Starts Another Braille Class

Starting in November 2022 we joined up with RSVP of Dane County (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program). BLTS has had a long relationship with RSVP. We not only shared an office building on Segoe Road, and both moved over to Watts Road when that building was sold, but we had been members many years ago.

We were exploring ways to get the word out about our new braille class, and when we reached out to RSVP to see if they could find anyone for us, they suggested we join forces once again. We need to report our volunteer hours on a monthly basis, but that's nothing Aaron can't handle, and after a few months has become second nature.

Turns out the association has been fruitful, producing several leads and one new student.

The class started in January and is going great with 3 promising students. As many of you know, there's still lots of hard work and dedication to go, but they are well on the way to becoming a Library of Congress certified braillists.

Join us in wishing them luck!

Titles Done Since October 2022



THANK YOU, BRAILLISTS!
(page counts follow names)



For children

Pollyanna and Pollyanna Grows Up (Debbie Hanson, 770), Jack and Jill (Bev Pfister, 496)

For adults

Mastering Diabetes (Julie Schoepp, 859), 101 Things to do With a Sheet Pan (Mary Henggeler, 188), 101 Things to do With Chicken (Sue Nelson, 138), All About Cotton (Sue Nelson, 78), Buddhist Acts of Compassion (Barb Schlinkert, 240), 101 Things to do With Bacon (Sue Nelson, 139), Wheels and Wings for Lester (Barb Schlinkert, 329), Murder by Moonlight (Barb Schlinkert, 176), 101 Things to do with an Instant Pot (Sue Nelson, 170), The Gift of Years (Lisa Stefl, 324), Keep Moving (Sue Nelson, 114), Life Without Limits (Debbie Hanson, 429), Caron Cakes Crochet Projects (Sue Nelson, 55)

For schools, non-profits and businesses

MGE 3 bills due Nov (Kathy Dorn, 47), Univ Language - Nov bill (Kathy Dorn, 8), LSS Vol 17, Iss 9, Oct. 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 105), Overture (Straight No Chaser) (Sue Danz, 8), MGE 3 bills due Dec (Kathy Dorn, 34), Univ Language - Dec bill (Kathy Dorn, 8), KCWater bills (10) (Kathy Dorn, 80), LSS Vol 17, Iss10, Nov 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 118), MGE 3 bills due Jan (Kathy Dorn, 37), Long Term Care brochure (Sue Danz, 10), KCWater (7) (Kathy Dorn, 56), LSS Vol 17, Iss 11, Dec 2022 (Joan Sholdt, 109), MGE 3 bills due Feb (Kathy Dorn, 38), LSS Vol 18, Iss 1, Jan 2023 (Joan Sholdt, 106), MGE 3 bills due Mar (Kathy Dorn, 35)

Special Projects

Southern Living Cookbook (partial) (Kathy Dorn, 938), Mountain Laurel Echoes (Julie Schoepp, 900), Killing Christians (Bev Pfister, 326)



**Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc.
Annual Meeting, April 11, 2023
NOMINATING SLATE**

Officers:

President	Patricia Herrling	2023-2025
Vice President	Constance Risjord	2022-2024
Secretary	Karen Perzentka	2023-2025
Treasurer	Sue Nelson	2022-2024

Board Members:

Sandy Adams	2022-2024
Kathy Dorn	2022-2024
Melody Moore	2022-2024
Joan Sholdt	2023-2025

Office Staff:

Aaron Konkol — Office Manager
Sue Danz — Braille Coordinator



HOLIDAY GET TOGETHER AT THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY



(L-R: Aaron, Lindy, Sue, Patricia, Carol, Sandy, Kathy, Barb, Melody, Sue, Joan)

We had a great time, but missed everyone that couldn't make it!



DEAR PEARL

Newsletter of Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc.



We're on the web

<http://bltsinc.org/>



Contributors

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Editors

Sue Danz
Aaron Konkol



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



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Tuesday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.