

DEAR PEARL

March 2024 Volume LIII- Number 1

Answering the Reading Needs of the Blind and Visually Impaired

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Tuesday May 7, 2024

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

Speaker: 1:00 p.m.

Imperial Gardens

2039 Allen Blvd., Middleton, WI

Please RSVP by Wednesday, April 24th



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BLTS invites you to attend its annual luncheon on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. Please join us at Imperial Gardens for a buffet lunch. After lunch we will have a speaker from the **Madison Reading Project**. We are excited to hear about this important literacy program and the services they provide. We have a common goal in providing reading material for young children and have already added some of their books to our print braille collection. Their titles have proven to be very popular with our young readers. Learn more about the Madison Reading Project at their website: www.madisonreadingproject.com

Following the speaker there will be a brief meeting, award presentation and election of our new Board members. The slate of nominees is included on page 2 of this newsletter.

We encourage all members of the BLTS family to attend. We would love to see you!

Please RSVP to office@bltsinc.org or by phone: 608-233-0222 **by April 24th** so we can plan accordingly.

Please let us know if you need a ride and we will make arrangements.

President's Report



Although we have had a mild winter I think we are all looking forward to Spring. Since COVID our annual meetings have been reduced in size and scope. Now it is time to return to tradition and this year we will have a luncheon and speaker. See

details inside this newsletter and **SAVE THE DATE May 7th, Tuesday at 11:30am.**

During our annual meeting we will hold our Board elections. The slate of nominees is listed below.

New things happen in Spring and our office is no exception. We have been able to purchase new computers for our staff, which have been long overdue. This allows us to take advantage of bigger monitors for our tactile creations, spreadsheets, and other braille production. Thanks to our office manager Aaron Konkol for all his hard work getting these up and running!

Our secondary teaching office is being put to good use. Our braille classes are complete for this year and our students are awaiting their certification. We are also using this space as alternate shelving for our ever expanding braille book library. Many of our older works are still requested by our clients. However, our shelf space in the main office is limited. So this expansion allows us to keep highly circulated older material while adding newer items to our collection.

We continue to look for ways to bring our volunteers, members and transcribers together to discuss all things braille. There are several training initiatives in the works to keep us all up to date with the newest advances and techniques. We hope to have these in place by mid-summer and fall, so stay tuned.

That's it for now. I hope to see all of you at our annual meeting May 7th!

Patricia Herrling,
BLTS President



**Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc.
Annual Meeting, May 7, 2024
NOMINATING SLATE**

Officers:

President	Patricia Herrling	2023-2025
Vice President	Constance Risjord	2024-2026
Secretary	Karen Perzentka	2023-2025
Treasurer	Lori Hanson	2024-2026

Board Members:

Sue Nelson	2024-2026
Sandy Adams	2024-2026
Melody Moore	2024-2026
Joan Sholdt	2024-2026
Dorothy Brar	2024-2026

Office Staff:

Aaron Konkol — Office Manager
Sue Danz — Braille Coordinator



Lists of Community Donors

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

Individuals:

Norman & Barbara Berven	Zach Dougherty	Louis Greub	Todd Hrubes
Barbara Dillon Kehrein	Burton Kushner	Abigail Loomis	Shawnee Mission
Mary Nelson	John Ratz	Gerald Ring	Ronald Thorstad

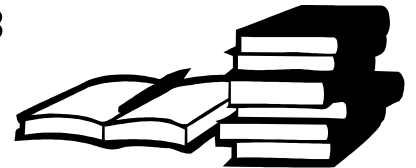
Organizations:

American Legion Post 501	Claremont S. Jackman Fdn	Columbus Lions
Delta Gamma Fdn.	Epic Systems	Faircrest Assoc. Health Fund
Jack Deloss Taylor Trust	McFarland Lioness/Lions Club	Madison Gas & Electric Fdn.
Pleasant T. Rowland Fdn.	Strand Associates	The Evjue Foundation
Thrivent Choice Financial	VFW Auxiliary Post No 8216	Westmorland Combined Health Fund
Wispect, Inc.	Woodmans	



Titles Done Since October 2023

THANK YOU, BRAILLISTS!
(page counts follow names)



For children

Ionica (Sue Nelson, 73), Stories to Tell (Bev Pfister, 188), Becky's Eventful Summer (Debbie Hanson, 248), Humphrey's World of Pets (Sue Nelson, 138), Benjie (Kathy Dorn, 186), The Runaway Sled (Bev Pfister, 174), Gib Rides Home (Bev Pfister, 348), 6 P/B books (Barb Schlinkert, 80), 6 P/B books (Barb Schlinkert, 52), How to Steal a Dog (Sue Nelson, 216), Benjie Goes to School (Lynn Mack, 284), Benjie the In-Between Boy (Sue Danz, 288)

For adults

The Best Is Yet to Come (Barb Schlinkert, 416), The Extraordinary Power of Kindness (Sue Danz, 202), Wired for Healing (Debbie Hanson, 515), A Life Without Water (Debbie Hanson, 502)

For schools, non-profits and businesses

KCWater (6) (Kathy Dorn, 48), DHS (Sue Danz, 48), WisBrl Newsletter (Sue Danz, 30), Helping with English (Bev Pfister, 342), MGE (2 +2), (Kathy Dorn, 36), KCWater (6) (Kathy Dorn, 48), Tactiles for Delavan School Dist. (Melody Moore, 78), Choice Stories for Children (Sue Nelson, 209), Overture (My Fair Lady) (Sue Danz, 68), Madison Symphony Orchestra (December 2023 program) (Sue Danz, 29), Madison Symphony Orchestra (Carol Sing 2023) (Sue Danz, 14), Overture (Beetlejuice) (Sue Danz, 59), KCWater (6) (Kathy Dorn, 48), MGE (2) (Kathy Dorn, 25), PUD Invoice (Kathy Dorn, 9), Returning Home (Barb Schlinkert, 564), Les Miserables Playbill (Sue Danz, 74), MSO (Pixar in Concert) (Sue Danz, 10)

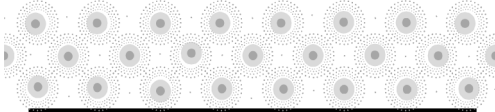
Special Projects

Music (Lindy Walton, 6), LSS Vol 18, Iss 8, Sept 2023 (Joan Sholdt, 105), Acupressure Tactiles (Melody Moore, 18), 2 knit patterns (Patricia Herrling, 31), LSS Vol 18, Iss 9, October 2023 (Joan Sholdt, 106), LSS Vol 18, Iss 10, November 2023 (Joan Sholdt, 105), Egermeier's Bible Story Book (Debbie Hanson, 1188), LSS Vol 18, Iss 11, December 2023 (Joan Sholdt, 102), Music (Lindy Walton, 5), Crossing the Distance (Barb Schlinkert, 848), LSS Vol 19 Iss 1 Jan 2024 (Joan Sholdt, 104), The Stream of Time (Julie Schoepp, 720), 3 eye brochures (Bev Pfister, 20), The Gold Cadillac (Kathy Dorn, 38), Kuephom Personal Audio Player User Guide (Sue Nelson, 28)



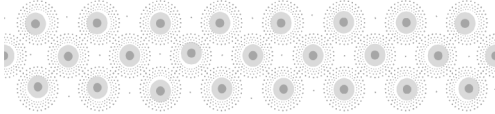
DEAR PEARL

Newsletter of Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc.



We're on the web

<http://bltsinc.org/>



Contributors

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Editors

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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.