

KENTUCKY TALKING BOOK LIBRARY NEWS, WINTER 2012

Two New Staff Members

KTBL is pleased to welcome two new faces to its office. In August, Kenny Holbrook began working in our circulation department. He processes incoming and outgoing mail, adds new books to our system, and performs other duties to maintain our collection. In December, Kate Sumner became our newest librarian, handling patrons R-Z. Kate is available to take requests or answer questions about your account. You can call her at 1-800-372-2968 or (502) 564-8300 ext. 283; you can also send her an e-mail (listed below). As a reminder, our librarians are:

Patrons A-C: Barbara Penegor, x282, barbara.penegor@ky.gov

Patrons D-I: Lauren Abner, x279, lauren.abner@ky.gov

Patrons J-Q: Janet Chisman, x 278, janet.chisman@ky.gov

Patrons R-Z: Kate Sumner, x 283, kate.sumner@ky.gov

When you call, please tell us your name right away so we can connect you to your librarian.

Thank You for Supporting Talking Books

In our last news update, we asked patrons for help in raising funds for purchases crucial to our service, and you came through in a big way! Since July, KTBL patrons have donated almost \$6500. We don't have space in this news update to list each person who contributed, but please know that we truly appreciate your support. Thanks to you, we are in the process of purchasing a much-needed replacement mail card printer for our circulation department, and we are ordering blank cartridges to make more titles available in the new digital format. The budget for all state agencies has been cut by another 7-9% for the next fiscal year, so your continued support is vital to our future.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to KTBL, please send a check or money order in a separate envelope to: Kentucky Talking Book Library, PO Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602. You will receive a letter from KTBL confirming your donation. Please do not send contributions in book containers or with request lists mailed "Free Matter for the Blind".

Do you have an e-mail address? If so, please let KTBL know so that we can communicate important news with you by e-mail. This reduces our printing costs. We contact patrons only 3-4 times per year, and we will not share your e-mail with any other organization. You can e-mail us at KTBL.Mail@ky.gov.

Volunteer Recording Program Expands Offerings

KTBL's recording program volunteers have worked hard to make more local recordings available in the new digital format. In the past year, a record 40 volunteers contributed 1,759 hours of their time to complete 75 new recordings and convert 27 older recordings. Thanks to their extraordinary efforts, books by Kentucky authors like Janice Holt Giles, Wendell Berry, Clyde Roy Pack, and Jan Watson are available to our patrons. The program's greatest need is more volunteers to proofread books after the initial recording process. Proofreading volunteers need some computer skills and must be able to come to our office in Frankfort on a regular basis, but we will provide training in using our proofreading software. If you know someone who is interested in volunteering, please ask them to call the library at 1-800-372-2968 or e-mail our recording program coordinator, Paula Ernspiker (paula.ernspiker@ky.gov).

Digital Player Firmware Update

The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) has released a firmware update for the digital talking book player. The update will be included on new digital talking books so that all patrons will eventually receive it. When you listen to a book with the update for the first time, your player will say, "Upgrading your player's software" and will restart itself after 10 seconds. The player will only install this upgrade one time. Most of the changes will affect the way the player handles books downloaded from BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download; <http://nlsbard.loc.gov/>) or other audio files. Patrons can also access the update by logging into BARD and choosing the link for "Latest DTBM firmware and installation instructions" from the main page. Please contact the Kentucky Talking Book Library at KTBL.Mail@ky.gov or 1-800-372-2968 if you have any questions about updating your NLS digital player.

2012 KTBL/State Government Holidays:

Good Friday – April 6, close at noon
Memorial Day – May 28
Independence Day – July 4
Labor Day – September 3
Presidential Election – November 6

Veteran's Day (Observed) – Nov. 12
Thanksgiving – November 22-23
Christmas – December 24-25
New Year's – December 31–Jan. 1

KTBL Contact Information

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1-800-372-2968 (toll-free)
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BARD website: <http://nlsbard.loc.gov/>
Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/KDLA.KTBL>