A Newsletter of the Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library - Summer 2014

**What’s been happening at the WTBBL!**

Hello Readers!

I hope that there are more sunshiny days than rainy ones by the time you read this. The weather sure has been “interesting” this past year.

The Summer Reading Program for children and young adults is starting up soon. Note that this year there will be a random drawing for an iPad Mini from those completing the program.

In this newsletter, the BARD magazine “downloaders” will read about additional features they can use. Android BARD users – your app is still under development. NLS needs people for testing the Android Beta app, which is under development. Please contact WTBBL if you are interested in testing your Android device.

Keep reading and talking about us to your friends. We love to keep you reading,

 *Linda*

**Batter Up!**

Here are some great baseball books to get you ready for the summer months:

• DB69287 **A-Rod: The Many Lives of Alex Rodriguez** by Selena Roberts

• DB63352 **The Big Bam: The Life and Times of Babe Ruth** by Leigh Montvielle

• DB35453 **Diz: Dizzy Dean and Baseball During the Great Depression** by Robert Gregory

• DB28859 **Fungoes, Floaters, and Fork Balls: A Colorful Baseball Dictionary** by Patrick Ercolano

• DB39899 **Great Time Coming: The Life of Jackie Robinson, From Baseball to Birmingham** by David Falkner

• DB31342 **The Kansas City Monarchs: Champions of Black Baseball** by Janet Bruce

• DB73047 **The Last Hero: A Life of Henry Aaron** by Howard Bryant

• DB33696 **Once More Around the Park: A Baseball Reader** by Roger Angell

• DB67203 **Shades of Glory: The Negro Leagues and the Story of African-American Baseball** by Lawrence D. Hogan and Patrick Downer

**Additions to NFB-NEWSLINE**

Three additions to NFB-NEWSLINE include *Investor’s Business Daily*, *The Japan Times*, and *Conde Nast Traveler*. NFB-NEWSLINE offers over 300 newspapers, over 40 magazines, television listings, and local store advertisements. Select titles are available by phone, on the computer, or by email. If you are interested in signing up for NFB-NEWSLINE access, please contact WTBBL at 1-800-242-8822 or by email at wtbbl@milwaukee.gov.

**New Wisconsin Titles Available**

The WTBBL OPAC (http://webopac.klas.com/wmbph) has a new look. We welcome feedback on the new arrangement, though we are limited in what we can change.

ABLE (Audio Braille and Literacy Enhancement) has ramped up production, so WTBBL has more Wisconsin books for your listening enjoyment. Here are five recent additions:

• DBW09390 **The Great Peshtigo Fire: Stories and Science From America’s Deadliest Firestorm** by Scott Knickelbine

• DBW09391 **History Afield: Stories From the Golden Age of Wisconsin Sporting Life** by Robert C. Willging

• DBW09392 **The Last River Rat: Kenny Salwey’s Life in the Wild** by J. Scott Bestul

• DBW09393 **Uprising How Wisconsin Renewed the Politics of Protest, from Madison to Wall Street** by John Nichols

• DBW09394 **More Than They Bargained For: Scott Walker, Unions, and the Fight for Wisconsin** by Jason Stein

**Magazine Updates**

*Wired* has replaced the magazine *Smart Computing*. *Wired* has stories about culture, the economy, and politics. If you subscribed to *Smart Computing*, you will now receive *Wired*.

The Young Adult Magazine of the Month program has ended. The Magazine of the Month program will continue. Old issues can be downloaded on BARD.

Individual patrons or institutional accounts can download magazines from BARD. This is a good way to avoid overdue magazines and allows you to keep the magazines indefinitely. BARD has both braille and audio magazines that can be downloaded. Some titles include *Consumer Reports*, *Ebony*, *Ellery Queen*, *Good Housekeeping*, *National Geographic*, *People*, *The Week*, and *Wired*. BARD can be found at nlsbard.loc.gov. You may find the application for BARD access at talkingbooks.wi.gov.

**Purchase Your Own Blank Digital Cartridges**

You can purchase your very own 4 GB blank digital cartridges to put books or magazines on and keep in your personal collection. American Printing House for the Blind sells a 4 GB cartridge for $13.00 plus shipping and handling. You may purchase the cartridge at 1-800-223-1839 or at shop.aph.org. Just search for “Digital Talking Book Cartridge.” You may also purchase a 4 GB cartridge for $12.69 plus shipping and handling from the Perkins Products Store. You may do so by calling 1-617-972-7308 or searching online for “Talking Book” at www.perkinsproducts.org/store/en/. Once you have purchased your very own blank digital cartridge, you may check out a three foot long cable from WTBBL to use the cartridge with your personal computer.

**Notes on the Digital Player Battery**

●Don’t let the battery run completely down, particularly in earlier models with serial numbers smaller than DS1-0064602 and DA1-0024536. (Press the sleep button ten times in a row to have the player announce the serial number.) If the player has been plugged in and the player reports a charge of less than 29 hours, often just listening to a book using battery power and then charging the player again will help the player to “catch up”. If the player is not holding at least a 10-hour charge or isn’t playing properly, please return the player for repair and replacement. A player need not be replaced as long as it holds at least a 10-hour charge.

●If the player is not going to be used for a week or longer, plug the player in so the battery will not run completely down. The battery will not overcharge. The player is designed to stop charging when the charge is complete.

●If a player is not producing any sound at all, or only produces sound when the headphones are in use, please return the player for repair and replacement. Please do not attempt to replace the battery yourself.

**Gentle Reminder**

Please remember to return all loaned equipment and books to WTBBL if a patron’s account is cancelled for any reason. This allows us to share the items with other patrons. Since all WTBBL items are property of the US Government, the loaned equipment and books cannot be sold or donated.

**Need a Speaker or Have an Upcoming Event?**

If you are a member of a support group or know of any organization that would like a presentation about WTBBL, please call us. Our outreach librarian, Becky Manz, would be happy to visit your group or facility and discuss our library services. We can also set up an exhibit table at a health fair or conference and demonstrate the digital player and highlight some of the services that WTBBL offers. Look for us this year at the Dodge County Senior Expo, the Aging Well Conference, SeniorFest, and the Aging Network Conference. Last year we met over 10,250 people with 176 exhibits and presentations. Call Becky at 1-800-242-8822 to set up an outreach event.

**Holiday Closings Reminder!**

Make sure to call us at least a week ahead of a closing so you will have books to read. Even if WTBBL is open, some days the Postal Service is on holiday and there is no service. We can increase the number of books you receive for the holidays and update your author, series, or subject preferences to make sure you are receiving interesting and worthwhile books.

July 3 & 4, 2014

 Library Closed (Furlough Day and Independence Day)

August 29, 2014

 Library Closed (Furlough Day)

(Continued)

September 1, 2014

 Post Office & Library Closed (Labor Day)

October 13, 2014

 Post Office Closed (Columbus Day)

November 11, 2014

 Post Office Closed (Veterans Day)

November 27 & 28, 2014

 Library Closed (Thanksgiving)

December 24 & 25, 2014

 Library Closed (Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

December 31, 2014 & January 1, 2015

 Library Closed (New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day)