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WINTER 1996

From the Director's Chair:

This holiday season the Library has quite a bit to celebrate. We finally moved into our new stack area after living in borrowed warehouse space for a year and a half. The staff is delighted with the new quarters — its clean, bright and spacious!

The second event which will have a long lasting effect on the library (and we hope a positive one) is the transfer of the Library from the Department of Education to the Thomas A. Edison State College. The College provides distance learning to adults who want their college degree but do not have the time to go back to college. Since libraries are also committed to adult education and literacy it seems like a good match. The State colleges are exempt from much of the State bureaucracy, therefore we, too,

are exempt which will make life a little easier for us.

As part of Edison State College, we can again hire staff if funds are available. I was able to hire two new staff members for machine lending which had been without staff for the past ten months. So we are ending this year on a very positive, upbeat note.

One of our readers did a very thoughtful and generous thing for the Library. Mr. Irwin Rosee of Englishtown celebrated his 87th birthday this year. He asked all his friends and relatives to donate to our Library in his name. We received more than \$2,500 in tribute to Mr. Rosee's birthday. Because of Mr. Rosee's generous spirit and the generosity of his friends and relatives, we will be able to repair 75 of the more than 1,000 cassette machines that we have waiting for repair.

75 readers will receive machines in good repair because of Mr. Rosee. This indeed was a gift that will keep on giving.

We were also gifted, on October 23rd, with a collection of fifty described, classic videos from Nostalgia Television and Willingboro Comcast of Burlington County. These videotapes will be a significant addition to our Talking Pictures Program. We have such titles as *Father's Little Dividend*, *The Little Princess*, and *The Inspector General*. Call Judy on a Saturday if you want to request a list of titles.

The Library has two new publications, *Organizations and Resources for the Visually Impaired* and a catalog of *Jerseyana*. It also will have *Bestsellers in Cassette, 1995-1996*, available in January. Call Rosalie at 1-800-792-8322 for copies of any of these; it's best to leave a message at night when the Library is closed.

The Library will soon be adding to its collection of twenty-five half-hour titles from the Blue Ridge Players. These are dramatizations of such classic stories as *The Gift of the Magi*,

The Wizard of Oz, and *The Monkey's Paw*. They are recorded at commercial speed, which you can play on your Library of Congress machine by flipping the speed switch to the right. If you are interested in having this category of dramatized plays added to your profile, call the Library at 1-800-792-8322. It's best to call on Saturday or when the Library is closed and leave a message on the answering machine.

At the end of this newsletter is the Friends of the Library annual membership form. The Friends help the Library throughout the year with the purchase of equipment, supplies, public education activities and are helping us to save for a new van. If you are able, won't you please be our Friend next year?

With the holiday season soon upon us, there is a good chance that the mails will be delayed. To make sure you have enough books on hand to read, give us a call. If you select your own books, be sure you send us plenty of titles to add to your file. If your book supply is generally not sufficient for your needs, call

us so we can make an adjustment to your file.

The staff and I hope you have a happy, healthy holiday season!

May Ceil

Lucy *Sharon* *Vianne Connor*
Rose Denton *Gary* *Loretta Holtz*
Joyce *Mary* *Joseph* *Donna*
Jay *Jim* *Mike* *Patricia Lane*
John *William* *Henry*
Alvin *Christine* *Richard*

Bayshore Community Hospital in Holmdel. The Center offers equipment and aids for demonstration; reading aids; resource materials; and educational programming. For more information call 908-888-5268.

If you live in Morris County there is a support group you may be interested in called the VIP Group. It meets the second Wednesday of the month from 11-1:30 pm. The Group meets at the NJ Foundation for the Blind on 230 Diamond Spring Road in Denville. For more information call May Ceil at 201-627-2804.

Here is more news for you:

Would you like to participate in a research study? Dr. Gregory Burton is looking for relatively independent blind and visually impaired adults to participate in an experiment on perception. He is looking for people who use a cane, although that is not a requirement to participate in the experiment. The experiment lasts 90 minutes, you will be paid \$15; and in many cases transportation can be provided. For more information, contact Dr. Burton at 201-275-2701.

The Foundation is also starting a training and recreation center at the Diamond Spring Lodge. There will be daily classes in such things as typing and computer training. For an application or additional information call 201-627-0055 or write the Lodge at P.O. Box 230, Diamond Spring Road, Denville, NJ 07834

The Vassar Eye Center is a newly established eye care center serving central New Jersey. It is located in the

If you are looking for a self-help or support group to join, call the Adjustment to Vision Loss Project at 1-800-367-6274. There are 25 such groups in the state, including most of the 21 counties.

Info Line of Middlesex County is offering a free confidential telephone service that will provide information and referral on health and human services. The number is 908-418-0200.

Do you like to travel? Here are two free publications that explain the rights and responsibilities of air travelers with disabilities: *New Horizons for the Air Traveler with a Disability* (Item 573C) and *Access Travel: Airports* (Item 570C). These publications are available free from the Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, CO 81009.

The New Jersey State Pension News is now available on audiocassette. To receive a copy call 609-777-1933. Allow at least two weeks for delivery.

There is a new free telephone reading service available to you. If you have a touchtone phone, you can read the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and *Time* magazine. The service comes out of Washington D.C. and you must call 301-681-6636 to receive an identification number. Remember if you live in central or south New Jersey you

can receive our radio reading service, **Audiovision**, which broadcasts your local papers as well as feature articles. Give us a call if you want more information about **Audiovision** -- 1-800-792-8322.

The Musical Mainstream contains articles reprinted from periodicals, original articles of interest to blind and physically handicapped persons, and current information about the music program of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, including additions to its collection. Call 1-800-792-8322 for a free subscription to *The Musical Mainstream*.

Recordings for Recovery has hundreds of musical recordings available for purchase or a 60 day loan period. There is a small membership fee. Call 517-832-0784 or write Recordings for Recovery, 413 Cherry Street, Midland, MI 48640.

AT&T is offering a braille calling card that has a permanent number that can be used regardless of where you live. To order, call 1-800-225-5288.

The National Braille Press has a new large print catalog of their publications available. Call 1-800-548-7323 for a copy.

The Jewish Heritage for the Blind has a new large print Hebrew/English edition of the *Yom Kippur Machzor*. In order to obtain your free copy, provide them with your name and address and a note from your eye-care specialist confirming your condition. Forward this information by mail or FAX to The Jewish Heritage for the Blind, 1655 East 24th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11229; FAX 718-338-0653.

The Jewish Museum in New York City offers touch tours for the blind and visually impaired. The tours are about the Torah and the Sabbath. The tours are free with Museum admission. To schedule a tour, call Laura Joseph, Monday through Thursday, at 212-423-3225.

The Duane Griffin Radio Library has a catalog that sells four-track cassettes of radio shows that were broadcast during the golden age of radio. To request a catalog, contact Duane Griffin Radio Library, 2265 Wahlquist

Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83401; 208-522-9008.

Braille Greeting Cards: The Iffin Group, Inc., produces a line of greeting cards primarily designed for persons who are visually impaired. The cards have a raised outline of the artwork on the front of the card, and the verse inside appears in both print and braille. One set of cards sell for \$12 plus shipping and handling. Contact The Iffin Group, PO Box 8817, Asheville, NC 28814; phone 1-888-884-3346 (888 is a toll-free number); FAX 704-681-1985.

The Brailery can repair your broken Perkins brailier. For more information, write The Brailery, 5 Cumberland Circle, El Paso, TX 79903-1911 or phone 915-565-0179.

The *RAIN Journal* is a bi-monthly, tone-indexed audio cassette publication for ham radio enthusiasts published by the Radio Amateur Information Network. Subscribers receive a free matter mailer, reversible address card and the first tape. One year's subscription costs \$17; if you wish to keep the tapes, add \$5. Make checks or

money order payable to RAIN and send it with your name and address to RAIN, PO Box 2565, Des Plaines, IL 60017-2565.

The American Printing House for the Blind is offering note cards and birthday cards using full-color reproductions of artworks chosen from the InSights competition for artists who are visually impaired. The note cards (\$3 for 5 and \$6 for 10) are blank inside; the birthday card (\$3 for 5) has a birthday greeting in print and braille plus a tactile image. For more information, contact American Printing House for the Blind, 1839 Frankfort Avenue, PO Box 6085, Louisville, KY 40206-0085; 800-223-1839.

Kraft-General Foods offers Braille readers a one volume Braille reference guide on preparing its packaged food products. Product Packaging Directions may be ordered for \$10 from National Braille Press, 88 Saint Stephen Street, Boston MA 02115 or call 1-800-548-7323.

The International Low-Fat Cookbook provides 32 easy and inexpensive recipes. It's available in Braille and large-print

for \$4.95 from: NO LIMITS, Inc., Suite 750, 600 Cleveland Street, Clearwater, FL 34615.

If you are a Diabetic, the National Federation of the Blind has a national support group -- The Diabetes Action Network. Members receive a free quarterly magazine *The Voice of the Diabetic*, full of up-to-date medical, technical, and support information. For further information, call 573-875-8911.

Here is some news for Large Print readers:

The Library has a new *Historical Romances in Large Print* catalog. For copies just call 1-800-792-8322 and leave a message for Joyce.

Reader's Digest has a large print edition for \$11.95. Reader's Digest, Large-Type Edition, Dept. LTE, PO Box 241, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0141.

Catholic Digest has a new *Catholic Digest Reader Large Print* available four times a year for \$11.95. It's available from PO Box 64090, Saint Paul, MI 55164-9560.

Visually Unique has added to its line of products for people with low vision -- the Large Print Check Register. The register has the same features as the company's Large Print Daily Appointment Calendar: bold lines and headings in 20 point type, plenty of room to write, and opaque paper so that even dark ink does not show through. To order, send \$7.50 to Visually Unique, PO Box 2841, Dallas TX 75221-2841.

Large print books may be donated to the Library by mailing them Free Matter for the Blind. Be sure to put your name in the package, so we know whom to thank!

For computer users:

For you computer buffs there is a new periodical that may interest you: *Bitstream*. The main focus will be for users of pc compatible computer equipment employing speech or braille access. The issue comes on a 90 minute tape, and it costs \$22. To subscribe call 703-620-4642, or write ShrinkWrap Computer Products, 11706 Saddle Crescent Circle, Oakton, VA 22124.

Also available is an e-mail directory for the blind community. Its available in large print, \$12, braille, or disk, \$9. This is available from the National Braille Press, 88 Stephen Street, Boston, MA 02115 or call 1-800-548-7323.

American Foundation for the Blind has announced a new service available to your e-mail address. Words from Washington will give you a brief report on what's happening when Congress is in session. To request this service e-mail AFB at afb.gov@afb.org.

The Library has a copy of a Computer Report that lists sources of financial aid for the visually impaired who want to acquire computers. The report is on a two track tape played at standard speed. Call the Library on Saturday to request the Report -- 1-800-792-8322.

CALENDARS

American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults, 18440 Oxnard Street, Tarzana CA 91356. They provide a 6 x 6 1/2 inch braille calendar featuring

one page per month and a listing of major holidays. They accept orders by mail only. Available free upon request.

American Printing House for the Blind, 1839 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, KY 40206-0085 or call 800-223-1839. They accept orders by phone or mail. They offer an 8 1/2 by 11 inch print-braille 16 month calendar for \$7.95.

John Milton Society for the Blind, 473 Riverside Drive, Room 455, New York, NY 10115 or call 212-870-3336. They provide a 12 1/2 x 10 1/2 inch braille calendar featuring a motto on each page. They accept orders by mail or telephone. Available free upon request.

National Braille Press, 88 Stephen Street, Boston, MA 02115. They accept prepaid orders by mail only. They provide 8 1/2 x 11 inch print-braille calendars in Winnie the Pooh motif for \$7.99.

Here is a list of magazines that are available:

The Answer. Reports New Jersey news for DIAL membership, with

some national items, a poet's beat, kids corner and staff news. \$15 membership a year, January to December. Formats: print, cassette. DIAL, Inc., 66 Mt. Prospect Street, Building C, Clifton, NJ 07013.

Disability News You Can Use. Includes money-saving tips and hard to find resources. Issues include tips for getting medications free, accessibility and home improvement fund availability, and computer funding sources. Editor Helen Hecker, R.N., Twin Peaks Press, PO Box 129, Vancouver, WA 98666-0129.

Insight. Provides a national information resource for athletes who are blind or visually impaired, with coverage of various sports, reporting on tournament competition, events calendar, and Association news. Formats: large print, cassette. \$30 per year. US Association of Blind Athletes, 33 N. Institute, Colorado Springs, CO 80903.

The Midnight Golfer. Covers golf for athletes who are blind with personal features, cartoon, upcoming events and organization news for consumers, golf

professionals, associations, clubs and rehabilitation facilities. Format: print. Free. US Blind Golfers Association, 3094 Shamrock Street, North Tallahassee, FL 32308.

Our Special. Serving the information needs of women who are blind. Free. Format: Braille. Jean Neil, National Braille Press, 88 Saint Stephen Street, Boston MA 02115.

The News Reel, Inc. Produced on cassette, readers are encouraged to submit stories of personal accomplishments, sometimes with their own sound effects. Pay \$25 and return tapes; \$50 to keep tapes. Format: cassette. Stanley Doran, Room 907, 5 E. Long Street, Columbus OH 43215-2195.

Vision Access. Extensive news coverage for persons with low vision, featuring organization news, letters from readers, international highlights, resource directory, technology updates, product announcements, medical items and media notes for consumers and healthcare professionals. \$20 per year. Formats: large print, cassette. Patricia Price, UN Printing Inc.,

5707 Brockton Drive, #302, Indianapolis IN 46220-5481.

Recorded Periodicals has added five new titles: *Civil War Times Illustrated*; *Harvard Women's Health Watch*; *Organic Gardening*; *Pennsylvania Magazine* and *Taste of Home Cooking*. These are all available by subscription from Recorded Periodicals, Division of Associated Services for the Blind, 919 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

The Bookworm's Corner by Judy

With the leaves turning color and a bit of a nip in the air, we're reminded that winter isn't too far off. It's time to plan for those long, cold days ahead and stock up on some "good reads."

In the Spring Newsletter I mentioned we had many Pulitzer Prize winning books. We now have available the 1995 winner, *The Stone Diaries* by Carol Shields (RC39129). It's a fictional biography of Daisy Stone Goodwill, an ordinary woman who records her extraordinary emotional response to all that goes on around her.

Helen Salowey recommends the writings of Donald Hall. She especially enjoyed *Seasons at Eagle Pond* (RC28160). Mr. Hall is the poet laureate of New Hampshire, and the Library has several others of his books.

Sins by Judith Gould (RC19254) is about a woman successful in the international world of fashion. Her sole purpose in life, however, is to avenge the horrors her family suffered during her childhood in Nazi-occupied France. This book was suggested by Maxine Greenberg.

John Jakes is starting a new family series -- the Crown Family Chronicles. Maryjane Fitzwater highly recommends *Homeland* (RC37815), the first in the series. It is the story of Pauli Kroner, a Berlin street urchin, who dreams of coming to America to make his living as an artist. He becomes influential in Hollywood and the picture industry.

Barbara Plocker liked *Quest of Dreams* by Debra Dier. (RC39843). It's the story of archaeologists in search of the lost colony of Atlantis -- in the jungles of Brazil!

The Seventh Stone by Nancy Freedman (RC 37167) is the story of Momoko Sanogawa, a traditional Japanese wife, who tries to make a life for herself and her infant son after her husband dies as a kamikaze pilot. Her son, Aiko, builds a worldwide financial network to avenge his father. Anne Rowe found this story fascinating.

If you're in the mood for a nice long story, read *The Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All* says Virginia Wasson. This story (RC/FD30984) by Allan Gurganus, told in humorous, chatty dialect, is the life of Lucy Marsden who married a Civil War Captain thirty-six years her senior.

I hope this gives you a start on your winter reading. As usual, many thanks to all who shared their thoughts for this column. Part of the fun of reading is passing on a good title to someone else.

If you experience a break in the frequency you have come to expect in your books, please call us right away. With holidays and bad weather coming fast upon

us, we don't want you to run out completely. Usually, it's a minor problem that can be cleared up right away. Sometimes it's difficult to get through on the 800 number during the day. It's really best to call at night or on the weekends and leave a message on the answering machine. I promise, we'll get to your call within a day!

We would like to thank everyone listed below for their generosity this year.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Aaron
Abrams Foundation
Ms. Malva Adleman
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Ms. Hortense Zera

Donations made in memory of:

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 Ms. Jennie Butt
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Friends of the Library
for the Blind and Handicapped
P. O. BOX 7067
Trenton, New Jersey 08628

1997

Name _____ Phone(____) _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

I am interested in renewing my membership and enclose a check made payable to the Friends of the Library in the following amount:

____ Individual membership - \$10.00

____ Family membership - \$25.00

____ Corporate membership - \$50.00

I would like to participate in the following ways:

____ As a member of the Board

____ Fund raising

____ Membership recruitment and publicity

____ Other (Please specify) _____

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