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NEWSLETTER

New Jersey Library for the Blind

Summer 1998

1-800-792-8322

www.state.nj.us/state/njlhb.htm

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FAX 609-530-6384

From the Director's Chair:

I know this is a belated thank you, but the staff and I do want to thank all of you for your holiday cards and the goodies that you sent us in December. The staff certainly enjoyed everything and several of us started the New Year by going on a diet.

Now that we are approaching summer, let's think about our travel plans. Amtrak is trying to attract people with disabilities by offering them discounts, special accommodations, and accessible services. The good news is that the discounts also apply to a companion travelling with you. For more information call 800-872-7245.

Another travel service that you should be aware of is the Special Assistance Services, Inc. This service offers door - to - door transportation, accessible accommodations and staff available to you 24 hours a day.

The service offers one-day tours as well as tours to Disneyland, a dude ranch, and New Orleans, to name just a few. Call 800-809-6810 for more information.

Now, to get you into shape to travel, we have two exercise videos to get you started. The first is Better Living with Arthritis; the second is Exercise for People with Limited Mobility. These are easy stretching and breathing exercises and many of them can be done while sitting in a chair. If you are interested, return the checklist in the back of this newsletter.

We have some new publications you may be interested in reading. NLS has a new bibliography on ENTERTAINERS. It's a listing of biographies of singers, dancers, musicians, actors, and funny people. It lists both cassettes and Braille titles.

The Health Care Financing Administration sent us several publications on Medicare health care, some of the titles included are: Health Benefits; Hospice Benefits; Guide to Choosing a Nursing Home. A complete list of titles is on the checklist at the end of this newsletter. Check off the ones you want to receive and return the checklist to us.

We have added two new titles to our Jerseyana collection and two titles on advocacy. These titles are also on the checklist with a brief annotation.

Several newsletters ago I mentioned the Shop-In Service, which is a personal shopping service for folks who can't get out and shop easily. The response was so overwhelming that they now have an 800 number to take care of your calls. So, if you were frustrated the first time trying to get through to them, why not try the new number which is 800-293-5896. It takes calls seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

I have been remiss in thanking the many large print readers we have that have donated large print books to our collection. This is especially appreciated because this collection is supported by state funds and we never have enough money to buy all the

books we would like to have available to you. The following readers all have donated several books:

**Emma Orphan Dempsey
May Dudley
Marion Eckhardt
Sadie Genden
Leroy Gross
Myrtle Kirchoff
Joan Leahy
Margaret Leaver
Meta Pekau
Lena Routson
Ruth Sadkin
Bertha Sherman
Robert Thompson**

The Philadelphia Library for the Blind donated to us copies of their volunteer produced books about Pennsylvania. It is called THE PENNSYLVANIA COLLECTION. This collection includes Pennsylvania history and folklore, settlement and expansion. Give Judy a call for more specific titles.

The Library is participating in a project funded by the Commission for the Blind and administered by John DeWitt and Associates. The project is to teach the visually impaired how to use Windows 95 and Microsoft Word. The Library was the first site to initiate the project, and our readers in Mercer County were the first trained. The project will eventually offer sites

for training in other parts of the State -- we will keep you posted.

Our Media Production staff member, Jim, has been receiving books marked as snags, which weren't snags at all. The reader thought some cassettes were missing because there was only one cassette in the box. Many of our books are complete in one cassette. The number of cassettes for each book is marked on the side of the green box, and the narrator also mentions the number of cassettes at the very beginning of the book. If you think you are missing a cassette, give us a call and we will check it for you. Then if the cassette is really missing, we will mail it to you.

If you are returning a damaged book to us, be sure to mark the front of the mailing card in the lower left hand corner with an X. We will then repair the book.

With this newsletter, we are starting a new feature written by John, from Reader Services, who is responsible for our video club. He thought it would be fun to tell you about the new videos we have received and include a brief critique on each. The next time you talk to him, tell him what you think about it.

We are losing one of our valued Reader Services staff members to retirement—Rosalie leaves us after being with the Library for four years. Rosalie has worked for the state for 30 years but says this is the job she liked the best. The staff usually gives the retiree a farewell party and a gift; Rosalie has asked that in lieu of a party and gift that something is purchased for the readers that she has loved working with the past few years.

I'll let you know in the next newsletter what we have purchased. Rosalie will be missed not only by the Library staff but also by the readers who will talk only to her. Do you think we can coax her back to work part-time?

We start our summer schedule in July and will be closed Saturdays in July and August. We resume our usual Saturday hours on September 12th.

Have a wonderful summer everyone!

Vianne Connor



Here's other news you can use:

Braille Greeting Cards

Poetic Expressions offers Braille and large print greeting cards, note cards, and bookmarks. Poetic Expressions, PO Box 172, St. Nazianz, WI 54232

Braille Books

The National Braille Press has just issued their new catalog of publications. They offer a wide range of topics from cookbooks to computers. For your free copy call 1-800-548-7323.

Vision Enhancer

Ocutech VES AutoFocus Telescope is a miniature telescope mounted on a special pair of eyeglasses. The telescope magnifies objects four times, allowing you to see four times farther away. These are not for everybody and, if you are interested, you should be evaluated by your low vision specialist. For more information from the company OCUTECH, call 1-800-326-6460.

NJ EASE

New Jersey Easy Access, Single Entry Project is a new and easy way for seniors to get information and services through one agency. Currently there are only four counties offering NJ EASE: Atlantic; Morris; Ocean; and Union. Eventually this will be a statewide service. If you live in one of those counties, here are the telephone numbers you may use:

Atlantic—1-888-426-9243

Morris—1-800-564-4656

Ocean—1-800-668-4899

Union—908-527-4870/4872

Kraft Creative Kitchens

Kraft foods now offers directions for the preparation of their packaged products in large print and Braille.

The large print book is \$12.95 and can be ordered from Kraft Cookbooks, PO Box 8806, Maple Plain, MN 55593-8806.

The Braille cookbook is \$12.95 and can be ordered from National Braille Press, 88 St. Stephen St., Boston, MA 02115.

FREE, FREE, FREE

The Voice of the Diabetic is a quarterly newsletter of the

Diabetes Action Network of the National Federation of the Blind. It is offered free to anyone interested in diabetes. Call 573-875-8911.

NFB Convention

The annual convention of the National Federation of the Blind will be held in Dallas, TX on July 3 – 11, 1998. The NJ Chapter has special airfare rates and hotel rates. For more information call: 973-450-3030 or 973-759-362.

Ann Morris Enterprises, Inc.

Robert Rindt is a new sales representative for Ann Morris. Give him a call to order products or a catalog at 732-422-0588.

Reader's Digest

If you would like to receive the Reader's Digest in French (Selections du Reader's Digest) use the checklist at the end of the newsletter and the Library will start your subscription.

Large Print Magazine

THE LARGE PRINT LITERARY READER is a new monthly journal that features short literary pieces from well known authors. The subscription price is \$69.95 a year. Call 800-216-5893.

Christian Tapes for the Disabled

You can receive Christian books on audiotapes free of charge from this group. A catalog is available in large print or cassette. Write: Christian Tapes for the Disabled, PO Box 455, Buffalo, NY 14209.

THE BOOKWORM'S CORNER

by Judy

There's something about lovely Spring weather that makes me want to get out and work in the garden. Possibly many of you feel the same way, too, so I've compiled a list of good gardening books.

RC 40311, *The Able Gardener: A Guide to Lifelong Gardening* by Kathleen Yeoman, emphasizes adaptive techniques and easy-care plants. RC43253, *Enabling Garden: Overcoming Barriers of Age and Physical Limitations* by Gene Rothert is a step-by-step guide to barrier-free gardening. If space might be a problem, try RC32077 by Linda Yang--*City Gardener's Handbook*, for advice on gardening in containers and small places. For vegetable gardening, we have *Garden Way's Joy of Gardening* by Dick Raymond, RC21472. Jim Wilson, host of PBS "Victory Garden" discusses how to establish native

plants in a variety of habitats in his book *Landscaping with Wildflowers*, RC35814.

Reader's Advisor, John Boross says he isn't normally a Star Trek fan, but he thoroughly enjoyed *A Flag Full of Stars*, by Brad Ferguson, RC/FD33015 and BR8526. It is a "Kirk" story that takes place on earth, not in space. John recommends it for anyone who has ever wanted to try a Star Trek novel.

Many of you have been kind enough to suggest "good reads" for the summer. Pour yourself a lemonade and find a nice shady tree to enjoy these treats.

James Ardin suggests anything by Piers Anthony if you like Science Fiction. For good "dishy" reading Bonny Weisbrot recommends the *Lucky* series by Jackie Collins.

Dorothy Murphy recommends Karen Harper's *Circle of Gold*, RC35756. It's about a young girl from the Kentucky hills who falls in love with a visiting British nobleman.

The Walled Garden by Rosemary Enright, RC38046, is Barbara Plocker's choice. A young woman inherits an estate in Yorkshire, from which she starts a produce

business--and falls in love with one of her employees!

Betty Levine loved *To Race a Dream* by Deborah Savage, RC41878. A young girl disguises herself as a boy in 1906 to pursue her ambition of becoming a harness-race driver.

If you need something more chilling than air conditioning, U.B. Campbell found *The Mask* by Dean Koontz "good and scary!" You can order it by requesting RC/FD29028.

Joe lamurri "highly recommends" *Tremor* by Winston Graham RC43602. A highly diverse group of tourists is stranded in a resort hotel in Morocco during an earthquake

For more serious reading, we have these suggestions. *Slouching Towards Gomorrah* by Robert Bork, RC43177 gave Catherine Smith "a lot to think about."

Marguerite Forest found *Wild Swans* by Jung Chang, RC34458, "impossible to put down." It's non-fiction and spans three generations in a Chinese family.

Thanks to everyone for all your good suggestions. We wish you all an enjoyable summer of pleasant reading!

VIDEO CLUB UPADTE

By John Boross

Welcome to the inaugural edition of Video Club Update. First of all, I would like to say that many of the movies we received in January are so popular that the demand has exceeded our supply. We have ordered more copies of them. They include: *Phenomenon*, *Liar, Liar*, *Mr. Holland's Opus*, *The Preacher's Wife*, *The Rock*, *Sneakers*, and *Ransom*. Please, don't feel slighted if you have requested one and haven't received it; I am trying to fill all orders.

For those of you who like the classics, we have Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*, starring Gregory Peck. Other stars in our collection are John Wayne, Abbot and Costello, Paul Newman, Robert Redford, Harrison Ford, Charles Boyer, Olivia DeHavilland, Spencer Tracy, Elizabeth Taylor, and Rosalind Russell. These movies are listed in your catalog, please, call or write if you are interested.

Since the catalog update went out in January, we have received three new movies. One is an episode of the TV series *Matlock* about a rock star who is accused of murdering

her manager. *Suddenly* is a Frank Sinatra movie about an attempted assassination of the President. *Charade* is a mystery that concerns the whereabouts of a quarter of a million dollars. Set in Paris, the question of who has the money leaves the viewer guessing until the very end.

The acquisition of these three movies gives us a total of exactly 200 titles. The club has come a long way since it's inception in October 1992 with a handful of movies. Happy viewing and listening. *Don't get any popcorn on you!*

We wish to thank the following people who remembered us with donations.

Memorial Donations

Damico, Giuesppa
DaSilva, Dolores
Downey, Ruth
Fore, Boyd
Hoerrner, Eleanor
lorio, Suzanne
Letters, Keith
Levine, Harvey
Lucid, Donna
Mundy, Evelyn
Tomaselli, Mrs.
Wlzdyska, Stefan
Yankell, sam

Donations

**Antizz, Dorthy
Austin , Geraldine
Bell, Beatrice
Belmore, Mazine
Berger, Hazel
Brainin, Sondra
Broadway House
Browning, Josephine
Carrier, James
Carroll, James
Connor, Richard
Doyle, Estelle
Fishman, Barbara
Fore, Boyd
Gaine, John
Gannon, Beulah
Germain, Patricia
Gontary, Elizabeth
Hansen, Mary
Henitz, Mary
Herbeck, Georgeanne
Hill, Robin
Hoerrner, Eleanor
Houck, Dorothy
Jayson, Barbara
Jones, Edyth
Keesing, Fred
Kersey, Margaret
Knapp, Donald
Levine, Linda
Mazzarella, Julia
Mudy, Evelyn
O'Brien, Ruth
Ramze, Anneluse
Reed, Helen
Reizel, Jean.
Sparks, Alice
Stankewicz, Mary**

**Teeple, Margaret
Torio, Suzanne
Weinstein, Edward
Wladyka, Stefan
Wonder, Barbara
Zanuso, Margaret**

Check List

Name _____

Address _____

Please send me the following:

- _____ Better Living with Arthritis and Related Conditions Video
- _____ Entertainers catalog (NLS)
- _____ Exercise Video for People with Limited Mobility
- _____ Large Print 1997 Catalog
- _____ Medicare Home Health
- _____ Medicare and Other Health Benefits: Who Pays First?
- _____ Medicare and Medicaid Guide to Choosing a Nursing Home
- _____ Medicare Hospice Benefits
- _____ Medicare Managed Care
- _____ Medicare Savings for Qualified Beneficiaries
- _____ Medicare Advance Directives
- _____ Medicare Coverage of Kidney Dialysis and Kidney Transplant Services
- _____ Selections du Reader's Digest

New Books

_____ ***Down the Jersey Shore*** by Russell Roberts and Rich Youmans. An entertaining account of the people, places, and events that have shaped New Jersey's famous shoreline. C 2841

_____ ***Jerseyana: The Underside of New Jersey History*** by Marc Mappen. Mappen writes astonishing tales of New Jersey history. C 2839

_____ ***Dancing in the Dark*** by Frances Lief Neer. Neer developed a community support group for newly blinded adults that has earned national recognition for its excellence. C 2840

_____ ***New Voices: Self-Advocacy by People with Disabilities*** edited by Gunnar Dyhbwad and Hank Bersani, Jr. People with development disabilities speak out about organizing themselves to seek better, non-institutional living situations, social and political equality, and decent jobs at reasonable pay. C2836

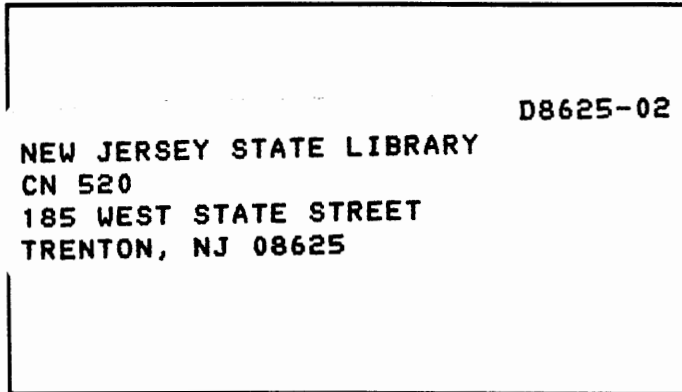
Please return this sheet to the library by folding it so that the library's address is on the outside. No postage is necessary. If you have questions, please call: 1-800-792-8322

**Free Matter for
the Blind**

**NJ Library for the Blind
PO Box 501
Trenton NJ 08625-0501**

**New Jersey Library for the
Blind and Handicapped
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