



**Department of Cultural Resources  
State Library of North Carolina  
Library Services Section  
Library for the Blind and  
Physically Handicapped**

# **Tar Heel Talk...**

Fall/Winter 2014

No. 146

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## **Fizzing and Booming and Reading**

**Congratulations to our top summer adult reader, Mary Brown, and our juvenile top winner, Savannah Stanley. Mary read 133 books, and Savannah read 105! Thanks to all participants, who have made the 2014 Summer Reading Program a success. The second place adult winner is Lani Vaughan, while our second place juvenile reader is Valari Rios. Carol McBrayer (adult) and Dasha Radford (juvenile) were our third place winners.**

**All total, 52 adults and 31 kids read a combined total of 2,681 books! Every adult who read at least 10 books and every child who read at least 5 books received a lunch bag filled with goodies. The top three winners in both the adult and child categories received gift cards.**

**Our juvenile patrons enjoyed a visit from the Winston-Salem Bomb Squad to celebrate summer. Corporal Angela Swaim and her partner showed off their bomb disposal robot, and kids got to examine it, along with many types of disarmed explosive devices.**

**Adults enjoyed two programs this summer; one travel program and the other about famous and infamous women of North Carolina.**

**Several of our patrons shared travel stories, and Phillip Woodward from Art Access had a slide show of accessible vacation spots in NC.**

**The Famous and Infamous Women of North Carolina included stories about pirate Anne Bonney, Malinda Blaylock, who fought in the Civil War, and Tiny Broadwick, the first woman to parachute from an airplane.**

## **Updates on Library Services**

**The National Library Service is preparing to release an updated version of the BARD Mobile app. The update doesn't make any major changes, just enhances the user experience. The enhancements include a sleep timer, an auto lock mode which will prevent the display screen from locking while downloading content, and improved compatibility with iOS 7.**

**Apple's release of iOS 8 has delayed the release of the updated BARD Mobile app while they test the compatibility of**

**the app to the new operating system. The release is now projected to be about the end of October.**

**The android version of the BARD Mobile app is still in development. The first BARD Mobile app for android will be an audio app only. It is planned to begin beta testing in a couple of months. The tentative release time is early 2015.**

## **Howdy Folks! Greetings from the Great Southwest USA**

**By Karen Broderick, Patron**

**We visited the great States of Texas and New Mexico in April 2014. The Radisson El Paso Airport where we spent our first night had a decidedly southwestern, even Mexican, flavor, including a happy hour with Margaritas, of course.**

**The next day, our tour took us to Marfa, Texas, which is supposed to be an artsy town like Taos, NM. Don't ask me why, but this little town made it onto the CBS show "60 Minutes" during the summer of 2013. After our visit there, however, we told the tour company they could leave out that stop! The best part was sitting in a room that was air conditioned because it was so hot outside!**

**The Chisos Mountain Lodge in Big Bend National Park was one of the nicer places where we stayed. You usually think of Texas as pretty hot. However, like my trip to Africa, it was cool at 5000 to 6000 feet in altitude. And it was a bit of an uphill hike to get to the main lodge where the restaurant and small gift shop were located. The people were all very**

friendly. However, we were a bit of a captive audience since this was the only motel in this park, the 8th largest national park in the lower 48 states.

We got to Chisos late in the day so we did not get to really explore the park until the next day. I never realized that Texas has some pretty steep mountains as well as the flat land we're all so familiar with. There were also some really interesting rock formations as we drove along in our tour bus. We were able to drive right down to the Rio Grande and look across the river at old Mexico.

Next we visited Ft. Davis Texas. This military outpost made history with some of the Indian wars. We spent that night at the Prude Guest Ranch. I was disappointed that we didn't get to see more of the ranch operations. We used tin plates as the cowboys of old would have done—and we had to clean off the food from our own plates.

The next day we left my home state behind and headed for New Mexico and the Carlsbad Caverns. The main cavern is 255 feet high all underground. The whole thing is about 8 acres. That was a lot of walking underground! However, you really can't appreciate the caverns without going in them. It was dark in there although there were lights scattered around the "Big Room" as they called it. They wanted to leave the stalagmites and stalactites, and other formations as close to natural evolution as possible. This was a very visual tour, and there is no way anyone could see it all. It was hard to get the mind around the fact that something that big could be 700-800 feet underground without caving in!

**We also visited the UFO museum in Roswell, NM. They showed us a movie about the “sightings” there, and there were lots of newspaper articles to read if one had the time or inclination. There were statues of little green men in many places along the streets in Roswell, so I guess I can truly say I did see aliens on my trip!**

**We visited a couple of museums while we were there. These were aimed at showing us a little bit of what the Wild West of Billy the Kid and others was like. There was a mock-up of a saloon, which even included a “bartender” who actually talked about the history of the area. He didn’t serve us any drinks, though!**

**The really wonderful place we stayed at is in Ruidoso NM. It is run by the Apache Indian tribe and is called “Inn of the Mountain Gods.” It has a casino, a lake and hiking trails and quite a buffet for \$10.00. The really odd thing about this Casino was that you couldn’t buy drinks on the floor; you had to go elsewhere in the hotel to do this. I’m not a real gambler but I did try a little, and managed to win \$38.00!**

**Just the day before we returned home, we visited White Sands National Park. I have never seen such truly white sand in all my days. It is actually Gypsum, but it makes dunes, and behaves like sand. Pictures were really unusual because the clouds in the sky made the sands and the sky appear nearly identical!**

**Finally, on the last day, our bus driver, who grew up in the area, took us on a tour of El Paso on our way to the airport. We saw the arena where the Sun Bowl is played each**

**year, as well as the border crossings and fence. We lost not one but 2 hours getting home since El Paso is in the Mountain Time zone.**

**And so we say “Adios.” Until the next trip!**

# **Tips for Better Service: Book and Magazine Returns**

**Please return digital magazines and books in their proper containers. You can tell the difference between national magazine containers and book containers because national magazines are in red containers with a raised emblem of a flag in a large circle on top and the word “magazine” in Braille. Local book or magazine containers are blue OR gray and have either a Library of Congress seal with an eagle on top OR a large, flat circle with no design at all on top.**

**National magazines and local books and magazines go to different addresses. Returning books in magazine containers means that books may go to the wrong address and be lost. Also, since magazines must be returned by specific dates, accidentally returning a magazine in a book container may disrupt your magazine service.**

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# Friends' Corner

Friends of the NC Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped  
President's Letter

## What are Friends For?

By Gary Ray

I don't know about anybody else, but services from the  
NC Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped are very

**important to me. I use library materials everyday. I consider the library to be one of my best friends. I have had a close relationship with the library since about 1976, which sounds like a good, solid, long-lasting friendship to me!**

**So it's only reasonable that I be a friend right back to the library. Considering what the library does for us, I think all patrons should be good friends to the library. After all, what are friends for? Friends accept and give back. The most rewarding relationships are shared and balanced.**

**The best way we can be friends of the library is to become a member of or make contributions to the Friends of the NC Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. I hope you noticed that I moved from friends with a small "f" to Friends with a capital "F."**

**The library needs help from its Friends every year. The help that the Friends primarily provide is money to supplement the library's budget. The State of NC provides most of the funding, but the Friends fill in the cracks by providing money to support special services and programs. In recent years, the Friends have pumped hundreds of thousands of dollars into support for the library and its programs.**

**A good portion of our money goes to:**

- Volunteer recognition events**
- Descriptive video club**
- Public information efforts to keep the library and the Friends' activities in the spotlight**

- **Large print and Braille books for the library**
- **Audio books and special programs for the library**
- **Materials used at the library such as book boxes, clerical materials, tapes, braille supplies and much more**
- **Promotional items used at outreach events**

**You don't need to make a donation or join the Friends to receive services from the Library. But by paying it forward, as friends are wont to do, you can share your gratitude for the many ways that the Library improves your quality of life. I know it makes a huge difference in my life. Does it do the same for you? If so, consider:**

- **Joining and paying membership dues**
- **Renewing your membership annually or joining as a lifetime member**
- **Sending tax-deductible donations directly to the Friends at any time**
- **Including the Friends in your will and leaving a legacy for future generations**
- **Encouraging your family members, business associates and other friends to include the Friends when they make charitable contributions**
- **Registering your whole family as Friends**
- **Holding fund-raisers on behalf of the Friends**
- **Supporting the membership drive by telling everyone about the Friends and the important work we do**

**You'll find a membership application on the next page. Please fill it out and send in with a check. Better yet, check out our website at [www.friendsncfbph.org](http://www.friendsncfbph.org). You can join online by using PayPal and your credit card. You also can renew your membership online.**

**While you're there, check out Friends' news, upcoming events and stories about Library patrons and workers. The website is one more effort promoted by the Friends to keep us all connected. Because after all, what are friends for?**

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# Friends of the NCLBPH

## *Join Today*

**Go to the "Join" link at [www.friendsnclbph.org](http://www.friendsnclbph.org)  
to pay by credit card.**

*To join by mail, fill out the Membership Blank:*

Name:

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you receive materials from NCLBPH? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Please send information about donating to the FNCLBPH. \_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Individual \$10**                      \_\_\_ **Hundred Dollar Club**  
**\$100**

\_\_\_ **Family \$15**                      \_\_\_ **Plus Club \$300**

\_\_\_ **Organization/Professional \$50**                      \_\_\_ **Other**  
**\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_ **Life Membership \$500**

**Contributions in excess of these amounts are accepted  
and appreciated.**

Make checks payable to FNCLBPH. Mail this form, with your  
check, to:

FNCLBPH, 1841 Capital Boulevard, Raleigh, NC 27635

or

**Go to [www.friendsnclbph.org](http://www.friendsnclbph.org) to pay by credit card.**

# **Descriptive Video Information**

## **How to Turn On the Descriptive Audio on DVD Movies**

**by Marlene Debo, Reader Advisor  
Josh Berkov, Collection Management Librarian**

**Unfortunately, a sighted person must turn on the Audio Description for all DVD movies that are numbered MD1050 and higher. Movies numbered lower than MD1050 will play the Audio Description automatically. Currently, there is no alternative to this situation. We don't like it either!**

**Following are instructions to turn on the Audio Description:**

- 1. Put the DVD in your player.**
- 2. Wait for the DVD menu to appear.**
- 3. Choose "Settings," "Language" or "Setup" submenus.**
- 4. On one of these submenus, choose the "Descriptive Audio," "English Descriptive Service," "Descriptive Video Service" or something similar. Click on it to activate.**

**Our most recent movies have the DVD Language Menu on the first screen (before the DVD menu) so you can choose the Descriptive Audio before anything else. Then you just start the movie.**

If you or your sighted helper has questions or problems, please call us at 1-888-388-2460.

# **Large VHS Movie Collection Still Available!**

If you still have a VCR that works, you may still order Descriptive Audio Movies from us! VHS movies will automatically play the Descriptive Audio when you press "Play" on your VCR.

If you would like a catalogue of the VHS movies we have available, please call or write to us. We will be happy to send you a print or braille catalogue.

# **Descriptive DVD Catalog Now Available in Audio!**

by Craig Hayward,  
Systems and Digital Services Librarian

Want to listen to a catalog of our Descriptive DVDs? An audio version is now available on our website. You can access the page by typing in the following address: <http://Statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/lbph/dvs.html>. Or you can go to the Descriptive Video page, and choose the link titled "Listen Now – Descriptive Video Catalog." This catalog is in mp3

**format, which means it's freely available for all to listen from their computer or mobile device without needing a special player. This catalog does not include VHS movies. Please contact the library for a print or braille list of VHS movies.**

## **DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICE**

**Our Descriptive Video Service (DVS) is made possible by the State Library of North Carolina and the Friends of the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. DVS movies have a voice describing actions, characteristics, and dress of the actors as well as details of the scenery or setting. This descriptive voice speaks during the time when there is no dialogue. These videos and movie discs can be enjoyed by everyone, both sighted and visually impaired. Our videos and movie discs play on ordinary VCRs, DVD players, and televisions. The library does not loan or repair video equipment.**

**Currently, we have over 500 videos in our collection, including older and contemporary titles, as well as titles for children.**

**You must be an active library patron to join the DVS club. There is a one-time membership fee of \$20; however, if you lose or damage a movie, you will need to join again by paying another \$20. All movies go through the mail Free Matter for the Blind. Individuals may borrow one movie at a time; institutions may borrow up to three. The loan period is three weeks.**

**When we receive your membership form and fee, we will send you a catalog of DVS titles, which you may use to order movies. The library staff doesn't make movie selections for you; it is your responsibility to ensure that the library has a list of requests. You may send your requests by mail or phone in up to 12 at a time on our toll-free line at 1-888-388-2460. You may send as many requests as you like, but we can't send the movies in any particular order or guarantee a specific time when they will be sent. Please order your movies by catalog number. As we receive a returned movie in the mail, we will send another. Please remember that we only send another movie if you have requests on file, and if your requests are available. As new titles are added to the collection, they will be listed in the library's newsletter, Tar Heel Talk. We update the catalog every two years. If you have questions about the DVS program, call us at 1-888-388-2460. If you would like to subscribe to the program, complete the following form.**

## **Descriptive Video Membership Form**

**Join Today! Complete the form, make your first DVS selections from the list below, and mail to our address on the back of this form.**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

***Return form in envelope with check for \$20, payable to  
FNCLBPH***

Please send my catalog in the following format:

\_\_\_\_\_ Large Print                      \_\_\_\_\_ Braille

## Descriptive Video Order Form

Listed below are recently added Movie Disc titles. To order, check the space beside your selection(s). If you already are a DVS member and don't need to include a check, remove this page and add your information. Fold in half so NCLBPH's address shows, tape it, and mail to us. No postage required.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

X	MD #	Title
— — —	MD001303	The Guilt Trip
— — —	MD001304	The Call
— — —	MD001305	Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters
— — —	MD001306	Broken City
— — —	MD001307	Pain & Gain
— — —	MD00 1308	G.I. Joe: Retaliation
— — —	MD001309	Iron Man 3
— — —	MD001310	Olympus Has Fallen
— — —	MD001311	World War Z
— — —	MD001312	Now You See Me
— — —	MD001313	Epic

Descriptive Video Service  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES  
STATE LIBRARY OF NORTH CAROLINA

**LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND & PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED  
1841 CAPITAL BLVD.  
RALEIGH, NC 27635**

## **Library Closing Dates**

**Veterans' Day**

**Tuesday, November 11, 2014**

**Thanksgiving**

**Thursday & Friday, November 27-28, 2014**

**Christmas**

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday**

**December 24-26, 2014**

## **Come Get Something Noble Today!**

**NOBLE (North Carolina BARD Local) is a service similar to BARD but for locally produced digital braille and digital talking books and magazines available for download. Digital talking books and digital braille volumes will be added quarterly as they become available. All digital talking books available from NOBLE are**

produced in a format that can only be read on an NLS approved player. Just like BARD, downloaded audio files are zipped and need to be unzipped onto a flash drive to play.

The following locally produced Digital Braille Books are available for download:

***Haunted Wilmington...and the Cape Fear Coast***

These fourteen tales of ghostly sightings in southeastern North Carolina date from the early 1800s to the present...some horrifying, some whimsical, some bizarre. All, according to the people who witnessed them, true. For senior high and older readers.

BRX 02132 by Brooks Newton Preik.  
Length one volume.

***More than Petticoats: Remarkable North Carolina Women***

Presents detailed portraits of fourteen extraordinary women from North Carolina's history who transformed the lives of those around them. Discover Emeline Jamison Pigott, a Confederate spy; Mary Martin Sloop, a physician, community leader, and child welfare advocate in the hills of the Blue Ridge Mountains; Maggie Axe Wachacha, a healer, teacher, and Cherokee leader; Cornelia Phillips Spencer, who helped liberate the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and ten others who each directly addressed the challenges of their respective times and places. For senior high and adult readers. Two Volumes.

Volume 1 BRX02133 by Scotti Kent  
Volume 2 BRX02133

**Library Patrons Please Note: This newsletter is available in braille and on digital cartridge. If you would like to receive this publication in braille or digital cartridge, call us toll-free at 1-888-388-2460.**