

VIEWS

Colorado Talking Book Library Newsletter

Fall 2002

Vol. 37 No.3

FROM THE DIRECTOR

This fall the Colorado Talking Book Library in cooperation with the Library of Congress will be starting a publicity campaign to encourage more people who are eligible to use the talking book program to sign up for services. The library staff of Colorado Talking Book Library will be increasing visits to various communities in the state to help publicize the talking book program.

We would like to invite you to help us in our campaign. As active users of this program, you know first hand, how much the talking book program may have changed your life. It is not unusual for staff to hear of someone going years without being able to read a book or magazine, because no one ever told them about the talking book program. We know that most successful campaigns -- political, social, etc. -- start with one person spreading the word. Some of you tell us that you have recommended the services to friends and family, we appreciate your personal endorsement of the service. The Library of Congress estimates that at least 1.4% of the U. S. population is eligible to use the Talking Book program. Colorado's population is estimated to be 4,431,000 which mean that 62,034 people in Colorado are eligible to use the Colorado Talking Book Library. Please be our ambassadors and tell your friends, family, colleagues, and fellow Coloradoans about CTBL. Encourage them to sign up for this free service if they are not able to read regular print because of a handicap. Remember that this service is available in every state, and we can supply you with contact information if your loved ones live outside of Colorado.

If you are interested in helping the Colorado Talking Book Library reach every eligible Coloradan, share our phone number with your friends and family members who wish to sign-up for service.

Thank you,

Barbara Goral

Director,

Colorado Talking Book Library

Computer Updates

Many of you have noticed when you call **CTBL** that we are now asking for your patron number. Recently, we upgraded our in-house computer system so, even though we have spoken to you for years and know who you are, the computer is set up to take your patron number first. You will notice that your patron number is printed on the mailing label of everything we send to you. Please help us out and provide your number on all calls or e-mails to the library. But, don't be discouraged if you can't remember your number, we can find it with a few extra steps. If you would like for us to send your patron number in Large Print or Braille, please contact the library and we would be happy to send a copy for you to keep near your phone.

The Colorado State Board of Education

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|-------------------------------|---|
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This newsletter is a publication of the
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201 E. Colfax Ave.
Denver, CO 80203

- William J. Moloney, Commissioner
- Nancy Bolt, Deputy State Librarian
- Barbara Goral, Supervisor

Important Reminder

Please remember to update your telephone number and address with the **Colorado Talking Book Library** anytime this information changes. Two important numbers that may change even if you don't move are the area code and the zip code assigned to your address. If you live in an area of Colorado that has been assigned a new area code or zip code please call the library to verify that we have the current information on file. This very important step will prevent disruption in your service.

This newsletter is also available in Braille, recorded cassette and on our website. If you would prefer to receive it in an alternative format please call the library and let the Reader Advisor know.

***PUT YOUR TWO CENTS IN –
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE
ON THE STUDENT WEBSITE?***

Colorado Talking Book Library is in the process of developing a website just for students, their teachers, and parents. This website is being assembled in response to an overwhelming demand on our last Student Survey for a place especially for kids.

We know it will include booklists, book reviews, and links to other sites that will help Colorado kids succeed in school and just have fun with mind-expanding activities. One of the very first items on the site will be a survey helping us to fine-tune Family Reading so that it is a reflection of what our readers want, and encourages more CTBL families to become involved in reading.

If there is something special you think the student site needs, please let us know. You can e-mail Alex Hernandez, our webmaster, at Hernandez_a@cde.state.co.us.

You can also send specific student or children's concerns, at any time, to Lois Gross at Gross_l@cde.state.co.us.

This is your chance to help us develop a special place on the internet for children to really grow. Don't miss out on this great opportunity.

**WE'RE LOOKING FOR
PEOPLE WHO LOVE
TO
TALK ABOUT BOOKS**

Everybody's doing it – forming book clubs with friends to get together and talk about books. **Colorado Talking Book Library** would like to start some book clubs, too. If you are interested in attending meetings at the library (probably about once every 3 months), call Lois Gross at **CTBL** and add your name to our list. We would probably meet on a mid-week afternoon and any family member who escorts you to the library would be welcome to attend.

Additionally, if you are a nursing home or senior center activity director who would like to start a book group under **CTBL** direction, we would like to talk to you about that possibility, too. We are also available for single session programs like book talks or library promotions. Call **Lois Gross** or **Barbara Goral**, for more information.

BOOK CLUB TO GO

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following titles are part of our **Book Club to Go** offerings, with a brief description of how these titles might be discussed with friends. For more complete lists, related titles, and questions you can use in your discussions, go to the **Book Club to Go** link on the **CTBL** website.

RC50950 *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay* by Michael Chabon

This Pulitzer Prize-winning book brings a figure from Jewish myth into a post-World War II setting as two young cousins invent a Superhero steeped in legend and magic. The story poses many questions for today, including how escapist fantasies provide refuge from the tragedies of real life. Alternate titles show how the golem legend reoccurs in contemporary literature.

RC44849 *Tuesdays with Morrie: An Old Man, A Young Man, and Life's Greatest Lessons* by Mitch Albom

If you haven't met Morrie, you really should. Author Albom lost track of his favorite college professor while he pursued a career as a sports writer. Not coincidentally, Albom's own life was going out of control. Albom reunites with Morrie Schwartz as the gifted teacher's own life is coming to an end. But this is not a depressing book, because Morrie shares profound insight on how to make every day of our lives worthwhile. Related books explore intergenerational friendships, and how we can all benefit from the wisdom of elders, something rarely done in our contemporary world. Also available as **PR8647/BR12800**

RC42713 *The Color of Water*

by James McBride

Journalist and author McBride grew up in a Brooklyn housing project with his father, a Black minister, and his mother, a white woman who had energetically embraced her husband's ethnic culture and identity. As an adult, McBride learned the secrets of his mother's surprising past and why, in her mind, all races were truly one. Related readings explore the rich and varied messages of many different cultures, and how racial perceptions have changed over the decades. Also available as **PR7011**

RC47006 *Welcome to the World, Baby Girl!* by Fannie Flagg.

When TV anchor Dena Nordstrom runs away from her New York life, she travels back to her roots in a small Arkansas town where people still know her as "Baby Girl," and also remember the mysteries of her past. A feather-light confection about Southern women and their relationships. Other books highlight the popular "female bonding" novel that often makes terrific movies. Also available as **PR8602**



Service to Suit Your Needs

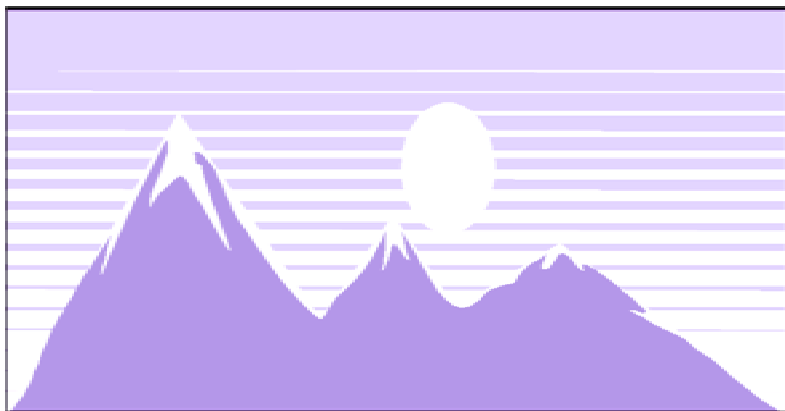
How to Get the Books You Want When You Want Them

1. **Monthly service:** Books are sent out the first Wednesday of every month. The computer will automatically select from your general reading interests (selected on your application). If you call or mail in a list of books we can add those to your request list, and the computer will send those books if they are available before selecting from your general reading categories.
2. **Weekly service:** Books are sent out each week, and patrons may call in to increase or decrease the number of books or temporarily stop service if they have too many on hand. If you call or mail in a list of books, we can add those to your request file, and the computer will send those books if they are available before selecting from your general reading categories.
3. **Automatic selection:** The computer will automatically send out a book as one is returned. If you call or mail in a list of books we can add those to your request file, and the computer will send those books if they are available before selecting from your general reading categories, but these books are selected primarily from subject categories that you chose when you made application.
4. **Nightly list selection:** The computer selects a book from your request list when a book is returned. Selection is made **only from that list**, so it is important that your list has **at least** 50 books on file at all times. Even with that many, if you read primarily westerns, mysteries, or popular authors, the computer may have trouble finding available titles. If the computer finds no titles available, it will not make substitutions.
5. **Call in:** Books are sent only when the patron calls and requests them.

Remember: it is very easy to change the type of service you are receiving to meet your needs. You can change or add subject codes for more specific selections as well as add more titles to your request list. Call the library anytime you would like to make changes to your file.

Please Remember:

- ☞ Only borrow as many books as you can read in a month & return them promptly
- ☞ **Do not write** on cassette tapes or boxes; mark the mailing card if tape is broken
- ☞ Rewind the cassette tapes and descriptive videos before returning them to CTBL



**6th Annual Achieving New Heights
with
Assistive Technology Conference -
*A Rocky Mountain Regional
Collaboration*
Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico,
Utah, Wyoming**

October 24-26, 2002 - Denver, CO

Contact: Assistive Technology Partners
(303) 315-1280 or (800) 255-3477
within Colorado

FAX (303) 837-1208

TTY (303) 837-8964

www.uchsc.edu/atp

Purpose of Conference . . .

to enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through the expanded utilization and the appropriate application of assistive technology. Anyone with an interest in assistive technology devices and services for persons with disabilities is welcome. Breakout sessions will focus on funding issues and legislation, education, employment, hands-on assistive technology training and the design and development of low tech adaptive devices. A limited number of scholarships are available for consumers with disabilities.

Coming Soon

The National Federation of the Blind of Colorado will hold its 2002 state convention in Denver on the first weekend in October. The convention will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel, located at 3203 Quebec Street on October 4th, 5th and 6th. Please come for the Friday evening welcome reception, the convention sessions on Saturday and the business meeting on Sunday morning. For hotel reservations call 303-321-3333 or 1-800-222-TREE. Mention the NFB convention for room rates of \$65.00 per night for single or double and \$75.00 per night for triple or quad. For further information call the NFB at 303-778-1130.

New Descriptive Videos

- VO 172 Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
- VO 173 Shrek
- VO 174 Jurassic Park III
- VO 175 Spy Kids

Any mention of products and services in the **Views** newsletter is for information only and does not imply endorsement.

Tasty Reads Was a Terrific Success

It's hard to believe that we've reached the end of our first Family Reading Program. It's been a wonderful experience, in many ways. We've heard from several of you that it's helped you to establish a special time for family to share books. What a wonderful result for this program.

Thanks, again, to the **Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library** for their continued support of reading activities at **CTBL**. Additional thanks to the following for support and gifts: **Anchor Foods, Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind, Monterey Soundworks, and the Moore family** for the gift of Beanie Babies.

Now for the incredible statistics: ***51 families read, this summer. 72 adults took part, and 96 children. Altogether, our families logged 3985 hours of reading.***

Your "What I Like to Read About" posters are decorating **CTBL**, and thumbnails will be on our website through October 1, so call your far-away family and friends and tell them to look at your creations.

If you had a great experience with Family Reading, please let us know about it. Your stories about Family Reading helping your kids to get "hooked on books" make this program worthwhile. If there are things you feel could be improved to make the program even more successful, next year, let us know about that, too.

Audio Yellow Pages

Audio Yellow Pages are now available anywhere in the USA. Voice Access Communications introduces the Audio Yellow Pages; a free voice activated service for the blind and visually impaired.

Now you can gain access to over 10 million businesses in the United States by dialing one toll-free number, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Just dial **888-654-1236** and enter pass code **4544**. Follow the easy audio instructions to locate virtually any business in any zip code.

Voice Access uses the newest voice recognition technology to create the Audio Yellow Pages. Never again will you have to pay a telephone directory services to find a business phone number. Unlike other directories, the Audio Yellow Pages locates businesses in your specified zip code, and then expands the search to include listings up to 15 miles away to ensure you get a lot of choices.

For more information contact Carl Schmitt at **800-214-4842**.

✂ How to Reach Us

Mailing address:

Colorado Talking Book Library

180 Sheridan Blvd.

Denver, CO 80226

Phone: **(303) 727-9277**

1(800) 685-2136 outside Metro Denver

On the Internet

www.cde.state.co.us/ctbl

Calendar

CTBL will be closed on the following days:

November 28-29

Thanksgiving

December 24-25

Christmas

January 1

New Year's Day

Colorado Department of Education
Colorado Talking Book Library
180 Sheridan Blvd.
Denver, CO 80226

Free Matter
for the Blind
and
Handicapped

The Colorado Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, religion, gender, national origin, or age.