

Talking Book Center News

News & Information from the
Voices of Vision Talking Book Center

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Spring 2006

Spring Cleaning Help us keep talking books circulating! Take a few minutes to check over books currently on loan to you. Returning books as you complete them helps to ensure that you will have a steady supply of books on hand. Let us know if you wish to adjust the number or type of books circulated to you.

Audiobook Narrator Program As part of our year-long celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Talking Book service, a special Internet-based program featuring talking book narrator Bob Askey will be held through OPAL: Online Programming for All Libraries:

<http://www.opal-online.org>

Bob Askey won the 2002 Alexander Scourby Narrator of the Year Award. Mr. Askey received this award from the American Foundation for the Blind in the non-fiction category for his narration of **Life Is So Good** by George Dawson and Richard Glaubman (RC 51912). A narrator of nearly 800 books for the National Library Service, Bob won the first Alexander Scourby Narrator of the Year Award in 1986. Organized by the Illinois State Library Talking Book and Braille Service, this event will take place Thursday, June 15, 2006 at 2:00 P.M. Central Time. For more information about this or other online programs, check the OPAL web site or contact your Readers' Advisor.

INTRODUCING: OUR READER ADVISORS

The four Voices of Vision Readers' Advisors are ready to help you select reading materials. With this issue of the newsletter, we've included an introduction by Sue:

My name is Sue and I've been a Reader's Advisor with Voices of Vision for over six years. I have a lifelong love of reading and have worked in public and college libraries in the past; my degree is in English literature. I enjoy sharing our patrons' enthusiasm for books in any medium. Every day brings something new! The only problem is the huge number of tempting titles I encounter; there is so much to read and so little time. Listening to books offers me the option of multitasking while I am doing mundane chores. My three cats seem to enjoy listening along with me. Our aging dog, on the other hand, is content to act as a footrest regardless of what I'm doing.

I enjoy a wide range of reading interests with a primary focus on fiction: everything from classics to bestsellers, mystery, romance, horror, adventure and science fiction, including young adult titles, which I find offer more story on fewer cassettes. For me, any book that clings to my memory, offers insight, teaches me something new, or makes me wish it were longer, falls within that elusive, highly individualized category known as "a good book."

I hope to be able to help some of you find reading material that gives you satisfaction.

Illinois Library Day is the day each year when members of the library community come together to meet with their legislators and emphasize how important libraries are to the citizens of Illinois. This year's Illinois Library Day was held March 1, 2006. We thank all who participated by submitting letters about the importance of library service. Hundreds of letters were received, which were forwarded to state legislators to deliver the message of the significance of the talking book program and library service.

Celebrate spring's arrival by reading about nature or a book with nature in the title!

Bees, bugs, butterflies and other insects are abundant in the spring; this is a sampling of books about these: **RC 51816 Millions of Monarchs, Bunches of Beetles: How Bugs Find Strength in Numbers** by Gilbert Waldbauer; **RC 50575 Chasing Monarchs: Migrating with the Butterflies of Passage** by Robert Michael Pyle; and **BR 13782 Four Wings and a Prayer: Caught in the Mystery of the Monarch Butterflies** by Sue Halpern; all explore the world of the Monarch butterfly. More books about the insect world include: **RC 46577 In a Desert Garden: Love and Death Among the Insects** by John Alcock, **RC 40360 Journey to the Ants: a Story of Scientific Exploration** by Bert Hölldobler and Edward O. Wilson, and **BR 10272 Broadsides from the other Orders: a Book of Bugs** by Sue Hubbell.

For a different take on nature, following are a few titles with interesting "nature" titles but which are actually about a variety of topics or themes. **RC 54132 Getting the Bugs Out: The Rise, Fall, and Comeback of Volkswagen in America** by David Kiley and **BR 14585 Bug: the Strange Mutations of the World's Most Famous Automobile** by Phil Patton discuss various aspects of the history of Volkswagen. Two novels with "nature" titles are **RC 55533** and **BR 15225 The Secret Life of Bees** by Sue Monk Kidd and **RC 53188 The Peppered Moth** by Margaret Drabble. **RC 31288** and **BR 8200 Who Put the Butter in Butterfly?** by David Feldman explores facts about word derivations.

Call for more information about these or other books on this topic. Or visit our online public access catalog: <http://www.klas.com/ilbph>

RC = Cassette Book

BR = Braille Book

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