

Winter 2023 Newsletter

Hello! I enjoy talking with you and look forward to serving you in 2023. If you have an email address, you are invited to subscribe to NLS announcements by sending an email to nlspes@loc.gov.

Thank you, Tonia Bickford, Great Lakes Talking Books

Virtual Meetings

Patron Corner meeting – March 13, 2023, 7 pm EST

The topic for the next meeting is Locally Produced Books – Building a Collection That is Personal to You. Go to:

<https://loc.zoomgov.com/j/1600612852?pwd=em9KNm14TnpTckFsSlIdYcUdTZzJBdz09>. For information about Patron Corner

meetings, go to: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/about/services/patron-corner/>. For information about the Many Faces of BARD meetings, go to: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/about/services/many-faces-of-BARD/>.

Music Notes meeting – April 25, 2023, 7 pm EST

Music Notes is a new quarterly music appreciation meeting that occurs on the fourth Tuesday of the first month of each quarter, at 7:00 pm EST. Meetings are scheduled on April 25, July 25, and October 24. The topic for the April 25th meeting is “Time Out for ‘Take Five.’” For information about Music Notes, go to

<https://blogs.loc.gov/nls-music-notes/>.

Book News

New NLS catalog

The NLS catalog has been redesigned for use on both desktop computers and mobile devices offering advanced search options and direct links to BARD. Patrons can now suggest books and contact a librarian. Explore the catalog: <https://nlscatalog.loc.gov>.

Search Tip: Use search words *Royalty DB* to find digital talking books with *Royalty* in the title, description, or subject.

Search Tip: Use search words *Michigan DBC* to find locally recorded digital talking books with *Michigan* in the title, description, or subject.

Search Tip: Add *DBG* with your search word to find digital talking books made available courtesy of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind via the Marrakesh Treaty. (English and French)

New book descriptions

Good news! In response to patron wishes, NLS annotations have been replaced with publisher book descriptions.

Local books

DBC 19557 Way Back When by Jerry Harju, narrated by Mark Hamari - Go back in time with this collection of feel-good essays

originally published in the Mining Journal by humorist Jerry Harju describing his life in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

DBC 19558 Danny and the Boys by Robert Traver, narrated by Mark Hamari - Anatomy of a Murder author Robert Traver tells tales full of mischief and pranks pulled by Danny and his four friends who live in Hungry Hollow, deep in the backwoods of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

DBC 13993 Haywire by Ira Farrell - A collection of tales about the teenage years (1905-1925) of Ira Farrell who grew up in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. His father was a logger, and Ira and his brothers and sisters were raised on a farm and attended a country school.

Foreign Language Quarterly (FLQ)

NLS continues to add foreign language books. For more information, go to www.loc.gov/nls/flq.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the Prince Harry book, Spare, available? Soon. To make sure you get a copy of the book, just give me a call at 906-228-7697 or 800-562-8985 Ext. 0. If you use BARD mobile, check "Recently Added to BARD".

Is the NLS survey that I received in the mail legitimate? Yes, NLS contracted with Gallup, a well-known polling and research company, to administer a nationwide survey of NLS patrons.

Where do I find lists of new books? Access lists of new books online at Talking Book Topics: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/braille-audio-reading-materials/latest-books-in-braille-and-audio/talking-book-topics-bimonthly-magazine/>. Not online? Call me at 906-228-7697 or 800-562-8985 Ext. 0 to subscribe to the list in audio format or ask for printed lists from your favorite subject areas.

How do I request books? Call 906-228-7697 or 800-562-8985 Ext. 0., email tb@greatlakestalkingbooks.org, or use the online order form: <https://forms.leo.state.mi.us/et/btbl-order-talking-books-or-braille-materials/>.

How long may I keep book cartridges? Digital talking book cartridges (in the blue plastic cases) are due back in **3 months**. Audio magazine cartridges (in the red plastic cases) are due back in **3 weeks**.

My digital talking book machine isn't working right, can I replace it? Yes. I'll send a replacement machine for free by mail. Just give me a call at 906-228-7697 or 800-562-8985 Ext. 0. There

should be a free shipping label in the old machine box, but if you can't find it, let me know and I'll send you a shipping label.

What's the difference between the NLS BARD Mobile app and the Libby app? The free NLS BARD Mobile app, available only to NLS patrons, offers audiobooks, web braille books and magazines (for use with a refreshable braille display), audio magazines, and music scores; all without waiting lists. The free Libby app, available through a public library membership, offers eBooks, Kindle books, magazines, and audiobooks, which are sometimes subject to waiting lists.

Who do I call for help with independent living? Call the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons in Escanaba at 906-786-8602.

Why am I getting books with violence, sex, or swearing when I asked you not to send them? I'm sorry you've received books with content you don't want. Unfortunately, some books are "unrated" and aren't excluded. We have a couple ways to work around this issue, just give me a call at 906-228-7697 or 800-562-8985 Ext. 0 and we'll figure it out.

Are Bibles available on audio cartridge? Yes, we have many different bibles including the New American, Jerusalem, New

International, King James, Pure Voice, and Message. Just give me a call at 906-228-7697 or 800-562-8985 Ext. 0.

What can I do if the NLS collection doesn't offer a religious

text I want to read? The Xavier Society for the Blind provides spiritual and inspirational braille and audio materials to blind and visually impaired people. Their audiobook cartridges are compatible with the NLS digital talking book machine. Call 800-637-9193 or visit xaviersocietyfortheblind.org.

What are some online resources for assistive technology or adaptive equipment?

Able zone – Magnifiers and more at <http://www.ablezone.com/>

Maxi aids – Vision, Deaf, and Mobility at <https://www.maxiaids.com/>

AT guys – Access experts at <https://www.atguys.com/store/index.php>

Eschenbach – High quality magnification solutions including low vision aids, reading glasses and binoculars at <https://eschenbach.com/>

By the Numbers

The count of Great Lakes Talking Books patrons by county:

County	Patron Count
Alger	12
Alpena	35
Baraga	5
Chippewa	43
Crawford	10
Delta	60
Dickinson	40
Gogebic	20
Houghton	28
Iron	23
Keweenaw	5
Luce	7
Mackinac	11
Marquette	119
Menominee	38
Ontonagon	15
Schoolcraft	14

485

Patrons

93

BARD users

46

GLTB organizations

11

Michigan Advisory and
Outreach Centers

1931

The year an Act of Congress established the NLS.

**Great Lakes Talking Books
1615 Presque Isle Avenue
Marquette, MI 49855-2811**

**FREE
MATTER
FOR THE
BLIND**



Great Lakes Talking Books. A free braille and talking book library service for people with temporary or permanent low vision, blindness, a reading disability, or a physical disability that prevents reading or holding the printed page.

Reader Advisor	Tonia Bickford
Email	tb@greatlakestalkingbooks.org
Local	906-228-7697 or 800-562-8985, Ext. 0
Visit our website at	https://greatlakestalkingbooks.org
We are open	Monday, Tuesday, and Thurs from 9 – 5