

Ohio Talking Book Program

Sublending Agency Training

The State Library of Ohio
June 4, 2014



Service Updates for 2014



Annual Patron Event

- Family Fun and Learning Day is Wednesday, July 16, 2014 in Cleveland at OLBDP from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- National Library Service (NLS) Network Services Section Head Vickie Collins will provide a network update and answer questions related to the NLS library service.
- Local columnist and author Terry Pluto is the author of twenty-three books, including “Joe Tait: It’s Been a Real Ball” which is being locally produced and will be available to patrons on digital cartridge and on BARD.
- Free lunch and exhibits of interest to our patrons
- Tour the library, meet staff, learn about adaptive technology



Local Books on BARD

- NLS is prepared to begin receiving network-produced audio books for posting on BARD ~ books produced by libraries
- OLBPD is planning to add more locally produced audio books of Ohio interest, including local authors, settings, etc
- More locally produced audio books from other regional libraries will become available to all patrons through BARD
- Locally produced titles will also be available on cartridge
- Serves to expand the collection



Conference Notes

- Expand the collection through the incorporation of more commercially produced audio books.
- Approximately 22,000 cassette titles are still awaiting conversion to digital cartridge. NLS converts roughly 5,000 books from cassette to digital cartridge per year so it could take an additional four to five years to complete the RC conversion.
- NLS reported that there are nearly 60,000 individuals and 2,000 institutions actively registered for BARD. In 2013, BARD users borrowed more than three million titles.



Conference Notes

- The development of the BARD mobile Android app continues, and braille functionality remains a major challenge delaying the apps development and release.
- With respect to the BARD mobile Apple app, nearly 11,000 users registered over 17,000 Apple devices for use.
- NLS is developing the first upgrade to the Apple app – version 1.1 – that will feature improvements with braille connectivity, a sleep timer, continual downloading while the device is auto-locked, improved search functions, and stronger compatibility with VoiceOver not talking over the player's voice.



Conference Notes

Long range plans and service in the future:

- Refreshable braille display readers in place of hard copy braille production.
- The next generation of digital talking book players featuring:
 - Wireless internet and Cloud connectivity
 - Built in text to speech engine capable of reading ebooks
 - Electronically delivered titles versus physical cartridges through the mail.



Other Services

- Monthly book club discussions
- Braille advocacy and resources
- Virtual outreach and promotion – Social media
- Kids and teens reading clubs



QUESTIONS

Will Reed, OLBDP Manager

Email: will.reed@cpl.org

Phone: 1-800-362-1262

