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Editor: Dakota Saukel

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE LIBRARY
BRAILLE AND TALKING BOOK LBRARY

PRAIRIE TRAILS NEWSLETTER

Notes from the Director, Dan Boyd

Every two or three years the South Dakota Braille & Talking Book Library sends a survey out to all of our patrons. There are two reasons for sending you this survey document and asking you to complete the survey and return it to the library.

The first reason for this document is that it is required by the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind & Physically Handicapped (NLS). We take the data from your surveys and provide a report to NLS. This report provides NLS with information on the level of service that we are providing to our patrons. It shows NLS what we are doing well and also where we need to make improvements. The information from our report and from the other NLS libraries is provided in a report to The Librarian of Congress and the members of Congress. This information is then used as documentation for budget requests and other enhancements to the program.

In South Dakota with over 5,000 individuals using the library this is the fastest way for us to get information on the quality of our service. The library takes the information from the survey and uses it to make improvements in our service and at times as supporting documentation during budget hearings.

In the past the only way to complete the survey was to use the paper copy that we sent you in the mail. This survey document is being placed on our Internet site and you can now complete the survey on line. To access the survey go to http://library.sd.gov/b&tb/ . Under latest news, the first item is B&TB Patron Survey 2009. Click on this link and it will bring up the survey for your completion.

If you have problems completing the survey on line or completing the paper copy please contact the library at 1-800-423-6665 and ask your Reader Advisor to assist you with completion of the survey.

I encourage you to complete the survey and be part of the planning for the future of your Braille & Talking Book Library.

Books in Series

Many authors write books in a series. Some series are written in a strict reading order. Others are not. Many times, it is your preference about how you read a series.

The library computer software has a series feature. Each person's library record includes a series preferences section. At your request, your reader advisor will add a specific book series to your preference section. Once a series is listed in your series preferences section, the software will send the books in series order, one title at a time. You do not have to order any additional titles in the series.

Library staff does not automatically add any series to the series preference section. If you receive a book that is part of a series and you wish to receive the series in sequence, please contact us.

Read This To Me

ReadThisToMe is a free reading service for blind and low-vision people, powered by volunteers and Internet collaboration.

ReadThisToMe allows blind and low-vision people (clients) to have printed documents read to them over the phone. All a person needs is a phone line and a fax machine (no computer is required.) Here's how it works:

1. The client faxes the document to be read to the ReadThisToMe toll-free fax number: 1-877-333-8848. The first page of the fax needs to be a cover page that includes the client's first name and callback (voice) phone number. The document itself can be just about anything: a handwritten letter, a bill, a can of food, a multi-page magazine article -- just about anything that can be faxed.
2. One of ReadThisToMe's volunteer readers will call the client back — usually within an hour — and read the document.
3. That's it!

The service is available throughout the U.S. and Canada and is absolutely free (though donations are gladly accepted).

The Braille & Talking Book Library will be closed on the following holiday. Please place your book orders in advance so that you will have plenty on hand.

January 19—Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February 16—President's Day

From the desk of Mary Sjerven

The following books have been added to our South Dakota Collection. These are books written by a South Dakotan, are about South Dakota, or are books you, our readers, have requested. To order call your Reader Advisor.

SD004238 Great Spirit Horse by Linda Little Wolf
Let me introduce myself. My name is Sunka Wakan (Shoon kan Wan-kahn), the Great Sprit Horse. I guess you could say that I am a very unique animal. I was born different from most horses. My birthplace was the Great Plains some 250 years ago. I know that makes me very old, but I have lived all these years because I have become a legend. You see, legends never die. They lie on forever in the hearts of those who love to hear them. SD004238

SD004240 Stepping Heavenward by Elizabeth Prentiss
"How dreadfully old I am getting! Sixteen!" writes Katherine in her brand new journal of January 15, 1831. Her heartfelt words mark the start of your own unforgettable journey following Katherine as her life unfolds from sweet sixteen to her grown up later years. As she learns that happiness is found in giving oneself to others, you, too, will be immeasurably encouraged to step heavenward - to live with greater godliness, humility, tranquility, and hope. SD004240

SD004241 Between Two Worlds: Escape from Tyranny, Growing Up In The Shadows of Saddam by Zainab Saldi
Zainab Salbi was eleven years old when her father was chosen to be Saddam Hussein's personal pilot and her family was grafted into his. Her mother, the beautiful Alia, taught her daughter the skills she needed to survive. A plastic smile. Saying yes. Burying in boxes in her mind the horrors she glimpsed around her. "Learn to erase your memories," she instructed. "He can read eyes." In this richly visual, highly anticipated memoir, a global leader in the fight on behalf of

women victims of war reveals ties to a dictator that fear had kept sealed up inside her for years. She describes tyranny as she saw it --though the eyes of a privileged child, a rebellious teenager, a violated wife, and ultimately a public figure fighting to overcome the skill that once kept her alive: silence. SD004241

SD004242 <u>The Truth Seeker: The O'Malley Series Book 3</u> By Dee Henderson
Women are turning up dead. And Lisa O'Malley has a habit of walking into crime scenes, curious. She's a forensic pathologist and mysteries are her domain. U.S. Marshal Quinn Diamond has found loving her is easier than keeping her safe. Lisa's found the killer, and now she's missing too… SD004242

SD004243 <u>The Protector: The O'Malley Series Book 4</u> by Dee Henderson
Jack O'Malley is a fireman who is fearless when it comes to facing an inferno. But when an arsonist begins targeting his district, his shift, his friends, Jack faces the ultimate challenge: protecting the lady who saw the arsonist before she pays an even higher price… SD004243

SD004244 <u>The Healer: The O'Malley Series Book 5</u> by Dee Henderson
Rachel O'Malley works disasters for a living, her specialty helping children through trauma. When a school shooting rips through her community, she finds herself dealing with more than just grief among the children she is trying to help. There's a secret. One of them was there. One of them saw the shooting. And the gun is still missing... SD004244

SD004245 <u>The Dark Hills Divide: The Land of Elyon Book 1</u> By Patrick Carman
When she finds the key to a secret passageway leading out of the walled city of Bridewell, twelve-year-old Alexa realizes her lifelong wish to explore the mysterious forests and mountains that lie beyond the wall. SD004245

SD004246 Beyond The Valley of Thorns: the Land of Elyon Book 2 by Patrick Carman

When thirteen-year-old Alexa embarks on a mysterious quest, she finds her old friends Yipes the little man, Murphy the squirrel, Odessa the wolf, and Squire the hawk have been designated to help her. SD004246

SD004247 Showdown At Little Big Horn By Dee Brown

Acclaimed historian, Dee Brown, traces the events of the day and of the weeks before, through the eyes and ears of seventeen participants from both sides, including Natives, scouts, soldiers, and civilians. Why did Custer divide his forces? Why did he not take his regiment's Gatling guns? Why did he expect Sitting Bull to surrender without a fight? How did Sitting Bull's vision at the sun dance on the Rosebud foretell the occasion and the outcome of the battle? How did war chiefs Crazy Horse and Gall take advantage of Custer's tactical errors? And why did they preserve Custer's body from mutilation? SD004247

SD004248 Boss Cowman: The Recollections of Ed Lemmon 1857-1940 by Ed Lemmon

Ed Lemmon had no notches on his gun, no medals for bronc busting or prizes for toping or trick riding. But according to the National Livestock Association, he held the world's record for saddle handling more cattle (over one million head) in his lifetime than any other man. He also held the record for the largest number of cattle (nine hundred) cut out, roped, and brought to the branding fire in a single working day. In his years on the range he was a cowhand, trail rider, wagon boss, range manager, and ranch owner. He covered virtually every foot of the range in western South Dakota and parts of Wyoming, Montana, and Nebraska on horseback, and once knew every important brand in the West. This South Dakota author writes of his career as a cowman. SD004248

SD004249 The American Cowboy In Life And Legend by Bert McDonald

Across the Great Plains snow fell every day but three that terrible month in February of 1887. Stranded cattle starved and froze to death by the thousand. Fortunes evaporated as ranch after ranch went under; the bottom dropped out of the beef market. Murderous blizzards herded the end of the Old West, an end hastened by railroads and barbed wire, by farms and sheep men streaming west to the prairies. SD004249

SD004250 The Tenth City: The Land of Elyon Book 3 by Patrick Carman

Alexa reveals the origin of the Land of Elyon while defending it against the evil Abandon and his sinister forces, with not only the last Jocasta at stake but also the nature of the land itself. SD004250

SD004277 Pocahontas and the Stranger by Clyde Robert Bulla

This award-winning biography tells the story of the Indian princess, Pocahontas, who risked her life to save Captain John Smith and to bring peace between the Indians and the English. SD004277

SD004281 How to Raise and Train Pigeons by William H. Allen

Pigeon-raising, one of the oldest hobbies known to man, is becoming more and more popular. Even people with limited space are finding great satisfaction in raising, training and breeding one or more varieties of pigeons. This basic handbook removes the mystery from the hobby and explains everything the beginner needs to know. The concise text leads the beginner through all the steps - from selecting the birds to housing, feeding, breeding, and keeping them healthy. A special section devoted to raising and training Racing Homers clearly tells how to prepare the birds for the race. SD004281

SD004282 Happy Healing Ground by Stanley Vestal

It was summer. The cottonwoods along the river shimmered in the hot noon sun. there was the silence of the prairie begins the fictional story of the Indians of North America. My purpose is the present, a comprehensive picture of Plains Indian life - the Indian seen against his proper background, as he was a century or more ago, without a mixture of civilized comceptions. SD004282

SD004283 Jumping Off Place By Marian Hurd McNeely
In the early 1900s, as four young homesteaders in Tripp County, South Dakota, work hard to prepare for the coming winter; they face drought, discomfort, and sabotaging squatters but find new friends and inner strength to carry on. A Newbery Honor Book.

The Prairie Trails Newsletter, published quarterly, is our means of communication with our patrons. The Prairie Trails Newsletter is available in Braille, cassette, large print, and is also posted on our website.

If you have any questions or comments that you would like to share with us about the library program or if you would like to request the newsletter in an alternative format, please contact the SD Braille & Talking Book Library.

Write: South Dakota Braille & Talking Book Library
800 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501

E-mail: talkbkreq@state.sd.us

Call: 1-800-423-6665

The Braille & Talking Book Library does not endorse any product or service listed in this newsletter.