

# WHAT's Line

Alabama Public Library Service

Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

[www.statelibrary.alabama.gov](http://www.statelibrary.alabama.gov)



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## *Dining in the Dark*

A unique Dining in the Dark event occurred on October 21<sup>st</sup> at the Alley Station restaurant in Montgomery. Sponsored by the Montgomery EMERGE Torchbearers Leadership Class IV, the event served as a fundraiser for the BPH Consumer Advisory Committee while raising awareness about the impact of visual impairments and blindness in the River Region. As the evening began, guests were seated and listened to an introduction. Then the room's lights were turned off as waiters equipped with night vision goggles served dinner. After the meal, the lights were turned on, and BPH Librarian Ruth Evans and BPH Reader Advisor Tim Emmons spoke about BPH services. Attendees were able to discuss their dining experience and bid in a silent auction. Many thanks go out to the Torchbearers for an amazing evening and for the generous support of the donors.



Three of the Torchbearers Class members present the Dining in the Dark donation to BPH staff. Standing from left to right (in front of a statue of Helen Keller): BPH Reader Advisor Tim Emmons; BPH Librarian Ruth Evans; Cozetta Shannon; Tobarie Burton; Yeteva Johnson

## ***Digital Player Battery Life***

To prolong the life of the digital player battery, you should not let the digital player battery run all the way down before recharging it. When recharging, let the battery charge for at least four to five hours. Many patrons plug their players in to charge at bedtime. If it will not charge, despite your best efforts, call the library to receive a replacement machine.

If you use a flash drive (a.k.a. thumb drive or USB drive) your battery life will be reduced, so you need to be especially diligent about charging your player.

## ***Holiday Closures***

BPH will be closed for the following holidays:

2/18/13 - George Washington/  
Thomas Jefferson's Birthday

4/22/13 - Confederate Memorial Day

5/27/13 - National Memorial Day

\*\*Of course, you can always leave us a voicemail message or send an email on a holiday.

## ***Fiscal Year 2012 Circulation***

From October 2011 through September 2012, BPH circulated 138,524 special format volumes to 6,088 patrons and 218 institutions. BPH mailed out 71,004 digital books, 67,600 recorded cassettes, and 944 Braille items, averaging 11,600 volumes mailed per month. In addition, 634 interlibrary loans were provided to sub regional library patrons. There were 1,282 digital book machines and 1,094 cassette book machines shipped to patrons.

BARD patrons downloaded a total of 34,976 books and 781 magazines. BPH staff downloaded 4,254 books for 50 Download Alabama patrons.

## ***Voice Dream Application***

Voice Dream is a text to speech application for iDevices that lets you read Bookshare titles, Project Gutenberg titles, epub files, iBooks, Word documents, and PDFs. The app costs is \$9.99 in the iTunes app store. Please call Tim Emmons (800-392-5671 or 334-213-3908) for more information about this application and other assistive technology applications and devices.

## ***Need an Author Recommendation? Call Your BPH Reader Advisor!***

Have you read everything by Louis L'Amour? Are your favorite authors not publishing fast enough for you? You can always try other writers whose similar writing style and genre could make them appealing.

Here are a few suggestions:

- If you like Janette Oke, you might enjoy Lori Wick, Francine Rivers, Jan Karon, Judith Pella, or Beverly Lewis.
- If you like Louis L'Amour, you might enjoy Max Brand, Ralph Compton, Zane Grey, William Johnstone, Luran Paine, J.R. Roberts, Jon Sharpe, or Richard Wheeler.
- If you like Lillian Jackson Braun, you might enjoy Rita Mae Brown, Susan Conant, Carole Nelson Douglas, Carolyn Hart, or Tamara Myers.

## ***BPH Fieldtrip***

First graders from Cornerstone Academy in Montgomery visited BPH on November 27<sup>th</sup>. The class recently learned about their five senses, so BPH Reader Advisor Tim Emmons taught them a little about what it is like to be visually impaired. While touring BPH, Tim showed the students a collection of games and toys for the blind.



## ***Special Thank You***

On behalf of the BPH Consumer Advisory Committee, we would like to thank our 2012 donors:

- Dwight Evers
- Hope Hull UMW
- Herbert and Rivalee Husid
- Ruth Miehler
- Harriet Bates and Frankie DeFord
- In memory of Edith Hughes



**Regional Library for the  
Blind and Physically  
Handicapped**  
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## WhAT's Line

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