

# WHAT's Line

Alabama Public Library Service

Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

www.statelibrary.alabama.gov



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## Download Alabama Participants

If you are currently participating in the Download Alabama Program, we would like to remind you of the program guidelines, which will help us in the download process. It is your responsibility to mail in or call us with book numbers or authors you would like to read, then we can add these books to your request list and download up to ten of them on a cartridge. If some of your requests are available, they will come to you as single digital books, part of the regular Talking Book Program.

We would like to dissuade you from asking for topics (mysteries, humor, etc.) for your download cartridges, since our system is set up to send you these topics automatically if you chose them on your application or later asked for certain topics. Please call if you have questions about these guidelines.

*The Download Alabama program is available to patrons without computers and/or high-speed Internet access and to patrons unable to understand the BARD download process. Please call if you would like to become a Download Alabama patron!*

## Download Reader's Digest

While the National Library Service (NLS) now sends its magazines out on digital cartridges, the American Printing House (APH) still mails patrons the cassette version of *Reader's Digest* and *Newsweek*. As of now, APH has no plans to convert these magazines to digital cartridge; however, if you don't want to receive the cassettes and still want these magazines, you can download them from the APH website onto a flash drive or blank cartridge. Please visit <http://tech.aph.org/mags/> for more information.

## Fizz, Boom, Read!



Summertime is a fun time for readers of all ages! The themes for the 2014 Summer Reading Program at the Regional Library are: Fizz, Boom, Read! (children), Spark a Reaction! (teen), and Literary Elements (adult).

The program will run from June 1 through July 31. All participants will receive a reading log, a reading certificate, stickers, a bookmark, and a prize. To register or for more information, call 1-800-392-5671 and ask for Tim Emmons or Mike Coleman.

## There's More Than One Way To Skin a BARD!

By Tim Emmons

There are a few ways to download BARD books if you are using a Mac or Windows PC using the built-in Internet browsers (Safari or Internet Explorer). Additionally, you can use Google Chrome, a browser created by Google that allows for a lot of flexibility when it comes to downloading books from BARD.

Google Chrome gives you the same experience on the webpage as you normally have using Safari or Internet Explorer, but under the hood is where it shines the most. With Chrome, you can download ten or more books successively, rather than three to four books with the others.

Once downloaded, each book has to be unzipped, but this only takes a few seconds. To unzip the file, press command zero or double click the file. The unzipped books can then be transferred from your hard drive with ease.

Please call us if you have any questions about this faster download method.

## **BARD Keeps Sailor Connected**

The National Library Service (NLS) received a letter from a patron with glaucoma, who joined her husband in his dream of sailing around the world. Here is an excerpt from the letter:

**“All my preconceptions about audio books were wrong. I’m downloading all the great books I’ve wanted to read over the years. At night, the DTBM’s brilliant 15-minute sleep function lulls me off to sleep.**

**The introduction of the BARD Mobile app is a wonderful thing. Having books on my iPhone will open up a thrilling new world to me. Next time we make a passage I’m going to have my current read on an iPhone in a waterproof pocket. What could be better than watching the sunset and the waves, or the moon and stars above, while listening to a brilliant book? For people like me who have disabilities, but don’t want to be deterred from adventure, the NLS BARD system is a priceless gift.”**

## **Fiscal Year 2013 Circulation**

From October 2012 through September 2013, BPH circulated 138,508 special format volumes to 5,496 patrons and 103 institutions. 88,732 digital books, 48,664 recorded cassettes, and 1,112 Braille items were sent, averaging 11,542 volumes mailed per month. In addition, 435 interlibrary loans were provided to subregional library patrons. There were 1,415 digital book machines and 761 cassette book machines mailed to patrons.

In FY13, BARD patrons downloaded 48,489 audio books, 1,751 audio magazines, 1,561 Braille books, 82 Braille magazines, and 247 music items.

### **Holiday Closures**

The Library will be closed on the following holidays:

5/26/14 – Memorial Day

6/2/14 – Jefferson Davis’s Birthday

7/4/14 – Independence Day

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



**Regional Library for the  
Blind and Physically  
Handicapped**  
6030 Monticello Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36130

Free Material  
for the Blind  
and Physically  
Handicapped

Address Service Requested

## WhAT's Line

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