

Getting Books from CTBL — Your Questions Answered

Earlier this year, the Library Research Service administered the biennial survey for patrons of the Colorado Talking Book Library. During the survey, patrons raised many of the same questions and comments. To assist all our patrons, we thought it might be helpful to address some of these concerns and questions in our newsletter.

I get too many books or There are too many books on a cartridge.

We can customize the number of books you receive in several ways.

- The number of cartridges you receive can be adjusted to between 1 and 4 at a time.
- The number of books on each cartridge can be set from 1 to 20 books. So, if you're getting too many books we can lower the number and if you're not getting enough books we can raise the number.
- Also remember, the cartridges don't have a due date. If it takes you a while to read the 10 books on a cartridge, it's not a problem.
- And finally, the way our service works is that when we get a cartridge back from you, we will automatically send another one out to you.



An audio book cartridge being scanned before being mailed to a CTBL patron.

From the Director

Hope this finds you enjoying the fall season. Whether you enjoy football, going back to school, or just the cooler weather, there's a lot to love about fall. And, for those of you who love pumpkin spice everything, this is your season!

October marks the one-year anniversary of the distribution of the Humanware braille e-Readers in Colorado. CTBL has distributed 190 e-Readers throughout the state, and we continue to send out machines every week. Patrons tell us they love the convenience of the e-Reader. Just this afternoon a patron told us the e-Reader is a "big hit" with all the braille readers she knows.

Are you a braille reader and don't yet have an e-Reader? Would you like to try one? Give CTBL a call, we still have e-Readers available and would be happy to send one to you. Of course, you can still get print braille books, too!

In this edition of the CTBL News you'll find several curated reading lists, including lists focused on Holiday Reads, Food Fiction, and locally recorded audio books. There is also a list of selected new large print titles and descriptive video. Look for articles about assistive technology and a wrap-up of the summer reading program.

Cheers!

Nicolle

CTBL will be closed on the following days in 2023 and 2024: November 23rd and 24th, December 25th and 26th, and January 1st and 15th

Your Questions Answered continued from page 1

I'm not interested in the books I'm receiving or I would like to only get the books I request.

- If you are receiving books, subjects, or authors you are not interested in, please call one of our Reader Advisors and they will help you adjust your preferences to get more books in areas you will enjoy.
- To only get books that you request, call the library and a Reader Advisor will adjust your account to either only send you a cartridge when you call to ask for one or to only send cartridges with books from your request list.
- Reader Advisors can also offer suggestions for new books to read
 if you're having difficulties coming up with new titles.

I want more or all of the books in a series on one cartridge.

Our system defaults to sending 2 books from a series at a time.
However, if you would prefer to get a single cartridge with the
entire series on it, let one of our Reader Advisors know and they
can create a cartridge for you. Note that some longer series will
not fit on a single cartridge.

Remember, if you are having any problems with your service or the type of books you are receiving, call 303-727-9277 or 800-685-2136 and ask for a Reader Advisor. They are always happy to help you adjust your account to get materials you will enjoy or to make suggestions for new titles for you to read. If you prefer, email your questions and comments to ctbl.info@cde.state. co.us. We love to hear from you!



A Reader Advisor talks with CTBL patron on the phone.

Summer Reading Wrap-Up

By Judy Craigo-Robb

Summer 2023 saw the launch of Colorado Talking Book Library's first all-ages Summer Reading program. Throughout the summer participants across Colorado worked to complete 10 activities from our summer reading activity guide.

It seems like folks enjoyed spending time with old literary friends this summer because of the 35 activities to choose from, rereading a favorite book was the activity completed by nearly every participant. Hopefully readers were also able to discover new favorites while working on their summer reading activities!

In addition to the suggested activities CTBL provided, the National Library Service (NLS) presented a variety of events ranging from a story time for younger readers to series of author talks featuring well known authors such as Kwame Alexander and Shelby Van Pelt. This was NLS's first year offering programming, and it will be exciting to see what they plan next summer.

Finally, keeping with the All Together NowTM theme, folks had the opportunity to vote for an organization that the Friends of CTBL would donate to at the end of the program and Freedom Service Dogs was the winner! Thanks to those who voted and completed the program we were able to make a positive impact in our community. We hope you enjoyed Summer Reading this year and will join us in Summer 2024.

If you missed out on Summer Reading, or if you just love a reading challenge, Winter Reading is just around the corner! More information will be available on our website after the new year. Until then, Happy Reading!

Tech Talk — PENfriend3 Voice Labeller

You may have heard of the PENfriend, since it was originally introduced in 2007. But the latest version also functions as a talking book and mp3 player.

The PENfriend enables you to record your own audio labels for a wide range of items in and around the home, at school, and on the way to work. To identify an item, touch the label with PENfriend and it will play back your voice recording! Labels can be re-used and can play back up to 60 minutes of content.

More information and videos about PENfriend are available at: https://www.penfriendlabeller.com/

Using Colorado's Accessible Ballot Delivery and Return System

By Curtis Chong

Starting October 16, 2023, ballots for the November 7 coordinated election will be mailed out to registered voters in Colorado. For people with disabilities, those who are blind, and individuals who are unable to mark the printed mail ballot without assistance, this means that on that date, Colorado's accessible electronic ballot delivery, marking, and return system will be open and available to be used. In Colorado, people with disabilities can obtain and mark their ballots at home using the access technology with which they are most familiar. People with print disabilities can also return their ballots electronically.

Step-by-step instructions and important contact information can be found on the CTBL website at: bit.ly/3Rk8raW.

News from the Center for Inclusive Design and Engineering

New Resources to Help Individuals with Disabilities Acquire Assistive Technology

The Assistive Technology Program of Colorado, a project of the Center for Inclusive Design and Engineering (CIDE) at the University of Colorado Denver, can help individuals with disabilities lead more independent lives through the use of Assistive Technology (AT). The CIDE team works together with stakeholders throughout Colorado to provide AT information and assistance to individuals with disabilities, seniors, and their service providers. AT devices can make an incredible impact on the lives of users and their caretakers. CIDE wants to ensure that these devices remain accessible despite someone's financial status. Two resources are now available to help individuals with disabilities and their families and providers find (and fund) AT devices and services.

The CIDE AT Funding Sources is a searchable database to help identify these potential funding sources. Once a potential funding source is identified, the site directs users to more information and instructions on how to apply for funding. The CIDE AT Funding Sources Flyer (PDF) provides more information and instructions on how to utilize the database.

The CIDE AT Exchange is an online tool and resource that assists individuals, and organizations, in obtaining used AT devices or equipment for little or no cost. You can also post equipment you no longer need to the site. This service allows users to search posted items available within Colorado. Any devices or equipment obtained from AT Exchange should be based on a professional evaluation and recommendation from an Assistive Technology Specialist to ensure proper usage and fit.

The CIDE AT Exchange Flyer (PDF) provides directions on how to find affordable assistive technology solutions.

For more information and access to these resources visit the CIDE website at: https://www.ucdenver.edu/centers/center-for-inclusivedesign-and-engineering

Genre Fiction: Finding the Books You Like to Read Food Fiction

Love & Saffron: A Novel of Friendship, Food, and Love

Written by Kim Fay ** Narrated by Cassandra Campbell

In 1962, Joan Bergstrom, a twenty-seven-year-old just starting out as a food writer in Los Angeles, sends a fan letter and a gift of saffron to fifty-nine-year-old Imogen Fortier, a columnist from the Pacific Northwest. Their correspondence turns into a life-changing friendship. Unrated. Fiction. Audio DB106798; Large Print PR031637; Braille BR024218

Amish Cooking Class (Books 1-3)

Written by Wanda E. Brunstetter ** Narrated by Deborah Desmone Three novels — with recipes included — about a cooking class held at an Amish farm in Ohio. In The Seekers, Heidi Troyer decides to start the classes, gathering an unexpected group of students who all need healing. Also includes The Blessing and The Celebration. Fiction. Audio DB0904998

The Hundred-foot Journey: A Novel

Written by Richard Morais ** Narrated by Barry Bernson

Born above his grandfather's modest restaurant in Mumbai, Hassan Haji first experienced life through intoxicating whiffs of spicy fish curry, trips to the local markets, and gourmet outings with his mother. But when tragedy pushes the family out of India, they console themselves by eating their way around the world, eventually settling in Lumière, a small village in the French Alps. The boisterous Haji family takes Lumière by storm, opening an inexpensive Indian restaurant opposite the esteemed French relais of the famous chef Madame Mallory. Some violence. Fiction.

Audio DB084747; Large Print PR023273; Braille BR021533

Genre Fiction continued from page 7

Natalie Tan's Book of Luck and Fortune

Written by Roselle Lim ** Narrated by Catherine Ho

Natalie Tan returns to San Francisco's Chinatown when her mother dies only to find her once-vibrant street in decline. She learns she has inherited her grandmother's long-shuttered restaurant and a recipe book, and decides to re-open the restaurant and bring life back to the neighborhood. Fiction. Audio DB095463; Large Print PR029780

Kitchens of the Great Midwest

Written by J. Ryan Stradal ** Narrated by Michael Stuhlbarg

Chef Eva Thorvald came by her love of food as the daughter of a chef and a sommelier. Her mother left and her father died, but cooking sustained her through an awkward childhood. She went on to become one of the hottest chefs in America. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Fiction. Audio DB082282; Large Print PR023962; Braille BR021172

Need even more recommendations?

Talk to a CTBL Reader Advisor at 303-727-9277.

Key to Book Numbers

Each book number is proceeded by two or three letters. These letters indicate the book's format. Here's a quick guide to help you get the book you want in the format that works best for you.

BR = braille book

DB = digital audio book

DBC = locally recorded digital audio book

PR = large print book

Holiday Reads: Ten Books for the Winter Season

A Week in Winter

Written by Maeve Binchy ** Narrated by Martha Harmon Pardee Chicky Starr returns home to Stoneybridge in western Ireland after twenty years in New York City. Chicky restores a dilapidated mansion and makes it into a boutique hotel with the help of her niece and a friend's son. A motley crew of characters become their first guests. Fiction. Audio DB076309; Large Print PR020985

Winter Nights

Written by Francis Ray ** Narrated by Colleen Delany

Three holiday romances featuring African Americans. In "Until Christmas" Samantha becomes a housekeeper for Principal Rawlings and his twins. "Kwanzaa Angel" finds Erin being reintroduced to an old high school crush. In "Round Midnight" radio talk-show host Summer falls in love with her director. Some descriptions of sex. Fiction.

Audio DB052196

Skipping Christmas

Written by John Grisham ** Narrated by Steven Carpenter

Tax accountant Luther Krank calculates that a Caribbean cruise will cost less than what he and his wife, Nora, spent celebrating the holidays last year. Since daughter Blair is in the Peace Corps, they plan to skip Christmas. Luther, however, doesn't anticipate the town's reaction. Some strong language. Fiction. Audio DB052929;

Large Print PR011035

Holiday Reads continued from page 9

Hanukkah Lights: Stories of the Season From NPR's Annual Holiday Special Stories of the Season

By National Public Radio ** Narrated by Suzanne Toren

Twelve stories celebrating Hanukkah by contemporary authors Myra Goldberg, Daniel Pinkwater, Harlan Ellison, Dani Shapiro, Elie Wiesel, Mark Helprin, and others. In Anne Roiphe's "The Demon Foiled," a new Jewish mayor attempts to light the family Hanukkah candles while he is being filmed for local TV. Fiction. Audio DB062028

A Christmas Memory

Written by Truman Capote ** Narrated by John Stratton

A late November morning and the exclamation "Oh my, it's fruitcake weather," conjure up for Truman Capote the memory of a beloved cousin, Miss Sook Faulk, and Queenie, a little rat terrier "who has survived distemper and two rattlesnake bites." They make fruitcake on this, their last Christmas together. Fiction. Audio DB030913

Winter Solstice

Written by Rosamunde Pilcher ** Narrated by Vanessa Maroney Elfrida, a retired actress; Oscar, a recent widower; Carrie, recovering from a love affair; Lucy, Carrie's niece; and Sam, deserted by his wife, spend the winter solstice in a Scottish cottage, where they form a lasting bond that allows them to recover from their various challenges and losses. Fiction. Audio DB050844; Large Print PR009673

Wandering Through Winter: A Naturalist's Record of a 20,000-Mile Journey Through the North American Winter

Written by Edwin Way Teale ** Narrated by Robert Sams

A naturalist and his wife spent four winter months traveling twenty thousand miles across the southwestern United States and parts of the Midwest. He reports on the people, plants, animals, and birds they encountered. Nonfiction. **Audio DB034830**

The Santa Suit

Written by Mary Kay Andrews ** Narrated by Kathleen McInerney Newly divorced Ivy Perkins is looking for a change in her life and buys an old farmhouse, sight unseen. In the closet, Ivy finds an old Santa suit with a note in the pocket from a little girl who has a special Christmas wish. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Audio DB105314; Large Print PR031465

Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times

Written by Katherine May ** Narrated by Rebecca Hagan Lee Combining memoir, philosophy, and self-help, the author discusses her own experiences of dealing with a difficult winter in her life by slowing down. She believes the idea of hibernation — embracing a slower, quieter life — can be healing and interviews people around the world who have mastered life living in the cold. Some violence. Commercial audiobook. Nonfiction. Audio DB101809; Large Print PR031099

Holiday Reads continued from page 11

Mr. Dickens and His Carol

Written by Samantha Silva ** Narrated by Euan Morton

Depressed about the failure of his most recent book, feeling pressured by his publisher to write a Christmas book, and worried over his family's financial stability, Charles Dickens seeks refuge in nightly walks. On one, he meets Eleanor Lovejoy, who takes him on a Scrooge-like journey. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. Fiction. **Audio DB087973**

Collection News — What's New and Notable

From the Colorado Collection — Audio Books

These newly recorded audio books were produced in the CTBL studios and feature Colorado authors and local history, as well as books of general interest. Available from CTBL and on BARD.

The Breath of Dawn: Rush of Wings Series #3

Author: Kristen Heitzmann ** Narrator: Geri Gingras Stalked by a man bent on revenge, Quinn Riley fears her past has ruined all hope for a peaceful life for herself and for the Spencer family she has now come to cherish — and plunged everyone she loves into danger. Christy Award winner. 2012. Fiction. **DBC13095**

Colorado and the Silver Crash: The Panic of 1893

Author: John F. Steinle ** Narrator: Hille Dais
A catastrophic depression engulfed Colorado in 1893. The government's decision to adopt the gold standard and stop buying silver hit the mining industry like a cave-in. Using firsthand commentary, John Steinle commemorates the story of Coloradans trapped in the unprecedented social, economic, and political conflict of America's first great depression. 2021. Nonfiction. **DBC25794**

Denver City Justice: Drouillard Series #2

Author: J. v. L. Bell ** Narrator: Patricia Jonietz
Territory of Colorado, 1864. Newlyweds, Millie and Dom Drouillard,
are barely settled into wedded bliss when their neighbor, the Widow
Ferris, is found dead. Suspects abound, but soon Dom becomes the main
suspect and is hauled off to jail. Some strong language. 2019. Fiction.

DBC13157

Gonzalez & Daughter Trucking Co.

Author: Maria Amparo Escandon ** Narrator: Laverne Rios Serving a sentence in a prison in Mexico, Libertad González finds a clever way to pass the time with the weekly Library Club, reading to her fellow inmates from whatever books she can find in the prison's meager supply. With her stories, Libertad enthralls a group of female prisoners every bit as eccentric as the tales she tells. 2005. Fiction. **DBC26074**

The Great Book of Colorado: The Crazy History of Colorado with Amazing Random Facts & Trivia

Author: Bill O'Neill ** Narrator: Matthew Ballantine In this trivia book, you'll learn about Colorado's history, pop culture, inventions, and more. Some of these Colorado facts may be shocking, others may be sad, and some might give you goosebumps. 2020. Nonfiction. **DBC13189**

Haven

Author: Sherry Gomes ** Narrator: Laverne Rios Elizabeth Bennett is seeking healing after her emotionally abusive, unscrupulous ex-husband used his family's political influence to gain sole custody of their daughter — on the basis that Elizabeth is blind. Michael Kelly's grief for his wife is fresh as when he lost her three years ago, but he focuses on his love for the son he is now raising alone. These two people, nearly broken by disaster, meet on a snowy night that will change their lives. 2021. Fiction. **DBC00693**

Collection News continued from page 13

The Showtime: Denver's Performing Arts, Convention Centers & Theatre District

Authors: Thomas J. Noel, et al ** Narrator: James Ryder Traces Denver's love affair with theatre, dance, opera, music, and conventions back to its Gold Rush origins. 2008. Nonfiction. **DBC13167**

The Spiritual Nature of Animals: A Country Vet Explores the Wisdom, Compassion, and Souls of Animals

Author: Karlene Stange ** Narrator: Stephanie Oram A rural veterinarian, through examples from her practice, shares her journey to understand the spiritual nature of the animal-human bond and offers readers a unique interpretation of our love for animals. 2017. Nonfiction. **DBC13124**

Up With the Lark: My Life on the Land

Author: Joan Bomford ** Cathy Gloeckner
As a child, Joan Bomford wanted to be a farmer. Now aged 83, she's
still as active and still a farmer. This is her account of a lifelong loveaffair with the land and the people who work on it. 2015. Nonfiction.
DBC13089

Fig

Author: Sarah Elizabeth Schantz ** Narrator: Judith Knapp In 1994, Fig looks back on her life and relates her experiences from age six to nineteen, as she desperately tried to save her mother from schizophrenia while her own mental health and relationships deteriorated. Some violence. 2015. Young adult fiction. **DBC03286**

New Large Print Titles

Here's a sampling of a few of the large print titles CTBL has added to the collection recently.

Bestseller Fiction

- PR032266 Homecoming by Kate Morton
- PR027936 The House of Eve by Sadega Johnson
- PR027905 How to Sell a Haunted House by Grady Hendrix
- PR025833 I Will Find You by Harlan Coben
- PR027903 Just the Nicest Couple by Mary Kubica
- PR025808 The Marriage Portrait by Maggie O'Farrell
- PR032225 Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng
- PR032267 Simply Lies by David Baldacci
- PR027875 Someone Else's Shoes by Jojo Moyes
- PR025830 Worthy Opponents by Danielle Steel

Bestseller Nonfiction

- PR027848 And There Was Light: Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle by Jon Meacham
- PR027918 The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man: A Memoir by Paul Newman
- PR027929 Happy-Go-Lucky by David Sedaris
- PR027872 The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times by Michelle Obama
- PR027951 Live Wire: Long-Winded Short Stories by Kelly Ripa

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- PR032261 Poverty, by America by Matthew Desmond
- PR025809 Prisoners of the Castle: An Epic Story of Survival and Escape From Colditz, the Nazis' Fortress Prison by Ben Macintyre
- PR027952 The Revolutionary: Samuel Adams by Stacy Schiff
- PR025904 Rogues: True Stories of Grifters, Killers, Rebels and Crooks by Patrick Radden Keefe
- PR032236 The Song of the Cell: An Exploration of Medicine and the New Human by Siddhartha Mukherjee

Mysteries

- PR032130 Back to the Garden by Laurie R. King
- PR032226 The Family Game by Catherine Steadman
- PR032266 Homecoming by Kate Morton
- PR032274 The London Séance Society by Sarah Penner
- PR025826 The Neighbor's Secret by L. Alison Heller
- PR032278 Never Never by Colleen Hoover

History

- PR027931 Need to Know: World War II and the Rise of American Intelligence by Nicholas Reynolds
- PR027939 Righteous Troublemakers: Untold Stories of the Social Justice Movement in America by Al Sharpton
- PR027954 Waging a Good War: A Military History of the Civil Rights Movement, 1954-1968 by Thomas E. Ricks
- PR027906 Wise Gals: The Spies Who Built the CIA and Changed the Future of Espionage by Nathalia Holt

New Descriptive Videos on DVD

These videos have audio descriptions embedded in each disc. You can turn on this feature by following the directions starting at the disc's main menu. The library's collection includes DVD and Blu-ray formats, but not all videos are available in both formats. For more information call a CTBL Reader Advisor at 303-727-9277.

DVDs

- MD00640 Armageddon Time (R)
- MD00643 Beast (R)
- MD00649 Black Adam (PG-13)
- MD00645 Bros (R)
- MD00637 Champions (PG-13)
- MD00652 DC League of Superpets (PG)
- MD00650 Don't Worry Darling (R)
- MD00641 Downton Abbey: A New Era (PG)
- MD00648 Easter Sunday (PG-13)
- MD00651 Father of the Bride 2022 (PG-13)
- MD00647 Halloween Ends (R)
- MD00642 Jurassic World Dominion (PG-13)
- MD00636 Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris (PG)
- MD00646 Nobody (R)
- MD00635 The Northman (R)
- MD00634 The Outfit (R)
- MD00639 Spoiler Alert (PG-13)
- MD00638 Vengeance (R)
- MD00644 Violent Night (R)

Contributors to The Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library and The Colorado Talking Book Library

Donations (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)

Note: due to privacy concerns, we are only listing last names for donors. Thank you!

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Chapa	Dais	Dvorak	Fortune
Charovano	Dale	Eakins	Foss
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Christensen	Davies	Eger	Fravel
Christie	Davis	Eiseman	Fulton
Clark	Dawson	Ela	Fund
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Kunau	Lockwood	McAdam	Montgomery
Kunter	Loeffler	McAteer	Montoya
Kusumi	Lohf	McBride	Mooney
Kyle	Lohnert	McCall	Moore
Lafond	Lombardo	McCallister	Moreno
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Larsen	Lubben	McCoy	Mount
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Schwettmann	Springer	Tilford	Walorski
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Scott	Stein	Tipton	Ward
Sehnert	Steiner	Tone	Warner
Serotta	Stephens	Torbett	Warsavage
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Shepard	Stone	Tucker	Weber
Sherman	Stranske	Ulibarri	Wentworth
Sherry	Strick	Ulmer	West
Shoemaker	Strilich	Ungaro	Westwood
Sierzega	Strusky	Upson	Wheeler
Sinks	Struthers	Usrey	White
Siscoe	Stuehler	Valdez	Whitehead
Skarstad	Stull	Vasconcells	Wickre
Skaufel	Sullivan	Veraldi	Wilkerson
Skogen	Summers	Vernon	Wilkinson
Smallwood	Symonds	Vetting	Williams
Smiley	Szeto	Viders	continued on page

Donations continued from page 23

Willis Wise Woolley Zeise
Wills Wisner Wyley Ziegler
Wilson Wolfe Yablonski Zinanti

Winthrop Wood Zanon

Memorial Donations (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)

In Memory of: Arnold T. Kjosness

Brooks Battaglino Hawkins Fisher

McCoy Kiniry

Noschang

Kiniry

In Memory of:

Joan H. Evans

Ruth E. Kobell

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Vorwald Schiager Vogt

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Knudson

Julia Crockett

In Memory of:

George Fisher

Ruth Lindsey

Knapp Fisher, Smith, & Thiel

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McKay

Jacqualin Brown

Martinez

In Memory of:

Vogel

Crockett

In Memory of:

Charlotte Mai

Wagner Lien Hitipeuw Mai

Toland Hazen Fairhurst

In Memory of:

Phyllis Brown

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Pokorney	Shriner	Navarro	Keil
McAdam	Mazur	Johnson	Tryon
McAdam	Pocius	Lombardo	
Honan	Orman	Skogen	In Memory of:
Bradbury	Warfield	Schumacher	Margaret Wade
Smith	Ivan		Garstang Hannon
Shamsuddin	Kissner	In Memory of:	
McAteer	Vigil	Ann Struthers	Pickus
Roberts	Bettencourt	Struthers	Mabrey
McAdam		In Memory of:	In Memory of:
McAdam	In Memory of:	Phillip Gregory Thomas Thomas Thomas	Norma White
Rosenblum	Daniel Morgan		Webb
Carlson Robertson	Jensen		Wilson
	Barrett		Burch
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