

NEWSLETTER

NINA GARCIA'S ORIENTATION AT NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES IN WASHINGTON, DC



Recently I attended the National Library Service Orientation in Washington, DC, which was a four-day training. I learned a lot about the service that we provide to our clients. I met the officials who work in National Library Service Headquarters. I was able to network with the other people who are employed in the regional libraries around the United States.

The second day of the training we took a trip to the Library of Congress. While visiting the Library of Congress we went into the archives and the library. I was impressed with the amazing architecture

of the inside of the building.

During the training we had an opportunity to view an exhibit displaying a historical range of recording equipment and accessories that the National Library Service developed since 1934. We saw various machines from record players, different models of cassettes, and some machines that play both records and cassettes to the present use of the digital machine. It was fascinating to see how technology has advanced throughout the years allowing easier access for the blind and physically handicapped to (Continued on Page



Stories we have:

Pages 1 and 2

★Orientation at NLS in DC

Page 3

★We Want Books Back

★10 Reasons to Join BARD

★Buying Cartridges and Cables at Our Library

Page 4

★Digital Magazines Coming Soon

★New BARD Coming Soon

Page 5

★Audio Bible Download

★Nina's Choices for Christmas Reading

Page 6

★Consumer Advisory Committee



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(Continued from Page 1)

enjoy books. We also learned about the process of choosing the books that will be recorded and made into digital titles. We visited the recording studio and saw the final process before they put the recorded books onto the cartridges. A group of us had a tour on how they design and test the machines.

We toured the National Library Service Archives where they keep Braille books, archival films, records, and VHS tapes. The archives preserved some of the different types of technology developed over the years.

My last day we learned about the digital machines and their functions. We were able to take apart a DS1 and see the inside of the machine and how it was made.

My four days of training were great. Our headquarters in Washington, DC is a huge warehouse with different departments and people. It felt like a maze. The staff is able to "play" with the different technologies and have fun working together productively. The National Library Service Orientation was an enlightening and enjoyable experience.



Nina Garcia and Pamela Davenport the Orientation Chairman and Regional Consultant of the National Library Service.

WE WANT OUR BOOKS BACK SO THAT WE CAN CIRCULATE THEM

Our records show that some of you have **overdue materials...**

- Borrow cassette books for 6 months. Borrow digital books for 1 month.
- Be a good neighbor; share your good reads.
- Please return books on time.



Don't want to bother with due dates? Download!

We can teach you how...**BARD** (Braille and Audio Reading Download) offers digital books and magazines to borrow as long as you like. BARD will soon add Braille books and magazines.

10 REASONS TO HAVE A BARD ACCOUNT

- Free 24/7 access to as many NLS books as you choose to download!
- Signing up is easy! You just need a computer with high-speed Internet connection and an email address.
- Avoid the waiting list for that popular digital book you want to read!

- Bypass delays in postal delivery!



- There are no due dates. Downloaded books do not need to be returned to the library.
- Manage your own "library" collection of downloaded books on your computer.

- Download and delete books as many times as you want!
- Download magazines too!
- Web-Braille joins BARD in late 2012!
- We can teach you how to download books from BARD just ask!
- It's OK to have a friend or family member help you download books!

PURCHASING CARTRIDGES AND CABLES AT OUR LIBRARY



To buy cartridges and cables please call 340-718-2250 or visit us at the library. Cartridges are \$10.00 and the cables are \$2.00

DIGITAL MAGAZINES COMING SOON

Beginning later this fall, National Library Services (NLS) will be converting magazine subscriptions from cassette tape over to the digital cartridge format.

All audio magazine readers will need to have a digital talking book player. If you do not have a digital player yet, please be sure to contact the Virgin Islands Regional Library.

The magazines from NLS will be the color blue and arrive in a red container. The cartridge may contain several audio magazines to which you subscribe. When a cartridge with more than one magazine is inserted into the digital talking book player, there will be instructions for navigating among the multiple publications.

Magazine cartridges are reused and must be returned. The process for cartridge return is the same as usual: turn over the address card on the container and put it in the mail. If cartridges are not timely returned your magazine service maybe disrupted.

Readers who receive Talking Book Topics on cassette will soon be receiving these on digital cartridge with their other audio magazines. The print order forms for Talking Book Topics will be mailed out separately from the magazine cartridge.

NEW BARD COMING SOON

Some of the new materials that will be on BARD are: Braille materials, music books and scores and locally produced materials. These materials are on Web-Braille and they are going to be added to BARD. New page on BARD will include Detail, Wish List and Previous Downloads, to name just a few. There will be two other changes: the Home Page layout and a variety of Display options. To see more details please go to <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/NLS/NewBARDOverview.html>

AUDIO BIBLE DOWNLOAD

The Aurora Ministries Audio Bibles for the Blind now offers its materials for download to anyone who receives Talking Books or is certified as having a disability that prevents them from reading standard or large print. In addition to the complete King James and New King James Bible in

many different languages, the website also offers selected scripture readings, Christian music and sermons by prominent Christian theologians. The audio files are in mp3 format and download as zipped files. For more information call (941) 748-3031 or visit the organization's website audiobiblesfortheblind.org

**NINA'S CHOICES OF AUTHORS FOR CHRISTMAS**

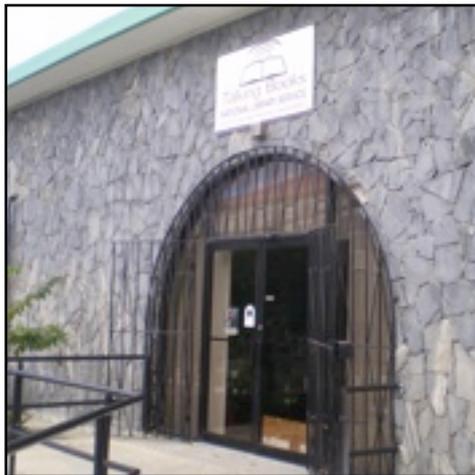
- James Patterson - The Christmas Wedding DB 74075
- Sherryl Woods - An O'Brien Family Christmas DB 74637
- Robyn Carr - Bring Me Home for Christmas DB 74154
- Debbie Macomber - The Christmas Basket RC 56364 or That Holiday Feeling DB 71428
- Susan Wiggs - Lakeshore Christmas DB 69940
- Lisa Kleypas - Christmas Eve at Friday Harbor DB 72388
- Fern Michaels - Christmas at Timberwoods DB 73749
- Gloria Houston - Holiday Magic DB 71933
- Jude Deveraux - Blessing DB 47668
- David Baldacci - The Christmas Train DB 55045





The Virgin Islands Regional Library has been in the Virgin Islands since 1968 and was started in St. Thomas. It was relocated to St. Croix first in Frederiksted and then Christiansted at its present location in 1992. The Library is part of the Library of Congress Network of the Libraries for Blind and Physically Handicapped Individuals. It provides audiotaped books and cassettes free of charge to persons who are unable to utilize traditional books. We have transitioned to the digital age with the introduction of digital players and books. The Library of Congress/National Library Service came into existence in 1931 for blind residents in the U.S. but over the years has expanded its scope and size.

Our local administrative agency is the Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums which is a part of the Department of Planning and National Resources, Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands.



CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We need persons to volunteer to serve on the V.I. Regional Consumer Advisory group. Please let us know if you are interested in being a member.

Purpose. The ALA *Revised Standards and Guidelines* require each network library to meet

regularly with a user advisory group. These groups may differ widely in structure and in function from library to library, but all consumer advisory groups permit library users to participate in the formulation of the goals and service policies of their library.

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That All May Read

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LIBRARY ASSOCIATE



NINA GARCIA,
LIBRARY TECH I

