

This newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of the Texas Talking Book Program for recording studio volunteers and staff. If you have comments or suggestions, please email Ruth Wedergren, TBP Public Awareness Coordinator at [rwedergren@tsl.state.tx.us](mailto:rwedergren@tsl.state.tx.us).

## Calendar

Nov. 22-24: studio closed for Thanksgiving

## Studio Statistics

- 190 July hours
- 33 July active volunteers
- 222 August hours
- 35 August active volunteers

## Studio Hours

Mon - 8:00 am - 8:00 pm  
Thurs

Fri 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sat 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Talking Book Program  
Texas State Library & Archives  
Commission  
P.O. Box 12927  
Austin, TX 78711-2927

# Volunteer Recording Studio News

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Texas State Library and Archives Commission • Austin, TX

## Welcome New Studio Volunteers

The Talking Book Program welcomes our new Recording Studio Volunteers who began in August and September 2012: Gloria Pinales Meredith Boudoin, Donia Crouch, Janet Spencer, and Laura Norris. Welcome aboard! ▀



## Mindy Reed: Studio Volunteer, Librarian, Editor

Talking Book Program studio's newest volunteer narrator, Mindy Reed, has deep roots in books. In addition to being a volunteer studio monitor for over 10 years, she's worked for the Austin Public Library for over 15 years and runs her own book editing business.

She heard about TBP from a member of a writers group. "I had finished library school, my editing business was up and running, and I was working for the Austin Public Library," Reed says. "I was just looking for something that would give me the opportunity to have one more connection."

Reed worked with one narrator, Carol Esler, for nine years. "You build this bond with somebody and you look forward to seeing them every week," says Reed. "One of my favorite things about coming and doing this is it didn't really feel like volunteer work. It was my time every week to get read to for a couple of hours."

Reed's library career was not her first. She worked as Director of Purchasing for Dell in the 1980s and '90s. In the mid-'90s, she decided to make a career change. She graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with her library degree. Reed has worked for the Austin Public Library for 15 years, and served as librarian for the Milwood Branch library until four years ago.

"I was tasked with bringing Recycled Reads to the fold, and it's one of my favorite things ever," Reed says. "We have a store on Burnet Road. All of the books that have been weeded from the library collection and donations that people bring to us, we sell and the money goes directly back to the Austin Public Library. And, what we can't sell--materials that are either too damaged or the information is so obsolete--we work with recyclers to make sure nothing goes in a landfill. We are a zero landfill operation."

Recycled Reads sells most hardcover books for \$2, softcover books for \$1, and kids' books for 50 cents. "It's affordable for people who (continued on page 2)

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want to build their libraries, or find that favorite book that they had," Reed says. "We also get some first editions, some rare books, and we price those more according to what their value would be." Recycled Reads is located at 5335 Burnet Rd. and is open Thursday – Sunday from noon to 6:00 p.m.

Reed is looking forward to her new stint as a TBP narrator. She says, "I wasn't sure that I had the kind of voice, but now that I know I can do it, I'm just looking forward to making the material interesting to the person who's listening to it, keeping them engaged."

She appreciates that TBP makes books accessible. "It's really not about the container, it's about the content. Being a librarian, one of the things that's important to me is people having access. It's really number one for me." ■

## Studio Reminders

### Studio Upkeep

Please turn off lights, fans and audio equipment when your session is finished. Make sure that your area is rid of tissue, scraps of paper, chewing gum wrappers, etc., and ready for the next team to begin their session.

### Before Each Reading Session

**Narrator/Monitor:** Please do sound check and match voice/sound to previous recording, this means moving microphone closer or farther away, or in same position.

**Monitor:** Make sure volume level controls on the peak meter are between (-6 and 0) using the mx100 master control. ■

## Check Out TBP's Blog!

It's full of great info about books and happenings at TBP, and now includes Podcasts!

<https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/texastalki/ngbooks/>

## *New Books Completed and Circulating*

- Angel of Death**—Narrator: Timothy Englert; Monitor: Leanna Englert.  
**Asian Texans**—Narrator: Paul Klemperer; Monitors: Lionel Jacobs, Brit Jones.  
**Bad Blood: Lucius George and the Redlands War**—Narrator: Tommy Garrison; Monitor: Becky Smith.  
**Ballad of Gato Guerrero: A Luis Montez Mystery #2**—Narrator: Ev Lunning Jr.; Monitors: Craig York, Miles Lewis, Gary DeVries.  
**Berried to the Hilt: A Gray Whale Inn Mystery**—Narrator: Carol Esler; Monitor: Mindy Reed.  
**The Black Stranger and Other American Tales**—Narrator: Craig York; Monitors: Bonnie Cope, Miles Lewis, Gary DeVries.  
**Death Books a Return: A Scrappy Librarian Mystery**—Narrator: Janice Langlais; Monitors: Dave Bower, Janice Jones.  
**Dirty Sally: A Dan Reles Mystery**—Narrator: Ev Lunning Jr.; Monitors: Craig York, Bonnie Cope.  
**European Texans**—Narrator: Dianna Dorman; Monitor: Judy MacKenzie.  
**Fit to Die**—Narrator: Jeanne Guichard; Monitor: Becky Smith.  
**Ghost of a Chance: A Sheriff Dan Rhodes Mystery**—Narrator: Sonya Aycock; Monitor: Stephanie Childs.  
**Hounds of Winter**—Narrator: Ruth Borinstein; Monitor: Carol Swartz.  
**Justice Betrayed: A Double Killing in Old Santa Fe**—Narrator: Elayne Karickhoff; Monitor: Becky Smith.  
**Kindler of Souls: Rabbi Henry Cohen of Texas**—Narrator: Sue Bilich; Monitor: John Wood.  
**Lone Star Lonely Hearts Club: A Debutante Dropout Mystery**—Narrator: Linda Fox; Monitor: Stephanie Childs.  
**Longarm and the Dynamite Damsel**—Narrator: Craig York; Monitor: Lionel Jacobs.  
**Lyndon B. Johnson**—Narrator: Paul Klemperer; Monitor: Lionel Jacobs, Craig York.  
**The Meaning of Nolan Ryan**—Narrator: Mark Wilkins; Monitor: Becky Smith.  
**Murder Most Maine: A Gray Whale Inn Mystery**—Narrator: Ruth Borenstein; Monitor: Carol Swartz.  
**A Novel Way to Die**—Narrator: Carol Esler; Monitor: Mindy Reed.  
**Out of the Frying Pan, Into the Choir: A Ruby the Rabbi's Wife Mystery**—Narrator: Sue Bilich; Monitor: John Wood.  
**Pepperfish Keys: A Detective Barrett Raines Mystery**—Narrator: Carol Esler; Monitor: Mindy Reed.  
**Rio Ganges**—Narrator: Jeanne Guichard; Monitor: Becky Smith.  
**Roundup!**—Narrator: Elayne Karickhoff; Monitor: Becky Smith.  
**Sandhill County Lines**—Narrator: Staci Thompson; Monitor: Kerry Pivonka.  
**Sweet Valley High: Deceptions**—Narrator: Patricia Boyd; Monitor: Becky Smith.  
**Writing Austin's Lives: A Community Portrait**—Narrator: Ev Lunning Jr.; Monitor: Craig York.

## Attention Narrators!

TBP is thinking about having another "Meet the Narrators" program in 2013, perhaps in the spring or fall. We'll need 2 – 3 volunteers to read at that program. This year's event in February was a great success and was attended by 50 people, including patrons who came from out of town. If you're interested, contact Miles Lewis.