I attended the International Association of Audio Information Services (IAAIS) conference in Jacksonville, FL. This conference is always a chance for us to connect with colleagues who do what we do. They get it. It’s one of the few places we can go for professional development that speaks our language.

This year’s conference had much to offer. We learned about new editing and podcasting options, caught up with the latest happenings regarding the FCC and how its regulations impact our work, and talked through ways to handle difficult situations that may arise in the course of our work. In addition, the association partnered with a Jacksonville science center to provide audio description of one of the movies shown in their planetarium. I worked with Maryfrances Evans, director of the Iowa Radio Reading and Information Service, to provide the description. It was the first audio description some IAAIS attendees had experienced, and my first time describing out loud to a room full of people. What with the movie being fast-paced and full of scientific animations, it was a bit nerve wracking, but we pulled it off!

On Saturday, the annual awards dinner was held. Audio-Reader came home with two awards. One was a programming award for Carl Graves’ reading of A Look Back, Audio-Reader’s history program. The other was a marketing and communications award for the publicity and planning surrounding our audio description training, held in conjunction with the Spencer Museum of Art in November 2016.

Now we are back in the office, recovered (mostly) from the trip, and energized to take on the challenges ahead. For more information about the IAAIS, be sure to check out the association’s new web page, www.iaais.org.
Please give a warm welcome to the following new volunteers!

**Lily Abromeit** is a recent graduate of the University of Iowa. She has a degree in journalism and international studies, and a minor in Spanish. She is currently interning with Kansas Public Radio, and working as an office assistant. Lily has volunteered for On Iowa!, Alternative Spring Breaks, Kansas Iron Man, and on the welcome staff for incoming freshmen at U of I. She enjoys writing, editing, and travel. Lily begins as a substitute reader.

**Gil Chauza** works with dementia patients through Senior Bridge. He also enjoys music, gardening, and reading. Gil begins as an audio description Listener Liaison!

**Jenni Frangos** is an English professor at UMKC. She also volunteers for Literacy KC and the Let’s Read Family Reading Program, and is the editor of an academic journal in 18th century studies. She enjoys cooking, baking, gardening, travel, and watching and discussing plays and films. Jenni begins as an audio description Listener Liaison and a substitute reader at Alphapointe.

**John LaGesse** is a retired BNSF Railroad engineer. In addition to fly fishing and flying radio control air-craft, John volunteers for Operation Lifesaver, a safety program about railroad crossings. John begins as a substitute reader.

**Melissa Monroe** has a background as an ESL teacher from pre-K to university and adult education. She’s currently training to volunteer with the Willow Domestic Violence Center, and has previously volunteered as a tutor, facilitated a young adult book club, and supervised youth summer camps. Melissa begins as a substitute reader.

**Gabe Mullen** interned with Audio-Reader last summer, and returns to volunteer as a reader! Gabe, now a KU student is on the Student Advisory Board for the Dole Institute of Politics. He also enjoys politics, history, science, and biology. Welcome back, Gabe!

**John Robertson** is a retired clinical psychologist who has also co-owned a media company where he produced radio and television spots for non-profit groups. John is a member of Rotary and volunteers for several local projects, including reading stories to children at Kennedy Elementary and gardening at the Rotary Arboretum. He volunteers for Visiting Nurses Association and plays Native American flute in memory care and hospice settings. He also enjoys spending time with his grandson! John begins as a substitute reader.

**Olivia Schmidt** is a former student announcer for Audio-Reader. She is working toward her degree in Global and International Studies as well as Journalism, and will intern at Kansas Public Radio this summer, as well as working at KJHK. Olivia begins as a substitute reader.

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**NEW FACES**

By Jennifer Nigro, Coordinator of Volunteers

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Audio-Reader was selected to receive a very generous $1,050 donation from Cans for the Community. Thank you to this wonderful group of dedicated volunteers who coordinate the can donations to give back to area non-profits! And thank you to all of our Audio-Reader volunteers who help by bringing in your cans and leaving them in the donation box under the table in the entryway.
JULY/AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following volunteers!

July 1: Cindy Baker, Mary Jo Hobbs, and Feloniz Lovato-Winston
July 5: Charles Decedue and Hal Walter
July 7: Susan Cunningham, Randal Dyck, and Bill Zimmerman
July 10: Kristi Kaylo
July 11: Abby Olcese
July 13: Pat Keller
July 14: Pat Baker and Cari Vukelich
July 16: Helen Martin
July 17: Ruby Ducate, Goody Garfield, and Keri Lauxman
July 18: Eleanor Wenger
July 20: Annette Tucker
July 21: Karen Braman and Steve Sears
July 22: Betty Baron and Paul Murphy
July 23: William Hawkins and Bob Shadburn
July 26: Barbara Cooper and Betsy Parker
July 27: Jill Mignacca, Lenita Richardson, and Brian Watt
July 29: Linda Watson

August 3: Hannes Combest, Michael Hauber, and Luke Rounda
August 4: Carol Munchoff
August 5: Elaine Kautsch, Frank Male, and Mark Praeger
August 6: Vivian Davidson and Kurt Falkenstien
August 7: Marian Wilbur
August 8: John Comeau, Tracy Harrison, and Sarah Peters
August 9: Ann Chapman
August 10: Mary Ackerly
August 11: Scott Weatherwax, and Deb Yager
August 12: Arnetta Johnston
August 13: Judi Gitel
August 14: Brenda Berg-Dyck
August 16: Jim Carnell
August 17: Beverley Wilson
August 19: Lori Tesdahl
August 23: Sallie Downing, Bonny Fugett, Sue Nishikawa, Jan Shumway, and Lorrie Windholz
August 24: Ann Cobb
August 25: Ruthie Hatfield and Gayle Matchett
August 26: Jane Blocher, Marilyn Epp, Chuck Fisher, and Eric Johnson
August 28: Gretchen Burch, Chad Johanning, Amanda Loughlin, and Don Miller
August 30: Brandon Barnett, Brittany Beck, Jay Hester, Eleanor Symons, and Mary Wolfington

August 31: Devin Byrne and
Staff Birthdays:
August 16: Lori Kesinger, Outreach Coordinator/Listener Liaison
August 31: Billie Archer, Weekend Reading Coordinator
Audio-Reader’s 8th Annual Golf Classic

By Beth McKenzie,
Development Director

It was a beautiful day for our 8th Annual Golf Classic! 80 golfers enjoyed features such as the boat hole and Beat the Coach during the tournament at Eagle Bend Golf Course. This year’s event raised over $25,000 for Audio-Reader, our most successful tournament yet!

We’d like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our tournament committee members Erin O’Neil, Randy Austin, Pete Knutson, Mark Praeger, and Scott Weatherwax. This event wouldn’t be possible without their hard work and dedication.

We also had amazing volunteers helping us on the course: Photographer Jean Berg, Brenda Berg-Dyck, Jim Carnell, Karen DeVictor, Kara Gourley, Dillon Heter, Tammy Kearney, Steve Kincaid, Kendra Kuhlman, Jake Jacobson, Lion Bob Jernigan, Feloniz Lovato-Winston, Max Mayse, Roberta Renz, Vickie Roush, Linda Thompson, and Lion Gene Vogel.

The winning teams were:
1st Place, flight A: Miles Schnaer, Pat Bellows, Pat Henderson, and Steve Winegar;
1st Place, flight B: G.R. Underwood, Mike Smithyman, James Allen, and Kevin Markley;
2nd Place, flight A (not pictured): Jim Moore, Albert Minnis, Mehdi Honarvar, and Paul Wilson;
2nd Place, flight B (not pictured): Ron Poindexter, Darrell Brock, Steve Menke, and Butch Batman.

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Save the Date for FYEO 2017!

By Meredith Johanning, Development Assistant

For Your EARS Only 2017 will take place on Friday, September 8 and Saturday, September 9 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Tell your friends and make plans to attend this fun, annual benefit sale!

Audio-Reader is now accepting donations of new and/or gently-used LPs, CDs, DVDs, modern and vintage stereo equipment, and musical instruments. Items can be dropped off at four different locations: Audio-Reader's office, Sound Innovations in Lawrence, KCUR in Kansas City, or Sunflower School Supplies in Topeka, KS. For additional information visit www.reader.ku.edu.

Calling on Kansas City-based volunteers! We need help transporting FYEO donations from KCUR's office in KCMO to Audio-Reader's office in Lawrence during the months of July and August. If you are able and willing to help one time or multiple times please contact Meredith or Beth at 785-864-4600.

8th Annual Golf Classic

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Thank you everyone for making this year’s Golf Classic another fabulous success!

July/August Audio Description Dates

Summer audio description is in full swing. Here’s a look at upcoming performances with audio description. Please help us spread the word!

**Jersey Boys**: Saturday, July 1, 8:00pm, Starlight Theatre

**An American in Paris**: Saturday, July 15, 8:00pm, Starlight Theatre

**Something Rotten!**: Saturday, July 29, 8:00pm, Starlight Theatre

**The Bodyguard the Musical**: Saturday, August 12, 8:00pm, Starlight Theatre

**Kinky Boots**: Saturday, August 19, 8:00pm, Starlight Theatre

**Motown the Musical**: Saturday, August 26, 8:00pm, Starlight Theatre

Performances are updated regularly at www.reader.ku.edu/audio-description. If you are interested in learning more about our audio description program, contact Jen at jnigro@ku.edu.

Check out the Dole Institute of Politics' League of Wives exhibit, which includes audio description! The exhibit, which tells the story of POW/MIA wives and their advocacy efforts, will be on display through December 31. For more information visit http://doleinstitute.org/special-exhibits/.
Congratulations
Congratulations to Betty Kline and her husband, Mike, who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on May 28! Betty and Mike were married May 28, 1977 in Hutchinson. They have two children, Alden and her husband Rob Watts, and Andrew and his wife Katie. They also have two grandsons, Chip and Pete Watts. Betty reads Tuesday’s Wichita Eagle each week and records books.

Building hours changing
Due to short-staffing, we are reducing weekend hours effective July 1. The building will be open Saturdays and Sundays from 7am to noon. We hope this change will be temporary. Weekday hours will remain the same (7am to 7:30pm), though there may be times when we need to reduce hours. We will alert you as soon as we make that call; the best way to make sure you get notified is to sign up for studio time in advance.

Newsletter changes
You may have noticed this issue of Closed Circuit covers two months, rather than one. We’re going to a bi-monthly format to cut the costs (both financial and time) associated with producing a volunteer newsletter. You can help by choosing to read Closed Circuit online! You will find a replica of our print edition on our web page at www.reader.ku.edu, or you can sign up to receive the Constant Contact version via email by emailing jnigro@ku.edu and asking to be removed from the print list and added to the email list.

Handbook update
The main volunteer handbook has been updated! You can check it out on the volunteer resources section of our website or by clicking here: https://reader.ku.edu/sites/reader.ku.edu/files/docs/Volunteer%20Handbook%202017%20revision.pdf.

Volunteers needed
We are still looking for volunteers to help greet visitors and volunteers at our front desk! This is especially necessary as we ramp up to For Your EARS Only, as community members will be bringing donations to our building. If you can help, please let me know what availability you have and we can work you into the schedule.

In addition, I’m looking for volunteers who would be willing to help train new volunteers to use the recording equipment. I would work with you to give you some tips on how to train, then pair you with new volunteers once you feel ready. We are already doing this at our satellite locations, and it is going very well!

Rob Watts, and Andrew and his wife Katie. They also have two grandsons, Chip and Pete Watts. Betty reads Tuesday’s Wichita Eagle each week and records books.

Condolences
Marge Heeney, Audio-Reader volunteer emeritus, died Sunday, June 25 at the age of 91. Marge was well-known for her hat collection and community activism.

Our sympathies go out to the following volunteers who lost loved ones:

- Karen O’Keefe, whose brother, Ed, died June 2. Karen is one of our book readers.
- Chris Cobb, whose father, Robert, died June 7. Chris is one of our book readers.
Sensory Garden Concert

By Beth McKenzie, Development Director

Please join us August 9th for our inaugural Sensory Garden concert.

Audio-Reader is collaborating with Adaptive Use Musical Instrument (AUMI) Inter-Arts and the Lawrence Public Library to present an evening with Jesse Stewart. Jesse Stewart, associate professor of music at Carleton University, is an award-winning composer, percussionist, visual artist, and sound artist, whose music has been featured at festivals throughout Canada, the United States, and Europe. A past recipient of the Terry Fox Humanitarian Award in recognition of his commitment to volunteering and community activism, Jesse is committed to fostering community health through music, art, and education. He is the founder of “We Are All Musicians” (WAAM), an organization dedicated to providing opportunities for individuals to make music regardless of age, musical training, socio-economic circumstance, physical, and/or cognitive disability.

The concert will include an interactive demonstration of the AUMI programs. AUMI software interface enables the user to play sounds and musical phrases through movement and gestures. It enables all users to independently engage in music making.

Tours and AUMI demonstrations will begin at 7pm, the concert will begin at 7:30pm. Audio-Reader will provide audio description for the event.

Learn more about the AUMI program here: https://aumi.drupal.ku.edu/.

Learn more about the visiting artist, Jesse Stewart, here: http://www.jessiestewart.ca/music-video.html.

Five Questions:

Name: Mary Conn

Current reading assignment: Friday Lawrence Journal World; books; currently reading Game of Thrones by George R.R. Martin.

Years of service: 5 years

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: I grew up in Phillipsburg, KS.

Q: What is your favorite book?
A: My favorite book is Cloudsplitter by Russell Banks.

Q: How or why did you get involved with Audio-Reader?
A: I got involved with Audio-Reader because I love to read aloud, I'm recently retired, and I live with my mother who utilizes the service.

Q: What is your favorite or most unusual reading assignment?
A: My most unusual assignment has been to read the Lawrence Journal World live on Giving Tuesday along with LJ World columnists Chad Lawhorn and Sara Shepherd.

Q: What is your favorite thing about volunteering for Audio-Reader?
A: My favorite thing is just helping out folks who have difficulty reading for themselves.

Audio-Reader In History

By Lynne Ellis, Audio-Reader Volunteer

July 1987: Vice Chancellor Robert Bearse announced that Dr. David Andrews of the Chicagoland Radio Information Service would be the new director of Audio-Reader.
Audio-Reader staff and volunteers celebrated Susan Tabor’s nearly 14 years of service to the organization with a reception on June 22. Susan is pictured here with Bob Campbell, Janis Hutchison, and Brenda Berg-Dyck in the Sensory Garden.