Many of you have already started exploring Audio-Reader’s new website, and a few of you have contacted me because features you access regularly are no longer where they used to be. It’s kind of like when they move your favorite cereal at the grocery store so you have to look around—maybe you’ll discover something new! While we want you to look around, here’s where you’ll find a couple of key features.

The Studio Schedule
Those of you who schedule your own studio time using our online scheduler have probably discovered the navigation path to it has changed. To find it from our home page (reader.ku.edu), click on the “Volunteer” link at the top of the page. A sub menu will appear. Choose the “Resources and Training” link. On the left side of the page you’ll see the “Studio Scheduler” link. You’ll also find a link to the list of online newspapers we use regularly. Our volunteer handbooks, pronunciation guides and audio recordings of training sessions are also on that page.

The Web Archive
The web archive is currently under construction as we expand it to include a full year of audio rather than just a week. To access your programs from the home page (www.reader.ku.edu), click on the “Listen” link at the top of the page (this is different from the listen button on the right side of the page). A sub menu will appear. Choose the “Program Schedule” or “Program Catalog” link, then click the “Listen” link next to the program you want to hear.

Please keep exploring, and if you find issues or have questions feel free to let us know so we can address them.

Long-Time Audio-Reader Listener and KU Employee Retires
By Lori Kesinger
Outreach Coordinator/Listener Liaison

Audio-Reader listener Mary Chappell retired May 12 after 34 years of service with KU Recreation Services. At her retirement party she was bestowed Emeritus status, given a limited edition print, and showered with praise and thanks. A scholarship has been created in her honor which will be made available to KU students working in the Recreation Services Department. If anyone wishes to contribute to this scholarship, contact Dan Simon at KU Endowment.
MEET A LISTENER: EDITH JOHNSON

By Lisa Werner
Special Requests Coordinator

Edith Johnson has been a devoted Audio-Reader listener since 1996. Edith is currently a resident of Overbrook, KS. I appreciate Edith taking the time to visit with me and allowing me to interview her for our newsletter. Edith is a lovely, funny, warm, interesting lady with a big heart. Meet Edith Johnson.

Where it all started: “I was born in Carbondale, KS, but we moved to Lead, SD, when I was three or four years old. I have many fond childhood memories from my years in Lead. I enjoyed the snow and ice skating. The most fun was sledding in the Black Hills. We moved back to Carbondale, KS, in 1940 due to the war.”

Family: “My mother taught me how to knit and crochet. I loved to knit but never fully conquered the art of crocheting. My mother could crochet so fast and it was difficult to keep up with what she was doing. I ended up buying myself a self-help book on crocheting but never was as good at it as I was at knitting. I have two wonderful children. My son is retired now but he worked 40+ years for the Santa Fe Railroad. My daughter still works full-time.”

Favorites: “Morning is my favorite time of day. I like to see the sun come up. My favorite food is English pasties. My grandmother made them and passed the recipe on to my mother, who passed it on to me, and I passed it on to my daughter. My daughter makes them for me occasionally. They are easy to make. Roll out a circle of pie crust, fill it with some sliced potatoes, round steak, butter, salt and pepper. Fold and crimp it, slit the top and brown in the oven for an hour. My favorite music is Elvis Presley and Dolly Parton. My favorite movies are Gone with the Wind and The Wizard of Oz.”

Collections: “I use to collect dolls. I had a large collection of many types of dolls from all over the world. When I moved to assisted living I had to downsize and get rid of many things, including most of my dolls. I gave my most favorite dolls to my daughter. My Gone with the Wind Barbie is one of my favorites.”

Free Time: I like to play bingo with my friends here at Brookside. I like to take my cat, Miss Kitty, around to visit my friends and neighbors here at Brookside. Miss Kitty rides on my walker. Everyone loves Miss Kitty and looks forward to my bringing her around.”

Audio-Reader: “My favorite Audio-Reader show is Don Frey’s Old Time Radio show on Saturday mornings. I have my radio on most of the time and enjoy hearing the local and surrounding area news. In the evenings I enjoy the different book readings.”

A heartfelt thank you to Edith for sharing her time, stories, and family recipe with us. I am going to make and try a batch of English pasties. I hope you will too!

This Month in Audio-Reader History

By Lynne Ellis, Audio-Reader Volunteer

• June 1986: A-R staff attended the 9th annual Association of Radio Reading Services meeting in Pittsburgh, PA. Janet Campbell gave a presentation on programming and director Rosie Hurwitz was honored with an award and plaque which read, “Her vision made possible the creation of Radio Reading Services, brightening the lives of disabled people everywhere.”

• June 1991: Mona Lonberger became Audio-Reader’s new assistant coordinator of volunteers.

• June 1996: Art Hadley was chosen as the River City Lions Club “Lion of the Year” at the group’s awards induction ceremony.

• June 2011: Six staffers headed to the International Association of Audio Information service conference in St. Louis, MO. Audio-Reader came away with three awards: Calder Pickett’s The American Past, Mary Ann Saunders’ Mail Order Catalogs and Audio-Reader’s fundraiser, For Your EARS Only.
New Faces

By Jennifer Nigro,  
Coordinator of Volunteers

Please give a warm welcome to the following new volunteers!

**Michael Beckett** has 17 years of radio and TV broadcasting experience, 25 years in disaster relief and 45 years and counting of pastoral counseling and Bible teaching! He is excited to put his love of broadcasting to good use and give back to the community at the same time. He begins reading the *Sabetha Herald* and *Hiawatha World* for special request.

**Kelsey Griffith** is a case manager and hospital advocate for the Rose Brooks Center in Kansas City. She also volunteers for the Kansas City Coalition Against Violence Educators (KcCAVE) and ReBel. Kelsey looks forward to being an advocate for accessibility by volunteering at Audio-Reader. She begins reading romance novels.

**Charles Higginson** is a retired publications editor for KU Endowment. In his spare time he enjoys reading, writing, fly fishing and vegetable gardening. He will read anything and everything! We’re going to take advantage of that—Charles begins as a substitute reader.

**Rick Sealey** is a front desk clerk at the Barton County Library. He also has a background in TV news, working mostly as a news producer. Michael enjoys reading, movies and music in his spare time. He joins our team reading from the Homer Cole Center in Pittsburg.

**Bonnie Sullivan** is a returning volunteer. A retired medical transcriptionist, she enjoys writing, gardening, reading, cooking and baking, and spending time with her grandchildren. Bonnie begins by reading *Oprah* magazine.

**Paula Winchester** owns her own company. Her work includes promoting and demonstrating the use of solar ovens on behalf of Solar Cookers International, an organization that brings solar cooking to areas with few resources. Her hobbies include travel, reading, theater and art. Paula is volunteering for our Audio Description program.
I love sangria! And this recipe is wonderful! I got it from allrecipes.com but have modified it a little from its original form by adding chunks of pineapple. Enjoy!

**Peach-Pineapple Sangria**
- One (750-ML) chilled bottle of Riesling (or other preferred white wine)
- 1 cup chilled peach Schnapps
- 1 ½ cups chilled pineapple juice
- ½ pound frozen peach slices
- One lime, cut into wedges
- ½ to 1 cup pineapple chunks

Stir wine, Schnapps and juice together in a pitcher; add frozen peach slices, pineapple chunks and lime wedges to serve. (I would chill for at least an hour or two before serving to give the flavors a chance to blend.)

**Student Announcer Reunion—In Chicago!**

By Susan Tabor  
Assistant Coordinator of Volunteers

In the photo, left to right, are **Pete Henry**, **Kelly Gibson** and **Brad Banks**.

Pete is an associate attorney with SmithAmundsen, LLC. Brad is an underwriter for MetLife and Kelly is the senior writer for *VFW Magazine* (a publication recorded by Audio-Reader).

It is always great to hear from former student announcers! Thanks to Kelly, Brad and Pete for sharing their reunion with us! We wish you continued good luck as you continue to your careers and life’s journey!

Recently, three former student announcers for Audio-Reader had a “Student Announcer Reunion” for the Class of 2010 in Chicago where all three of them are residing.

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**Closed Circuit, the Audio-Reader Network volunteer newsletter**

**Graduation**

Congratulations to volunteer **Thomas Hurley**, who graduated from KU with a degree in chemical bioengineering last month. Thomas has read our *Shoppers Showcase* program since November 2015. Though Thomas enjoyed his time volunteering, he will be leaving Lawrence and Audio-Reader.

We also congratulate **Alex Kong**, who received his bachelor’s degree in pharmaceutical studies. He will continue his studies of infectious disease at Cambridge University, which means his volunteer time reading the *University Daily Kansan* has come to an end.

**Deaths and Condolences**

Former Audio-Reader volunteer **Ruth Tomasek** died on May 6. She read the *Kansas City Star* opinion page for Telephone Reader on Saturdays from 2005-2011.

**Herbert H. Renz**, father-in-law of Audio-Reader volunteer **Roberta Renz**, died on May 7 in British Columbia, Canada.

To both of these families and their friends, we offer our deepest sympathy.

**Awards Received**

Audio-Reader garden volunteer **Craig Sweets** received the Tom and Anne Moore Peace and Justice Award for his service to the Lawrence community from the Lawrence Coalition for Peace and Justice at their annual awards dinner on April 28.

Sweets founded a local street newspaper called *Change of Heart* in 1997 with the hope it would change local attitudes toward the homeless and remove change from pockets for what was a publication and work program. Sweets writes many of the stories in the paper, which is published four times a year. He also prints submissions from people who are homeless, an experience that can be very meaningful and educational for the writers and for readers of the newspaper. Congratulations, Craig, on receiving this honor!
CVL Provides Needed Services in Lawrence

By Heather Cook
CVL Coordinator

Some help prepping the flower beds for spring, an extra pair of hands to come by and clean the gutter, a ride from a volunteer to drive around and become better acquainted with the bus stops and public transportation routes; these are all services provided by volunteers to Community Village Lawrence members. Community Village Lawrence (CVL) is a volunteer-driven non-profit that offers services and support to residents who wish to remain in their homes as they age, particularly for those little things that need doing around the house that add up and can often seem like a nuisance to have to ask family or friends to accomplish.

For CVL member Prudence Sieg, the organization has provided volunteer support as she transitions to living in a new apartment. Of the four different volunteers she’s interacted with during her time as a member, Sieg says, “It’s amazing how well-matched we’ve been…she [the volunteer] seemed sensitive, and picked up immediately on what I could and couldn’t see.” Sieg is also a user of Audio-Reader and uses the service to keep up with the Lawrence Journal World and USA Today.

Community Village Lawrence offers a unique, grassroots model for harnessing neighborhood talent and turning it into volunteer support for older adults. While CVL is proud to be the first village in Kansas, the ‘Village Movement,’ as it’s come to be known, began in 2001 in the Beacon Hill neighborhood of Boston by a group of community members who recognized a need to better support adults aging in their homes. Since then, villages have popped up in 150 cities around the United States. According to Sieg, CVL is unique because there are “lots of agencies, but none of them do the small things that come up. Sometimes the simplest thing can make a really big difference.”

If you’re interested in learning more about Community Village, whether it be membership, volunteering, or both, contact Heather Cook, CVL’s AmeriCorps VISTA Program Coordinator, at (785)505-0187 or at info@communityvillagelawrence.org, or check out the website at www.communityvillagelawrence.org.

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Five Questions:

Name: Don Braker

Current assignments:
Kansas City Star business section for Telephone Reader

Years of service:
16 years, 6 months

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: I attended Lamar High School in southwest Missouri before completing an engineering degree at the University of Missouri, Columbia, and an MBA degree at Rockhurst College in Kansas City.

Q: What is your favorite book?
A: My all-time favorite is The Holy Bible.

Q: How or why did you get involved with Audio-Reader?
A: When I retired from work, I sought a long-term volunteer assignment with substance and a known, specific time requirement. I had been unable to volunteer while employed.

Q: What is your favorite or most unusual reading assignment?
A: In reading the Friday business section of the Kansas City Star, I am provided an opportunity to digest the business news of the day uninterrupted, without being pressed to put the paper down to accomplish a chore.

Q: What is your favorite thing about volunteering for Audio-Reader?
A: I am able to complete my assignment without leaving my home in Overland Park. That is an invaluable benefit. I can read in my pajamas if I choose, and never need to travel icy or congested streets. Thanks Audio-Reader for this wonderful opportunity.
Welcome Audio-Reader’s New Development Director!

Audio-Reader’s new development director, Beth McKenzie, started full time at the end of April and has hit the ground running! Beth comes to us most recently from Midland Care and has over 10 years of non-profit experience, including fundraising, grant writing and program management.

Beth grew up in Ottawa and got her undergraduate degree from Washburn University and her master’s in social work from the University of Northern Iowa. When she’s not working, she loves reading and watching documentaries. She is gardening this year and plans to teach herself how to sew. She also loves spending time with her two dogs, both rescues.

Beth has followed Audio-Reader over the years through friends and family who have volunteered or worked here. She has been really impressed with how warm and welcoming everyone has been at Audio-Reader.

Beth has jumped right in and is in the midst of finishing up preparations for Audio-Reader’s Golf Classic on June 6. If you haven’t already, make sure to stop by Beth’s office and introduce yourself. She’s looking forward to getting settled at Audio-Reader and meeting everyone!

Audio-Reader Golf Classic Tees Off June 6!

Make plans to join us out on the greens of Eagle Bend on Monday, June 6 for Audio-Reader’s 7th Annual Golf Classic! We’re excited to have Erin O’Neil, Head Coach of KU Women’s Golf, chair the tournament again this year. You’ll have the chance to tee off against her and one of her star players at different holes along the course. For only $125, you can register to play in the tournament. The fee includes breakfast, lunch and a chance to win fun prizes. Our event also includes a silent auction which, this year, features some amazing items, including a week-long condo stay in Taos, NM, and Hilton Head!! You don’t want to miss out on this fun event that raises important funds for Audio-Reader. For more information or to get registered, contact Beth McKenzie at (785) 864-5336 or bethmckenzie@ku.edu. Brochures for the tournament are available at Audio-Reader and on our website at http://reader.ku.edu/audio-reader-golf-classic

Visit the New Sensory Pavilion!

On May 13, Audio-Reader’s Sensory Garden welcomed its newest addition: the Sensory Pavilion. KU Architecture students with the Dirt Works Studio finished up their semester project and unveiled it to the public on a beautiful spring day. The pavilion features rammed earth columns and walls, a crushed-granite ground and a timber roof and benches. Please make plans to come and visit the garden and see the beautiful, new pavilion!

Bricks Make Great Gifts!

Having a hard time thinking of a gift for Dad for Father’s Day or the recent graduate in your life? Consider purchasing a brick in their name for Audio-Reader’s Sensory Garden. Please contact Meredith Johanning at (785) 864-4634 or mjohanning@ku.edu. Garden brick brochures are also available at Audio-Reader. Your purchase will help support the Sensory Garden.
JUNE BIRTHDAYS

To these volunteers with June birthdays, we wish a joyous, festive birthday:

1 Lorel Lewis is one of our substitute readers.

3 Merilee Dymacek is one of our substitute readers.

Chris Hotvedt reads from the Topeka Capital-Journal on Sundays for Telephone-Reader.

Martin Okekearu hosts the To Your Good Health show each week.

5 Marla Adkins-Heljeson reads sports from the Kansas City Star for Telephone Reader on Sundays.

Fred Miller reads local news from the Kansas City Star for Telephone Reader on Sundays.

Laura Denneler is our cleanup reader for Telephone Reader on Tuesdays.

Richard Gier reads Kansas City area local news from our location at Alphapointe in Kansas City.

12 David Kent is one of our substitute readers.

Virginia Smith reads news from southeast Kansas from our remote location at the Homer Cole Center in Pittsburg.

18 Avanelle Mercer reads for special requests.

Kathy Sanders reads USA Today on Fridays.

19 Chris McCloud reads from the Topeka Capital-Journal for Telephone Reader on Fridays.

20 Don Frey co-hosts Breakfast Table Times on Thursdays and Double Order of Freys. He also hosts the Old Time Radio broadcasts each Saturday morning.

21 Arleta Bell is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

23 Kathe Dougherty hosts the Christian Science Monitor broadcast each week.

Michael Kimber is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

Mary Ann Saunders hosts the Mail Order Catalogs Show each week.

24 David Dinneen reads books.

Joy Dworkin reads news from southeast Kansas from the Homer Cole Center in Pittsburg.

Thomas Howe reads the front page from the Kansas City Star on Tuesdays for Telephone Reader.

Bettie Ore is one of our Emeritus volunteers.

25 Guy Jacobs reads from the Topeka Capital-Journal on Wednesdays for Telephone Reader.

Stephen Moles is one of our substitute readers.

26 Bruce Roberts reads regional news from western Kansas on Tuesdays.

28 Mary Ann Strong co-hosts the Breakfast Table Times broadcast on Tuesdays.

STAFF BIRTHDAY:

Editor’s Note: A May birthday got missed; my deepest apologies!

May 8

• Beth McKenzie is our new development director.

Happy Birthday to all of you!

The first day of summer is June 21! Have a fabulous summer! And please remember to let us know if you have some extra time to fill in for vacationing volunteers during the summer and/or if you are going to be gone at any time over the summer so that we can be sure that your assignment is covered! Thanks so much for all you do!

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for Thursday, October 6! That’s the date for this year’s Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. It will be held at Maceli’s, 1031 New Hampshire Street in Lawrence. We will begin with a social hour at 5, followed by dinner and program at 6. Reservations will be taken later this summer and fall. We hope you’ll join us as we celebrate Audio-Reader’s 45th anniversary and our amazing volunteers!
Students from the Dirt Works Studio (KU Architecture 509 class) are shown here hard at work, putting the finishing touches on our new Sensory Pavilion before its dedication on May 13. Thank you to volunteer Bruce Frey for catching them in action!