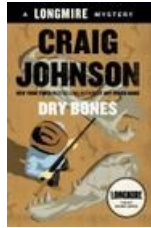




# Sunriver Books & Music

## April 2015 Newsletter

[Sunriverbooks.com](http://Sunriverbooks.com)  
541-593-2525



Craig Johnson returns Friday 5:30 PM May 15<sup>th</sup> at SHARC for a presentation on ***Dry Bones***, the latest in his internationally best-selling Walt Longmire series. The characters feel like good friends, it is always a pleasure to read the new book and find out what they have been up to. Walt, Henry Standing Bear, and Vic (short for Victoria, she of the sharp tongue and predilection to action) do not disappoint, they are good company. All of the books in the series are beautifully written, use their spectacular Wyoming setting well, and have finely crafted plots. Craig is always entertaining, his series a great favorite.

***Dry Bones*** releases May 12th, just in time for Craig's event at SHARC. We are happy to pre-order for you. At Sunriver Books & Music we are looking forward to reading the latest.

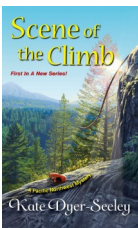
The popular Longmire drama based on Craig Johnson's series should be on Netflix this September.

Sign up early to attend by calling 541-593-2525, emailing [sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com) or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music. All other events are held at Sunriver Books & Music.

Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM Katie Dyer-Seeley will become two people and give presentations on two books!

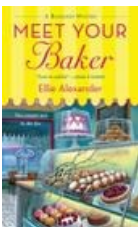


***Slayed on the Slopes*** is the second in the series featuring twenty something journalist Meg Reed. This time the action takes place on Mt. Hood in winter. Meg writes for an extreme outdoor sports magazine, it is a challenge as she attempts to hide her couch potato nature while trying to improve her outdoor skills. She is feeling pretty confident as she prepares to join the Ridge Rangers in the Silcox Hut on Mt. Hood for a feature story on their mountaineering organization. After all, it is unusually warm and sunny in November, probably not going to snow so her inability to ski will not be unmasked. How wrong the girl can be! A blizzard hits Mt. Hood, soon followed by a dead body with an abundance of suspects, all nicely marooned together in the storm. So much for the warm, mild weather! Katie Dyer-Seeley's mysteries are fun to read. She gives you a victim you will love to hate along with a full cast of suspects. Her stories are set in gorgeous Oregon settings and filled with information on the out of doors and history of the area. ***Slayed on the Slopes*** is generously sprinkled with information on Timberline Lodge and Mt. Hood.



***Scene of the Climb***, the first in the series, is set in the Columbia Gorge. Meg's father was an award winning journalist for Oregon's prime paper. Following in his footsteps seemed natural; she achieved a degree in journalism from the University of Oregon and assumed she would be working for her father's paper. No sooner did Meg graduate than the paper lay off forty reporters, it was not an auspicious time for a fledgling journalist. Camped out on the couch of her best friend's loft in Portland's tony Pearl district, Meg's job search was going nowhere. Until she stopped by the local coffee shop one morning and ran into Greg, editor of Northwest Extreme, who just happened to be looking for a new reporter. There was just one tiny issue, the magazine was for extreme sports and the new reporter needed to be an enthusiast. Meg has the credentials and the talent to write, but she is a wuss in the out of doors, mild hiking about the extent of her athletic prowess. With all the

brashness of youth, she decides to fake it. After all, what could go wrong? Quite a lot it seems. Her first assignment takes her hiking at Angel's Rest in the Columbia River Gorge with a group of uber athletes. Meg is not even close to up to this kind of hike and woefully unprepared. Did I mention she is also afraid of heights? When a body plunges over the cliff, Meg's investigative instincts kick into high gear putting her in danger. At the end of the book there are useful outdoor tips.



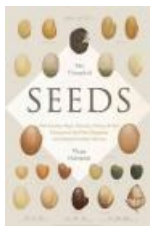
***Meet Your Baker*** is written with the pseudonym Ellie Alexander. This series is set in Ashland Oregon. Juliet Capshaw, a master baker, married a dashing chef. They worked on a cruise line and lived an adventurous life on the high seas traveling to exotic ports of call. Now their marriage is on the rocks, Juliet returns home to Ashland where her mother runs a popular bakery. All is not as it seems in Juliet's home town. The bakery is in financial distress and one of the board members for the Shakespearean festival is making life miserable for all she encounters. When the woman is found murdered in the bakery, the list of potential suspects is long indeed. This fun series uses the Shakespearean festival in the story and includes recipes at the end.





Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM, Thor Hanson returns for a presentation on his latest book, ***The Triumph of Seeds***. Thor Hanson is a scientist and author who pens books that bring the natural world into sharp focus in a way that is both interesting and informative.

***The Triumph of Seeds*** opens with Thor being menaced by a deadly and obstreperous (bad combination in a snake, deadly and bad tempered) fer-de lance. Who knew the role of a scientist could be so dangerous!? The story of seeds is intertwined with the story of life. They are immensely important in how civilizations developed, animal life, and the very survival of the rain forest. Whole eco systems begin with and depend on seeds. Thor takes the reader through this process from the intimate scene of the author planting avocado seeds in his home study, to a space age seed

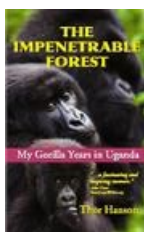


bank in Ft. Collins Colorado where seeds are protected for centuries, on to the dispersal method of the almendro seeds, and on to the practices of the more elite coffee enthusiasts. In addition to the seed banks, seed is being preserved in the gardens of plant enthusiasts who use heirloom seed, a movement that is growing and vibrant.

I found the almendro seed's method of travel fascinating. The seed needs to be dispersed away from the parent tree in order to have sufficient light and nutrients to prosper. It needs a ride. Fruit Bats (rather large members of the bat family) find the outside of the seed tasty. While they enjoy munching on this favored treat, they cannot relax to eat on the parent tree for fear of becoming a meal themselves. Pythons, birds of prey and other creatures who would not mind dining on a fruit bat perch on the parent tree. So the fruit bat must make its way to the tree, snatch the seeds, and flee to the safety of a palm tree. Thus by harboring the fruit bats mortal enemies while offering a delicacy, the tree arranges a ride to just the right environment. The fruit bat enjoys the fleshy outside, dropping the seed unharmed to sprout in just the right spot. Now that is a cooperative environmental solution! Of course it is a lot more fun to read and interesting in Thor's book! Even has pictures. As to the coffee enthusiasts, you will have to read about the latest trend in ***The Triumph of Seeds***. All I can say is that although I think of myself as a coffee addict, this is a coffee trend I am not joining!



Thor Hanson is a marvelous writer, he makes his passion for the natural world quite compelling. We have enjoyed the presentations on his previous books; they were entertaining, memorable, and informative. The slides Thor showed on the feeding habits of vultures were truly special when he gave a presentation on ***Feathers***, his last book. I found myself totally involved in the story of a fossilized wing being used in a debate on evolution. And he doesn't stop with the original owners of the feathers using them; he takes the book on to show how man has benefited from fly fishing to downy pillows. Just think of the abuse a feather must endure, subzero temperatures and ferocious winds for the Penguin in Antarctica. Or the way a Pelican's feathers must let it dive into the frigid waters of the Pacific then erupt from the waves to rise into the sky. Feathers are pretty remarkable. And hearing about feathers from Thor is like sitting down for a lively chat with a particularly bright friend.



At Thor's event for ***The Impenetrable Forest***, he filled the room and delivered a fascinating and exciting presentation. Most of us want to do good, but few of us drastically uproot our lives. Thor Hanson made a significant contribution; he put his career on hold and joined the Peace Corps. Thor was sent to Uganda where he landed the plum assignment of working with the Mountain Gorillas. What a grand adventure! Uganda needs to balance between its desperately poor people and preserving animals. Part of that balance is finding a way to keep some of the land wild while benefiting the people too. Tourism is the golden hope of the environmental movement. Thor was charged with teaching the Mountain Gorillas to accept the presence of camera toting humans; his students didn't know they had enrolled in school. The stories about the Mountain Gorillas are very entertaining! He made you feel like you were meeting these magnificent animals and getting to know them personally. Reading Thor's account of their adventures, I became quite fond of them and wish them well.

Author events are free and we will have refreshments and drawings for prizes. Please call 541-593-2525, e-mail [sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com](mailto:sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com) or stop by Sunriver Books & Music to sign up to attend.

#### Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday May 2nd 2015 ***New Hikes In Eastern Oregon*** by Bill Sullivan  
 Friday May 15th 2015 at the SHARC Craig Johnson presents ***Dry Bones***.  
 Saturday May 23rd 2015 ***Cascade Summer*** by Bob Welch  
 June 6th 2015 ***The Home Place*** by Carrie La Seur  
 Saturday July 18, 2015 Jane Kirkpatrick, Phil Margolin, and Greg Nokes.  
 Saturday July 25, 2015 ***The Given World*** by Marian Palaia  
 Saturday August 1st 2015 ***Crazy as a Quilt*** by Arlene Sachitano  
 Thursday August 6 2015 ***As Night Falls*** by Jenny Milchman

Join us to enjoy these fabulous authors! Hearing an author speak clarifies and enriches the reading experience. Author readings are free with refreshments served and drawings for prizes. Call or e-mail Sunriver Books & Music to attend and be entered in the prize drawings. Space may be limited for some events. Check our web site, [Sunriverbooks.com](http://Sunriverbooks.com), for changes and additions.



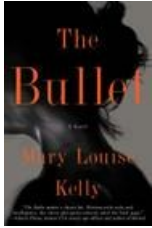
## Staff Recommendations

### Nancy Nelson Recommends



**Mademoiselle Chanel** by C.W. Gortner is an enchanting “rags to riches” story about how the person the world came to know as Coco Chanel overcame tremendous odds to become rich famous, and successful in the fashion industry. Born as Gabrielle Chanel, she was the daughter of a seamstress-washwoman. Gabrielle’s mother died when the children were still rather young. Her father, who barely contributed to the family, completely abandoned her and her sisters, thus they finished their childhood in an orphanage. Gabrielle showed herself to be a gifted seamstress, yet opportunities for young women at the early part of the twentieth century were remote. However, Gabrielle was hopeful and ambitious. She got a job working during the day as a seamstress, and at night singing in a nightclub. When a prominent and very wealthy man saw her performing, he was enchanted with the young, pretty and petite brunette. Eventually she became his live-in lover. His world of wealth became her world too.

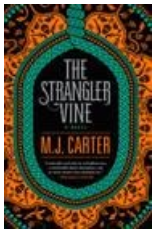
While they were together, she explored her own creative abilities, beginning with designing hats. This occupation led her to Paris where she found her niche and the beginnings of a blossoming success. Coco Chanel introduced comfortable and elegant clothing for the modern woman, shunning corsets and the overly extravagant styles of the time. Then the Nazis occupied Paris. Coco was faced with huge personal conflicts. She was forced to make some ethical decisions regarding her business. Some of them she would later deeply regret. This novel follows the real events in the life of the most famous of clothing designers, offering up to the reader the passion, the drive, and the unrelenting single minded independence of this wonderfully unique woman who was a huge force for positive change in the modern world.



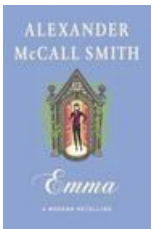
**The Bullet** by Louise Kelly. Caroline Cashion enjoyed her life as a professor of French Literature. She had a very close relationship with her family, especially her mother. Then she began to suffer from mysterious symptoms. An X-ray revealed that she had a bullet lodged in her neck. There was no outward evidence of a wound or scar, and she had no memory of ever being shot. That night she had dinner with her parents, and discovered the truth. When Caroline was three years old her biological mother and father were murdered, shot. The bullet that killed her mother passed through into Caroline’s neck. At the time, leaving it there seemed to be safer than the risk of removal, so there it remained for another thirty-four years. Caroline is shocked to discover that she was adopted and damaged, horrified to learn of the circumstances. She returns to Atlanta, Georgia, where she once lived and begins a quest to discover what she can about her past. Is the killer still alive? To what lengths will he go to make certain that the crime remains unsolved? Is she in danger? As the reader takes this journey of discovery with Caroline, the story becomes a

book which cannot be put down.

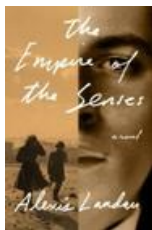
### Deon Recommends



**The Strangler Vine** by M.J. Carter. Jeremy Blake is one of my favorite sleuths since Sherlock Holmes! Brilliant, a master of disguises, and not too fond of suffering fools gladly. Ensign William Avery is sent by his masters, the East India Company, to persuade Jeremy Blake to do their bidding. The mighty East India Company is not the least intimidating to Blake, he sends the young officer off with a flea in his ear. Nevertheless Jeremy is intrigued; the Company wants a famous author found. Mountstuart writes florid tales of adventure and romance, beguiling his readers with India and scandalizing the powers that be in Calcutta. Now he has gone missing at a remote station where he intended to write about the Thuggee Cult. The East India Company wants him found fast. Jeremy Blake is just the man for the job. Blake is saddled with young Ensign Avery on the project, a condition neither man finds advantageous. Avery is full of the glory of the British Raj, while Blake is of the opinion the Brits are a bit tarnished and there is another side to the story. The mismatched pair has one adventure after another, a thoroughly enjoyable story. I am in favor of reading more about them in future.



**Emma** by Alexander McCall Smith. Jane Austen’s story has delighted readers for over 200 years. Alexander McCall Smith has a go at updating it for today. His Emma darts around in a Mini Cooper leaving mayhem in her wake. The father takes a large part in the updated version, and is a thoroughly likeable chap with a bit of an anxiety complex. Jane Austen’s story had more subtlety; Alexander McCall Smith plays it with a more broad comedic take. Emma is intent on getting involved in just about anything happening in her village, most often with disastrous results that will keep the reader entertained. It is an enjoyable story, especially if you regard highly these two fine authors, Austen and McCall Smith.

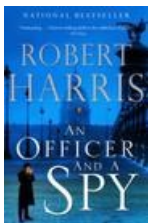


**Empire of the Senses** by Alexis Landau. Lev married into a German family with an aristocratic edge, a family unaccustomed to a Jew in their midst. Josephine turns her back on her family to marry Lev, but as the years pass, Lev does well in business, and grandchildren appear, there is a rapprochement. At least with Josephine, Lev is still considered other. He enlists to fight in WWI, proving to his in-laws that he is a true German. However the reality of war is far more brutal, senseless, and horrific than he had conceived. These realities and the relationships forged from them change Lev. Meanwhile on the home front Josephine feels alone and abandoned, while her family remains disapproving. Decades later their children are affected by the lead up to WWII. Franz becomes a Brown Shirt, buying into the notion of a master race, cleaving to his mother’s heritage and distancing himself from his father’s. Vicki is brash and adventurous; she loves Jazz and is willing to take chances. She is the apple of her father’s eye. Life becomes more complicated when she falls for a young Jewish man with ambitions to immigrate to Palestine. This is not a war story or a Holocaust story, rather the story of the effects these cataclysmic events have on people.

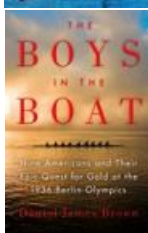


**Welcome to Braggsville** by T. Geronimo Johnson. D’aron is a fish out of water in Berkeley, a small town southern boy feasting on freedoms and ideas alien to his culture while failing to really find a niche until he makes three profound friendships. When his three pals discover D’aron’s hometown holds a Civil War reenactment, they decide to hold an intervention. D’aron’s friends are clueless about the societal cultures of the south, and his hometown is flummoxed by the kids from Berkeley. Consequences are both comic and tragic as the differing cultures collide. Johnson has a brash, entertaining voice; he knows how to tell a story.

## April 2015 Book Clubs.



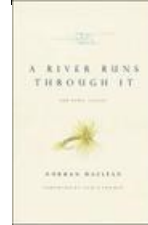
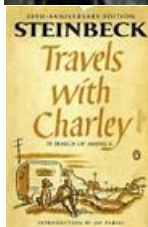
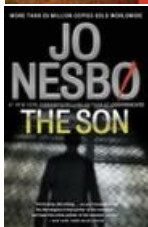
April 6<sup>th</sup> the Mystery Book Club discusses ***An Officer and a Spy*** by Robert Harris. In 1894 Captain Alfred Dreyfus of the French Army, the first Jewish man to reach that rank, was convicted of selling secrets to the Germans. His conviction caused a wave of anti-Semitic feeling. A short while later Col. Georges Picquart, head of Army espionage, came across evidence calling that conviction into question. There is a spy, but that man is not Dreyfus, he is still at large. Col. Picquart soon finds it is dangerous to stir up trouble when his superiors are quite happy with things as they are. Harris ably crafts a work of fiction around these real historic events.



April 13<sup>th</sup> the Non-Fiction Book Club discusses ***The Boys in the Boat; Nine Americans and their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics*** by Daniel James Brown. The University of Washington put the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers against the elite East Coast rowing teams and won. Their unlikely string of victories defeated Great Britain, and then shocked the world by defeating Hitler's athletic rowing team for Olympic glory. Brown focuses his story on members of the team, most notably Joe Rantz, a poor boy with limited prospects and no real safety net, who rows to prove his mettle and make something of himself greater than he thought possible. Set during the depression, Joe has barely got the money to buy food, yet perseveres. If you like stories about the underdogs coming out on top, Olympic sports, or the people of the Northwest, this is a winner.



April 20<sup>th</sup> the Fiction Book Club discusses this year's Deschutes County Library Novel Idea selection, ***A Tale for the Time Being*** by Ruth Ozeki. A novelist living on a remote British Columbian island finds artifacts from Japan washed up on the shore, possibly debris from the tsunami. Among the detritus is a Hello Kitty lunchbox containing a journal and some letters. The author was suffering from writer's block, this material fires her imagination. The items come from a Japanese teenager intent on ending the bullying she suffers through suicide after completing the story of her great grandmother's life. The narrative voice shifts back and forth across the Pacific from the teenager in Japan to the Canadian writer. Short listed for the Man Booker prize, this novel should give us much to discuss.



### Upcoming Book Club Dates for Monday Evenings at 6:30 PM

May 4<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***The Son*** by Jo Nesbo [Mystery Book Club](#)

May 11<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***Travels With Charley*** by John Steinbeck [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

May 18<sup>th</sup> ***Fourth of July Creek*** by Smith Henderson [Fiction Book Club](#)

June 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 ***The Home Place*** by Carrie La Seur [Mystery Book Club](#) [Month of Montana](#)

June 15<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***The Bartender's Tale*** by Ivan Doig [Fiction Book Club](#) [Month of Montana](#)

June 29<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***A River Runs Through It*** by Norman Maclean [Classics Book Club](#) [Month of Montana](#)

July 13<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***I Am Pilgrim*** by Terry Hayes [Mystery Book Club](#)

July 27<sup>th</sup> ***Middlemarch*** by George Eliot [Classics Book Club](#)

August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015 ***Unbroken*** by Laura Hillenbrand [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

August 17<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***The Moonstone*** by Wilkie Collins [Mystery Book Club](#)

August 31<sup>st</sup> 2015 ***Martin Chuzzlewit*** by Charles Dickens [Classics Book Club](#)

September 7<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***Ghost Hero*** by SJ Rozan [Mystery Book Club](#)

September 21<sup>st</sup> 2015 ***A Free Life*** by Ha Jin [Fiction Book Club](#)

September 28<sup>th</sup> ***Grapes of Wrath*** by John Steinbeck [Classics Book Club](#) [Banned Book Selection](#)

October 12<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***Flower Net*** by Lisa See [Mystery Book Club](#) [Month of China](#)

October 19<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***Life and Death are Wearing Me Out*** by Mo Yan [Classics Book Club](#) [Month of China](#)

October 26<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***Waiting*** by Ha Jin [Fiction Book Club](#) [Month of China](#)

November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015 ***The Enchanted*** by Rene Denfeld [Fiction Book Club](#)

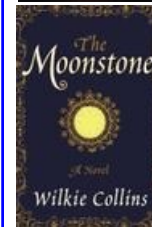
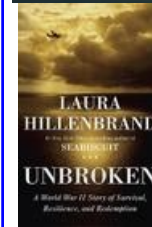
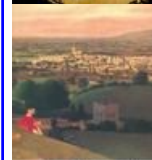
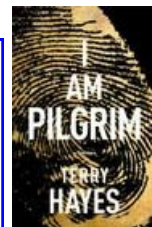
November 16<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***Natchez Burning*** by Greg Iles [Mystery Book Club](#)

November 30 2015 ***Astoria*** by Peter Stark [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

December 14<sup>th</sup> 2015 ***The Ascendant*** by Drew Chapman

December 21<sup>st</sup> 2015 ***The Steady Running of the Hour*** by Justin Go

Comment on book clubs, look up future book clubs, or find more information at [Sunriverbooks.com](http://Sunriverbooks.com)



If you are involved in a club or gathering that would enjoy space in Sunriver Village, please remember the Village owners have kindly provided space in the loft area above Sunriver Books & Music. The space is available for uses compatible with the bookstore during Sunriver Books & Music's hours of operation. To reserve the space for your group contact Deon at Sunriver Books & Music.

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