



Sunriver Books & Music

April 2010 Newsletter

Sunriverbooks.com

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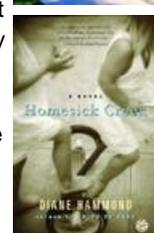
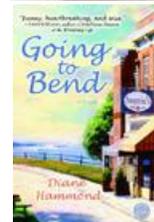


Author Events!

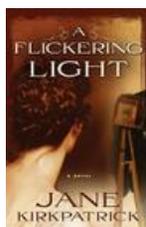
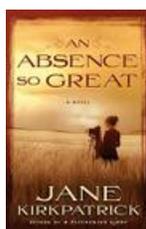
Call, stop by, or e-mail to sign up to attend and be entered in the drawing for prizes.



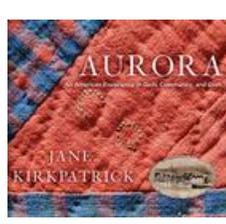
Join us on Saturday April 3rd at 5:00 PM to celebrate Diane Hammond's latest book, **Seeing Stars**. Expect to have lots of fun, we plan on a grand celebration! **Seeing Stars** has just released and is already an "Indie Next" pick. Hollywood sparkles as child actors reach for that gold ring, desperate to make the next booking and land the part that will make them a star. Ruth is Bethy's biggest fan, her confidence in her daughter strong enough to leave her husband, Hugh, behind in Seattle while she spends real bucks in Hollywood helping Bethy search for a big break. Hugh is afraid his wife and daughter are searching for fool's gold, but he stays behind working hard to keep sending those checks south. Allison is picture perfect pretty with talent to burn, but is it enough to book the part that will make her a star? Quinn's star is rising, but he is so volatile he might burn too hot and fall like a shooting star. The characters feel real, full of angst, ambition and heart. Ruth is such a likeable character, the kind of woman you would enjoy joining for a cup of coffee. Bethy is a good kid, a bit self involved like any teenager, and talented to boot. Allison is a lovely feral creature; but with her background what would you expect? The story draws you into the drama in these young lives as they try booking Hollywood. Challenges litter their way, from curt casting agents to demanding directors and insane traffic. Hollywood is a town that hums along on a different frequency from other places; it dances to the beat of a whole different band. Surviving will require talent, drive, and a keen desire to win. Diane Hammond brings this world to Technicolor life as she draws you into the whirlwind of booking Hollywood.



Diane Hammond also wrote **Going to Bend** and **Homesick Creek**. Her last book, **Hannah's Dream**, was a national best seller. it was one of our book club's favorite selections. Sam has cared for Hannah ever since he got out of the Korean War, more than forty years ago. Hannah was part of Max Biedelman's private collection, housed on her luscious, gorgeously landscaped estate. Max willed her estate to the city as a zoo. Now it has fallen on hard times, all that gorgeous landscaping degenerated into concrete and vendor stalls. Standing on concrete isn't good for elephants. Nor is living alone, Elephants need company. At night Sam goes home and he dreams of lush pastures, deep ponds, and the trumpet of elephants. Can a dream become reality? **Seeing Stars** has the same good writing with a compelling story to tell. Lets launch her **Seeing Stars** right onto the national best seller's lists again!



Jane Kirkpatrick returns to Sunriver Books & Music on Saturday April 17th at 5:00 PM for **An Absence so Great**. Jane has written a story very close to her heart, the story of her grandmother Jessie. By writing the fictional account of her Grandmother's life, she allows her to live again in the pages of a book, keeping her story alive. Jane began Jessie's story in **A Flickering Light**. Young Jessie was captivated by photography. Her uncle gave her a camera; it sparked a lifelong passion for capturing the world on film. Everyone in her family worked hard to make ends meet. Young Jessie was expected to contribute too. Fortune smiled on her when she landed a job in the photographic studio of F. J. Bauer. Her passion and determination caught Bauer's eye. Bauer's kindness and interest touched Jessie's heart. He was older and married, it was a situation bound to cause complications. Jessie left home to make her way in the world on her own. Now in **An Absence So Great**, Jane will conclude Jessie's story. Jessie had many adventures, she did not sit on the sidelines of life. She provides her granddaughter with a basket full of memories to use in writing her story. Although she misses her family, Jessie is doing fine living away from home. She has thrown herself into her career, made friends, and fueled her dreams of someday owning her own studio. Life has a tendency to veer off that smooth, easy looking path and Jessie's life is about to face more change. **A Flickering Light** and **An Absence so Great** are both set in the Midwest. Jane's last books were set in Oregon. **Aurora** is a work of non-fiction full of historical detail and pictures about the founding of Aurora Oregon. It shows the beautiful



quilts women created while they carved homes for themselves in the Pacific Northwest. Emma Geisy overcame adversity and was an important part of Aurora's history. Emma's struggles and triumphs inspired a trilogy; **A Clearing in the Wild**, **A Tendering in the Storm** and **A Mending at the Edge**, Jane's books save the stories of strong women from being lost forever. She gives them a voice and allows us a window to the past.



Saturday April 24th at 5:00 PM Peter Strause will share with us the joy of riding a bike around the beautiful northwest. His insightful commentary and gorgeous slides will give you an intimate look at Oregon and Washington. An avid cycling adventurer, Pete has crossed the USA on pedal power. We were fortunate to have him speak about his cross country adventure in 2008. This year he concentrates on the Pacific Northwest. Maybe you don't have the time to devote to crossing the USA on your bike. The Pacific Northwest is right outside our doors, positively bursting with spectacular scenery. Pete may inspire you to hop on your bike this season. Or you might enjoy just listening to him share his bike rides along with showing slides of the awe inspiring landscape. Either way, Pete Strause is a very nice guy, an interesting speaker able share his passion and he has pictures of breathtaking scenery to boot. Pete will be leading a ride this August in Oregon for Adventure Cycling. He will start in Eugene, ride through the wine country to the Oregon Coast then ride south from Lincoln City to Newport, Yachats and Florence. If you take a liking to Pete and feel like having an adventure of your own, I am sure he will happily answer questions about the upcoming ride. Join us for a grand evening as Pete describes the joys of cycling the Pacific Northwest.

Refreshments will be served and we will have drawings for prizes. Attending

author events is a great way to come together with the community for an evening. Please sign up to attend, space may be limited.

Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday May 8th at 5:00 PM **100 Hikes in Southern Oregon** by William Sullivan

Saturday May 15th at 5:00 PM **A Night of Mystery** with Lisa Jackson and Nancy Bush, authors of **Wicked Games**

Sunday May 16th at 5:00 PM **I Thought You Were Dead** by Pete Nelson

Saturday May 22nd at 5:00 PM **The Girl Who Fell From The Sky** Heidi Durrrow

Saturday June 5th at 5:00 PM **Massacred for Gold** by Greg Nokes

Saturday June 12th at 5:00 PM **As It Was Written** by Sujatha Hampton

Saturday June 19th at 5:00 PM **The Spellmans Strike Back** by Lisa Lutz

Saturday July 3rd at 5:00 PM **Junkyard Dog** by Craig Johnson

Saturday July 10th at 5:00 PM **Bend Overall** by Scott Cook

Saturday August 7th at 5:00 PM **Quilt As You Go** by Arlene Sachitano

Saturday August 21st at 5:00 PM **The Crying Tree** by Naseem Rakha

We hope you join us to enjoy these fabulous authors! Hearing an author speak often 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 newsletter or web site, Sunriverbooks.com, for changes and additions.

Book Club meetings are listed on the last page of the newsletter. A more complete listing can be found at sunriverbooks.com.

One of our favorite people, Carole Shipman came up with this delightful idea. Receive a surprise book every month! **Carole's Surprise** comes in 3, 6, 9 or 12 month versions. It will be appreciated by the readers on your gift list and don't forget to give yourself a subscription too! Sign up for **Carole's Surprise** for yourself and be delighted by a surprise book every month! Give a gift subscription and spread the joy of reading to your friends and family.

Carole's Surprise for April-May-June 2010 it costs \$43.94 picked up in the store and \$49.94 mailed in the US. April-September of 2010 costs \$86.94 picked up in the store or \$98.94 mailed in the US. April-December costs \$130.89 picked up in the store or \$148.89 mailed in the US. Give your self the whole year of 2010 for \$172.89 picked up in the store or \$196.89 mailed in the US. Every month brings a surprise book.

Carole enjoys discovering new books and authors. You might enjoy them too! I know I enjoy selecting them for you! In 2009 **Carole's Surprise** featured **So Brave Young & Handsome** by Leif Enger, **The Air Between Us** by Deborah Johnson, **Nightbirds** by Thomas Maltman, **Skeletons at the Feast** by Chris Bohjalian and **Louisiana Power & Light** by John DuFresne What will 2010 bring? Sign up for **Carole's Surprise** and discover month by month.



Books, Books & More Books!



Whiter Than Snow by Sandra Dallas is a compelling story set in a Colorado mining town. It is 1920 in Swandyke near the Ten Mile Range, in a few minutes a shelf of snow is going to split off high on Jubilee Mountain then pick up speed as a wall of white hurtles like a freight train toward a group of school children heading home on the path far below. School has just let out, they are walking toward home just like any other day. In seconds they will be covered deep in snow. Some will live and some will die. Their families wait together, hope is alive until the last possible minute. As we wait with the families, we learn their backgrounds, their stories. Each family has a story that brought it to this moment on this mountain.

The Other Family by Joanna Trollope is an interesting story. Richie Rossiter has two families, the family he left behind over two decades ago and his second family with three beautiful daughters and the woman he would not marry. They revolved around Richie like planets orbiting a hot sun, never intersecting. He was the star of their firmament, life spun around him until one day it stopped. Now because of a strange bequest in his will the two orbits must cross.

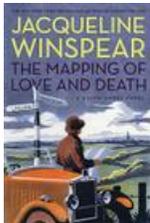


The Weed That Strings The Hangman's Bag by Alan Bradley is another juicy romp through the English Countryside. Flavia is up to her splendidly conniving eleven year old neck in trouble again. The star of a puppet show is stranded for a few days in Bishop's Lacy, long enough to put on a show with far too much sizzle. Flavia intends to crack the case of the unfortunate puppeteer and teach the local constabulary a thing or two about detecting. Her sleuthing will take her into a dark woods and an even darker secret. A visiting aunt threatens to crimp her style, but Flavia is a hard girl to corral. Marvelously fun reading.



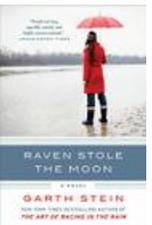
The Hand That First Held Mine by Maggie O'Farrell is breathtaking! It is scheduled to release mid April. Lexie wants to live big, experience life to the fullest. And for a while she succeeds. Taken under the wing of her lover, flamboyant Innes Kent, she explores the ins and out of reporting on fine art. Decades later Elina nearly dies in childbirth, frightening her lover Ted. She hazily navigates the first days of motherhood as Ted starts to remember. Their lives will be connected by a long hidden secret. Twists and turns aplenty flourish in this compelling story with great characters.

Fragile Beasts by Tawni O'Dell has just released. Candace's life stopped the day she held Manuel as his blood flowed into the dirt of the arena floor under the gaze of a magnificent black bull. Forty six years have passed; Candace is viewed as an eccentric old lady with too much money and an obsession with Spanish bulls. Klint and Kyle have just lost their father, and their Mom still walking the planet is not necessarily a blessing. Unlikely as they are, the two broken boys and the elderly recluse will touch each other and begin to heal. ***Fragile Beasts***, aren't we all?



The Mapping of Love and Death by Jacqueline Winspear continues one of my favorite mystery series. Maisie is approached to find the wartime love of a young man whose body has been uncovered in a farmer's field, his sweetheart's letters at his side. Many years have passed since the young man went missing in the chaos of WWI, his parent's hope of finding their son dwindled long ago. Those wartime letters revive a hope in his parent's hearts, perhaps they cannot have their son but maybe they could find the woman he loved. Sixteen years in the ground took a toll on the body, but Maisie is still dead certain he was killed by an enemy much closer than the shells fired in war. A killer cunning enough to hide his tracks well, a survivor who used war to camouflage is evil deed. Can Maisie solve the case before another victim is claimed?

Raven Stole The Moon by Garth Stein is his first book, a very different story from his wildly popular book, ***The Art of Racing in the Rain***, but with the same inspired writing. It is wonderful to have it back in print! Mixing Tlingit legend with the story of a bereft young woman from Seattle, he weaves a compelling story of loss and redemption. How far would a woman go to save the soul of her child? Jenna's son drowned two years ago on a vacation in Alaska, on the anniversary of his death she is drawn back to Wrangell Alaska. From a Shaman she learns the legend of the Kushtakas, she begins to suspect they have taken her son. Would you go into the heart of darkness for the child you love? Garth vividly blends legend, belief, and a rousing adventure. Jenna is a sympathetic character, you will root for her.



The Four Corners of the Sky by Michael Malone is releasing in paperback this month. One of my picks for the best books of 2009, it is loaded full of southern exuberance and just sheer fun! The US Government, con men, a dysfunctional family (big time dysfunctional) and an earnest young pilot are all gleefully shaken together with a masterful touch, creating a story that careens along at the pace of an F14 (fast). Just when you think everything is coming under control, look out, the story takes a sharp turn heading full tilt off in another direction. Jack Peregrine assured his daughter Annie she was a flyer right before he ran off into the ferociously stormy night on her 7th birthday leaving the child with an unfamiliar Aunt and the unlikely birthday gift of an airplane. Annie's Dad was right, she was a flyer. A natural. Annie's Aunt Sam and Uncle Clark Goode raised her well, giving the abandoned child a house full of love. Annie took Clark's name. In school when Annie came out onto the track her classmates would sing "Go, Annie, Go, Annie P Goode"! She was made for speed! The naval academy had only one pilot who could fly jets faster, she married him. Speed and cheerful recklessness is not always such a great barometer of husband material. Now Annie is all grown up, an accomplished Naval Aviator ready to break speed records. Two decades have passed, it is Annie's 28th birthday, and the heavens are again raging, when a call comes from her long absent father. Annie, come to St. Louis, it is a matter of life and death! Does she hare off into the stormy night after her vagabond Dad? What do you think? Before the story ends there will be sunken treasure, frustrated government agents, villains, and a sting to end all stings. Hang onto your hats! It is going to be a bumpy ride! But oh what fun.

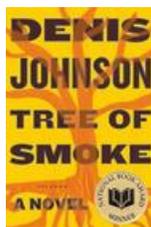
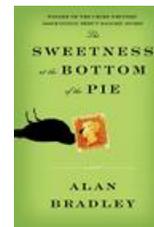
Shanghai Girls by Lisa See has released in paperback. Pearl and May are happy young sisters, the world is their oyster, until their father loses the family fortune and the Japanese invade their country. In an instant their lives change in horrible ways. The intrepid young women make their way to the USA where they struggle to make a new life for themselves



Our website, sunriverbooks.com, is hosted by the American Bookseller's Association, the association of local, independent bookstores. In early March one of their servers went down while the formats of the websites were changing. Unfortunately our website was one of the sites affected. It has been an overwhelming task for the ABA. They are working to fix the situation, but I do not have an exact time frame. We apologize for any inconvenience. Please keep checking sunriverbooks.com we do hope to have it up and working properly again soon. When the website is fixed, it will have some nifty new features. If you would like to receive our newsletter via e-mail you can sign up at the bookstore or by emailing sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com. Thank you for your patience.

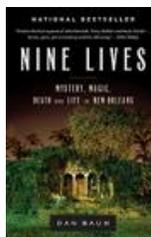
April 2010 Book Clubs

Monday April 5th at 6:30 the Mystery Book Club discusses *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie* by Alan Bradley. Set in the 1950's in a sweet little English Village, the story has an unusual protagonist. Flavia is only 11 years old, but she is precocious to the hilt. Obsessed with chemistry, she spends her days concocting poisons to dose her older sisters. Flavia's father is a widower, a lonely lord of the manor sort who has withdrawn into the solitary pursuit of collecting stamps. Flavia is startled to hear raised voices coming from her Dad's study one evening. He never has visitors and is not prone to arguments. Next morning Flavia finds her father's visitor dying in the garden. Well this doesn't look good. Flavia is sure the police might come to some nasty conclusions and sets off to find a killer. The Mystery book club should have a good time with this one! It is deliciously wicked and fun.

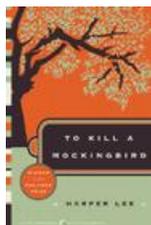
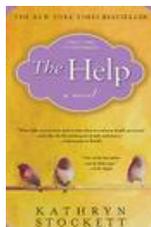
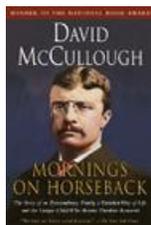
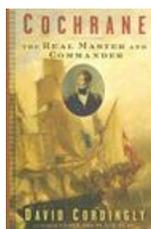


Monday April 12th at 6:30 the Fiction Book Club discusses *Tree of Smoke* by Denis Johnson. Telling the story of Vietnam from several perspectives, from grunt to Viet Cong to CIA operatives, the story moves inexorably in yearly segments from 1963 to 1983. The Houston brothers go into the service because there does not seem to be much else for them to do with themselves. They come from a poor family, a single Mom, and no prospects. Bill is Navy; he drinks too much and has a tendency to get into trouble. James is Army Infantry, a grunt who arrives in Vietnam charmed by the lush countryside and friendly people. Firefights, exploding grenades, blood, guts, and destruction soon change him into something that should be very frightening. What do we do to these boys when we send them to kill? Skip Sands joins the CIA, following in the footsteps of his illustrious uncle Colonel Sands. Skip is a believer; he believes in the USA, he believes in the threat of communism, most of all he believes in his heroic uncle. The aforementioned uncle is also a believer; he will pull whatever strings are to hand to stop the threat of communism. Kathy Jones wants to do good work, to try and save some of the poor orphaned children. Kathy has found hell, right here on earth. Johnson deftly weaves their stories into the maelstrom of the Vietnam War.

Monday April 19th at 6:30 the Classics Book Club discusses *Song of Solomon* by Nobel Prize winner Toni Morrison. Milkman was born in 1931 from the unhappy union of Macon Dead and his wife Ruth. It was not a particularly advantageous time in America to be born black and not an auspicious family to be born into. Milkman grows up not knowing much about his roots, he is a northerner, living by the great lakes. His Dad is consumed with making money, watching his investment properties. His Mom is eaten up with loneliness and longing. Milkman's search for his identity will take him south on a circuitous route back to his past. He will need to walk the paths of his ancestors to discover a man can fly.



Monday April 26th at 6:30 the Non Fiction Book Club discusses *Nine Lives* by Dan Baum. Katrina was one of the worst disasters any American city has suffered, but it is not the only story in the Big Easy. Real people live there, with homes, and jobs, and family. *Nine Lives* tells their story, well nine of them anyway, beginning in 1965 with Ronald Lewis and Hurricane Betsy. As the book continues we meet the man who gave Harry Connick one of his first singing gigs, Coroner Frank Minyard. Belinda wants to pull herself out of poverty, get an education and achieve a better life. From dirt poor to wealthy, their common thread is a love for the city of New Orleans. I found these people interesting. Some of them I liked; plucky Belinda, Tootie with his devotion to Mardi Gras, Frank with his need to help. Their stories are well worth telling. I applaud Dan Baum for looking beyond the obvious, the storm, and finding the people of New Orleans.



Non Fiction Book Club

Monday 6:30 May 24th 2010 *Mornings on Horseback* by David McCullough

Monday 6:30 June 14th 2010 *Cochrane: The Real Master & Commander* by David Cordingly

Monday 6:30 July 12th 2010 *Plato and a Platypus Walk Into a Bar* by Thomas Cathcart and Daniel Klein

Fiction Book Club

Monday 6:30 May 17th 2010 *Honolulu* by Alan Brennert

Monday 6:30 May 31st 2010 *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson

Monday 6:30 June 28th 2010 *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett

Monday 6:30 July 19th *The Gifted Gabaldon Sisters* by Lorraine Lopez

Classics

Monday 6:30 PM June 21st 2010 *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Monday 6:30 PM August 23rd 2010 *The Brothers Karamozov* by Fyodor Dostoevsky

Monday 6:30 September 13th 2010 *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Mystery Book Club

Monday 6:30 May 3rd 2010 *A Beautiful Blue Death* by Charles Finch

Monday 6:30 PM June 7th 2010 *The Black Tower* by Louis Bayard

Monday 6:30 PM July 5th 2010 *The Coroner's Lunch* by Colin Cottrill

Travel Essay Book Club

Monday 6:30 PM May 10th 2010 *Following the Equator* by Mark Twain

Monday 6:30 PM July 26th 2010 *Following Isabella* by Robert Root

Monday 6:30 PM August 30th 2010 *The Lost City of Z* by David Grann

