



Sunriver Books & Music

August Newsletter

Sunriverbooks.com
541-593-2525



Craig Johnson Returns!

Saturday September 9

The New York Times Bestselling Longmire series

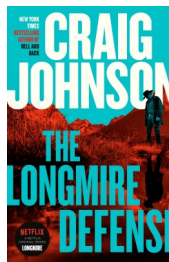
The Longmire Defense

Pre-purchase *The Longmire Defense* from Sunriver Books for a ticket to attend the event!

There will be refreshments & drawings for prizes.

For information, email sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com

Photo of Craig Johnson & Judy Johnson by Brooke Snavelly.



Craig Johnson has been a good friend to Sunriver Books and we are grateful for his generosity and loyalty. He always puts on a good show!

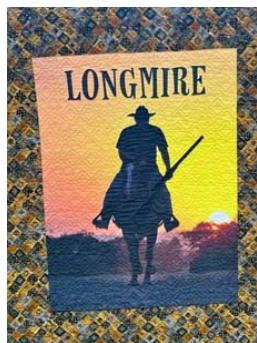
Each new book in the Longmire series is anticipated eagerly, the characters, Sheriff Walt Longmire, undersheriff Vic Moretti, and Henry Standing Bear, feel like good friends and we are eager to find out what they have been up to lately. Craig Johnson lives in Wyoming, he knows the land and people, it shows in the way he portrays Wyoming, a state with spectacular natural beauty.

Sheriff Walt Longmire is recovering from his last case and spending some time with his daughter Cady and granddaughter Lola. Vic, his undersheriff, figures he has had enough time off, she wants him to ride along while she tries to find a motorist who had gone walkabout with her car stuck in a snow bank. Vic has a pretty good idea where they might find the woman. But this turns out to be anything but a routine rescue of a wandering motorist. While he is searching for the woman, Walt comes across possible evidence in a murder. This is a special case, in more ways than one, the crime was committed in 1948 and there is a connection to Walt's grandfather, Lloyd Longmire.

It is no secret that Walt and his grandfather didn't get along. Lloyd was a stern man, with strong opinions. It could be said that a crime committed over a half century ago is lacking in culprits to punish, time having taken care of that by now, but Walt is determined to find out what happened. The problem with stirring up a potential hornet's nest is the strong possibility of being stung. And so it proves to be, the crime may be old, but passions and greed run high and soon there are new crimes that need investigating.

I enjoyed every page! The story fills in some of the background on Walt's family, and introduces new characters I hope we read about in upcoming novels.

In Celebration of The Longmire Series by Craig Johnson **Mountain Meadows Quilters** **Quilting Exhibition inspired by The Longmire Series!**



Many Mountain Meadows Quilters are Master Quilters and Award Winners. Every year, the first Saturday of August Sunriver is festooned with their gorgeous quilts for the annual Mountain Meadows Quilt Show.

This year the members created quilts inspired by The Longmire series that are absolutely gorgeous! We are honored that they have chosen to enthusiastically create quilts that reflect the many novels in The Longmire series!

Stop by Sunriver Books where the Longmire themed quilts will be on display until September 9 when they will be displayed at Craig Johnson's author event for ***The Longmire Defense***. They are something special!

The quilt pictured was created by Judy Johnson of the Mountain Meadows Quilters.

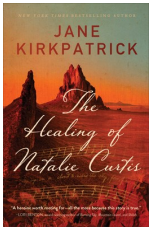


Saturday August 26 at 5 PM Jane Kirkpatrick returns for her latest novel, ***Beneath the Bending Skies***. Jane writes historic fiction that hews closely to the historic record and tells of women who contributed to the West. In ***Beneath the Bending Skies*** the Author's Notes section is a treasure of information on the events in the story. Register to attend this free event by emailing sunriver-books@sunriverbooks.com. There will be refreshments and drawings for prizes.

Mollie Sheehan had quite a life! In her youth she moved often, her father, James Sheehan ran stores, delivered goods for the railroad, worked with mule teams and did the sorts of things that required flexibility in locations. As a wee lass, she moved from Kentucky to Missouri, then had a spell in Colorado, on to Montana, and California. Many of the settings are gorgeous! Mollie's relationship with her father is intense. Her mother died when she was 6, he remarried a wonderful woman a few years later, but his relationship with Mollie was primary. Thus, when she falls in love with another man, Peter Ronan, he does not take it at all well. It prompts the family's move south to warmer climes and far away from Peter Ronan.

Eventually things work out for Mollie, and she will end up in one of my favorite places on the planet (want to know where, read the book!). Mollie will have the privilege of working with Native Americans. Peter Ronan was an interesting guy. His fortunes rise and fall until he takes work as the Indian Agent for the Flathead Reservation in the Mission Valley of Montana. There are many people and events of historic importance detailed, including Chief Joseph's doomed attempt to take his people to safety in Canada.

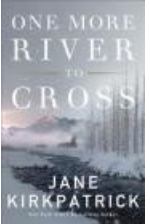
Jane Kirkpatrick is known for writing historic fiction featuring real women from history whose stories would be lost. I have learned about so many women who contributed in meaningful ways to the West by reading Jane's books! Jane Kirkpatrick has an extensive number of titles. Here are a few more of her books.



The Healing of Natalie Curtis. She is about to reach the pinnacle of success as a pianist and singer, set to perform with the New York Philharmonic, then she melts down. No longer able to perform, Natalie sheltered with her family for five long years. Just getting up in the morning was a struggle; she was weak, depressed, devoid of joy.

The whole Curtis family lived together, except for her bother George. Years earlier, he left his job with the library and headed west in hopes the dry desert air would improve his health. George thrived in the west, became a cowhand, and fell in love with the landscape. On a rare visit home, telling stories ranch life, he caught Natalie's interest. Feeling the west might work its magic on Natalie, he persuaded her to travel with him, despite their mother's misgivings.

Reading about Native Americans, Natalie was appalled by the Code of Offenses that prohibited them from singing, dancing, or speaking their languages. In the early part of the 1900's, it was felt that Native Americans should assimilate, should embrace the ways of white culture, becoming more like the people who had taken their lands and way of life. Today, diversity is celebrated. Not so much so back then.



When George and Natalie travel to Yuma, she hears an elderly woman singing in the distance. Compelled by the song, Natalie finds the singer and begins a deeper journey to immerse herself in Native song and culture. When officials step in to prohibit the singing, Natalie writes her relative, President Teddy Roosevelt regarding the injustice. Thus begins a campaign to free Native Americans of the Code of Offenses. And away we go!

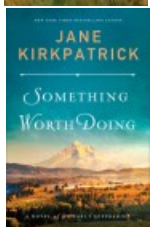
One More River to Cross is set during winter in the Sierra Nevada Mountains in 1844, two years before the tragic events of the Donner Party. The Stevens-Murphy Group was one of the first wagon trains to attempt this crossing into California. The party separates into 3 groups, one going overland around Lake Tahoe, another staying with the wagons, and the larger group taking shelter in a cabin by the Yuba River as they all strive to survive the winter. This historic fiction is based on real events.



Everything She Didn't Say presents a woman who might be considered the embodiment of strong. Feisty too. Carrie was from a well respected east coast family, Robert Strahorn would not have been their first choice for a son-in-law. In 1877 Carrie married Robert and began a life of adventure traveling all over the west scouting for the railroad. She led a life of adventure!

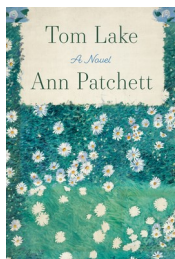


This Road We Traveled is the story of Tabitha Moffat Brown and how she came to be named by the Oregon legislature "the Mother of Oregon". Tabby kept an unusual pet, I admit it had me intrigued and kept me turning pages to learn how it was faring. Tabby was in her sixties and lame in the 1840's when her eldest son, Orus Brown, persuaded the family to head west to the rich farmland of the Willamette Valley. Not to be left out, Tabby joined forces with her brother-in-law, John Brown, a sea captain eighteen years her senior, to outfit their own wagon and head west too. The crossing would be grueling, they were in the mountains at the same time as the Donner party, and hardship would test their mettle. A full account of life on the trail is given.



Something Worth Doing is about a woman who lived over a century ago, it is also a story for our times. In 1852 Abigail, crossed the country on the Oregon Trail with her family. Her mother would not survive the journey. She was hired as a teacher in Oregon, but circumstances dictated she marry. Their fortunes rose and fell, but with Abigail's acumen and determination they prospered. Abigail wanted to make a difference, she saw the way other women were treated, good women who were left penniless by feckless men, or beaten, or suffered any number of indignities. She felt women should be able to share in the choices that affected their lives, should be able to hold property in their names, should be able to have careers. And she made it happen! Abigail Scott Duniway became a force to be reckoned with in working for the rights of women, including the right to vote.

Staff Recommendations. New Releases.



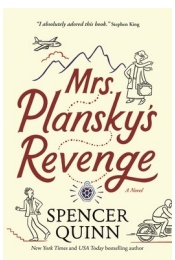
Tom Lake by Ann Patchett. Joe and Lara have three grown daughters, Emily, Nell, and Maisie. In the spring of 2020, they are all at the family home in Northern Michigan, helping out with the cherry harvest. While they are all together, they want their mother to tell the story of her youth, when she had a starring role on stage in Tom Lake, her co-star and lover the soon to be famous, Peter Drake. Who could resist such an interesting past in a mother, and they want all of the details. Of course, Lara will probably keep a few choice bits as her private memories.

This is a heartwarming story, about likeable people, who figured out what was important in life and chose not glitter but substance. A lovely story.,



Mrs. Porter Calling by AJ Pearce. AJ Pearce captures both the innocence and tragedy of WWII from the home front in London. It was a time when truth and integrity mattered, when people pulled together for a common good. Well, most people anyway.

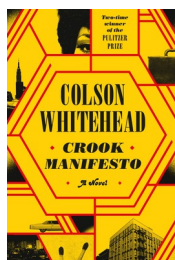
Emmy Lake writes the advice column in Women's Friend magazine. She answers letters about the serious issues facing women, how to make do when their husband is away and they have children to feed and clothe, how to face the next day when their loved one is never coming back from the fighting, those sorts of issues, the practical and significant cares of her readers. When Mrs. Cressida Porter, a wealthy socialite, becomes the new publisher, she has no common ground with regular folks. Her interest is high fashion, articles about the activities of the wealthy (parties and such) and she sees no need for an advice columnist, no matter how popular Emmy is with the readers. Pulling together is not Mrs. Porter's strong suit. Steps will have to be taken to keep the magazine relevant to the readers, Emmy Lake is not going to give up easily!



Mrs. Plansky's Revenge. Loretta Plansky is a widow, a kind, generous woman, who worked hard with her husband, Norm, to build a successful company that sold for a tidy sum when they retired. Loretta's comfortable life is about to be snatched away.

She is awakened in the middle of the night by a phone call, her grandson is being held by the police, he needs money transferred immediately, he is in dire straits. Being a loving grandmother, with the funds to help, she quickly agrees. The next day she discovers it wasn't really her grandchild and all of her wealth is gone! Worse she feels that by being fooled, she has let down Norm's memory. The FBI offer little hope of ever tracking down the perpetrators or making them pay. Loretta Plansky refuses to let the scammers win, she sets off for Romania, intent on bringing them to justice.

This is a clever story about a subject that happens to too many people. I am glad Spencer Quinn wrote such an entertaining novel calling attention to the scurrilous people who prey on the vulnerable.



Crook Manifesto by Colson Whitehead continues the travails and exploits of Ray Carney and Pepper from *Harlem Shuffle*, it is set in the 1970's.

Ray Carney's daughter May is obsessed with the Jackson 5. They are coming to town, she wants tickets to the show more than anything. And Ray Carney wants to light up her face with a smile as big as all out doors. But tickets are not available anywhere! Carney has shutdown the side operations of his business, gone totally legit. He reaches out to his old cop contact, Munson, and it turns out to have been an even worse choice than he could have anticipated. Munson has his own agenda, he figures Carney could be quite useful.

Pepper gets a gig as security for a motion picture being shot in Harlem. Carney's cousin Freddy was pals with the director back in their youth. Carney connects the two and adventure ensues.

Torching buildings in Harlem has become common, the sirens shrieking away with regularity as the flames climb high. When a child Carney knows is hurt in one of the fires, Carney asks Pepper to find out who torched the building.

Flashman July 2, 2002- January 31, 2015

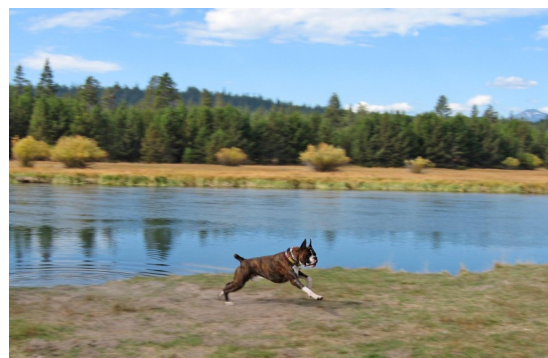
Summer in Sunriver can be great fun for pets, or it can be deadly.

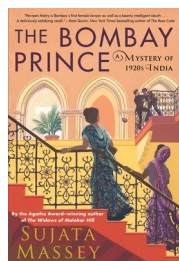
Please remember not to leave your pets in a parked car, temperatures can soar within minutes causing death. If you see a dog in a parked car in Sunriver, please call the Sunriver Police Department 541-593-1014 or 911 so they can rescue the animal. Animals can be in severe distress in minutes, parking in the shade on our hot days will not save them. It is too hot to leave an animal safely in the car, even in shade temperatures will be deadly.

Dr. Wendy Merideth of Sunriver Veterinary Clinic 541-593-8128 alerted us to the danger of mushrooms. Every year dogs ingest poisonous mushrooms, sometimes fatally, always requiring prompt medical attention. In the Deschutes National Forest be cautious of leg hold traps that can grievously injure a pet, or a person.

Please be careful with pets around open doors. It is so easy on vacation to accidentally leave a door open. If you are traveling with a pet, it can run outside and be lost. We have coyotes, fox, and other animals that could be dangerous to your pet, as well as the dangers of traffic and not knowing where to come home.

Spring and summer the wild animals are having their young. Spindly legged little fawns, baby jays, porcupine, and all sorts of animal babies. To have a dog under "voice control" means that you can call your dog back to you from a full run, just like Flashman in the picture, and the dog will immediately return to you. If you don't have that control, keep your dog on a leash! Flashman was under "voice control" he would return to me without hesitation. The baby wildlife are vulnerable, people may not want your dog to approach, there is traffic on the roadway, bikes on the paths, all sorts of reasons for keeping a dog on a leash, or putting in the years of training it takes to have them respond like Flashman.

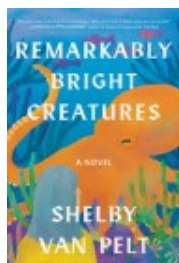




Mystery Book Club discusses **The Bombay Prince** by Sujata Massey August 7 at 6 PM via Zoom and August 14 at 4:30 in person.

The Prince of Wales visited India in 1921, far from impressing the populace with the grandeur of the British Raj and calming the growing clamor for independence, it incited riots that threw the country into chaos. Massey's series featuring the first woman lawyer in Bombay, Perveen Mistry, is rich in history and should appeal to both readers of historic fiction and mystery, it does both well.

Shortly before the Prince's arrival Parveen is consulted by, Freny, a young college student. Freny is passionately in favor of independence and does not want to take part in viewing the parade when the Prince arrives. However, she is concerned that boycotting the parade might lead to her expulsion from college, the college principal has decreed that everyone must attend. Parveen is impressed by the young woman. When something happens to Freny, Parveen cannot stand idly by.



Fiction Book Club discusses **Remarkably Bright Creatures** by Shelby Van Pelt, an absolutely charming story, August 21 at 6 PM via Zoom and August 28 at 4:30 in person.

Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus, is on day 1,299 of his incarceration in the Sowell Bay Aquarium. While the daily crowds of humans watch him, he is watching them. Octopi are highly intelligent creatures, Marcellus particularly so. To pass the time, he observes closely those charged with running the aquarium and knows far more about them than they do about him.

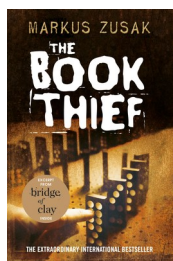
Tova Sullivan is a 70ish widow keeping busy with a job cleaning the aquarium at night after the crowds have left. She greets each creature in it's exhibit as she sets about her task of cleaning the fingerprints off their glass. Marcellus takes note that Tova regards the creatures as individuals, rather than just exhibits. This comes in handy when one-night circumstances will force their contact to be closer than either anticipated.

Tova is alone now in the house her father built. She has her group of women friends who meet weekly and her job at the aquarium. Staying busy helps keep her from obsessing about the tragedy of her son Erik's disappearance thirty years ago. He was a bright kid, working the summer on Puget Sound ferries, waiting to start college in the fall. One day he went off to work and never returned.

While Tova is bereft without knowing what happened to her only child, Marcellus is an excellent detective and has solved the puzzle. However, the challenge is how to convey that information to a human??? It becomes even more important as time passes.

Cameron Cassmore was raised by his Aunt Jeanne. An illness forced the sale of her home and Cameron gave up on college to help. Now she lives in a mobile home, has become something of a hoarder, and spends her energy creating a Shangri La garden, the envy of the mobile home park. Cameron helps when needed, but he has failed to flourish. Jobs come and go; this latest bout of unemployment is primed to leave him homeless. Bad credit, a job history of quick firings, and no savings portend few prospects. His childhood friends, Elizabeth and Brad, realize he needs a fresh start somewhere outside California.

Gotta love Marcellus! I was delighted that Shelby Van Pelt gave a shout out to Sy Montgomery's excellent book, **The Soul of an Octopus**.



Upcoming Book Club Dates for Monday Evenings at 6:00 PM

Everyone is welcome, Meetings are held in person at 4:30 & via Zoom at 6 PM on Mondays.

September

9-4 via Zoom at 6 PM & 9-11 in person at 4:30 **Hell and Back** by Craig Johnson Mystery Book Club.

9-18 via Zoom at 6 PM, 9-25 in person at 4:30 **The Book Thief** by Markus Zusak Fiction Book Club **Banned Book selection.**

October

October **Silent Parade** by Keigo Higashino Mystery Book Club **A Month of Japan.**

October **Pachinko** by Min Jin Lee Fiction Book Club **A Month of Japan.**

November

November **A Game of Fear** by Charles Todd Mystery Book Club.

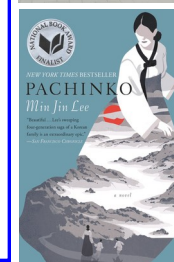
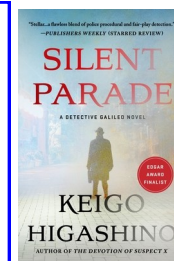
November **Mercury Pictures Presents** by Anthony Marra Fiction Book Club

December

December **The Maid** by Nita Prose Mystery Book Club

December **The Reading List** by Sara Nisha Adams Fiction Book Club

Comment on book clubs, look up future book clubs, or find more information at Sunriverbooks.com



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