



Sunriver Books & Music

December 2010 Newsletter

Sunriverbooks.com 541-593-2525



Have a Happy Holiday Season filled with peace and joy.



Saturday December 18th at 5:00 PM. Barbara Corrado Pope will give a presentation on her latest book, ***Blood of Lorraine***. Set in 1894, the year Captain Alfred Dreyfus was convicted of selling secrets to the Germans, the backdrop of the story is the conflagration of racial hatred that erupted. France cannot find much to be proud of in the Dreyfus affair, the poor man was falsely convicted and sentenced to life in prison on Devil's island. Author Emile Zola's fiery outrage brought public scrutiny and turned the tide in Dreyfus's favor, but not before rabble rousers inflamed a furious public with hatred for their blameless Jewish neighbors. Against this backdrop Magistrate Bernard Martin is tasked with bringing justice in the death of a child. The infant's mother and nurse accuse a Jewish man of the savage killing, Martin is not so sure. He moved to the small town of Nancy in Lorraine France after a hellish murder in Aix-en-Provence and is not thrilled to be in the thick of such a grisly crime as the killing of a child. To complicate his life further, his beloved wife Claire is expecting their first child, an occasion that should be a time of joy. Yet Bernard is coming to see that the town, riled by the massive national attention of the Dreyfus affair, is like a powder keg of anti-Semitism, ready to burst into an inferno with the first match. The murder of an innocent child by a Jew could be the spark that ignites the flame.

The first book in the series is ***Cezanne's Quarry*** set in Aix-en-Provence. Solange is discovered strangled at the bottom of a quarry. Was it her lover, Charles Westbury, a Darwinian scholar and geologist? Did the artist Cezanne strangle her in a fit of jealousy? Or could there be another cause to Solange's demise. Bernard is being pressured to find the truth quick! The paintings mentioned in the books are Cezanne's real work. Pope skillfully blends the worlds of art and science in this captivating first in the series. Barbara Pope Corrado is supremely qualified to bring this period of history to life on the page. She is an Historian and Professor at the University of Oregon. She has lived in France and has a real affection for the country. It shows in her writing. I loved the way she describes the streets of Nancy. It feels like you

are walking along with Bernard from his apartment to the halls of justice. Her characters are well developed and quite likeable. Bernard and Clarie are characters you will want to visit again. I hope this series continues for many more books, I look forward to more time spent with Bernard and Clarie.

Enjoy hearing this talented, well traveled, art loving author speak. It is a perfect way to spend an evening during the holiday season. We will have refreshments and drawings for prizes. Please call 541-593-2525, e-mail sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com or stop by to sign up to attend. The evening is free and will be lots of fun.

Upcoming Author Appearances

- Saturday December 18th at 5:00 PM ***The Blood of Lorraine*** by Barbara Corrado Pope
- Saturday January 15th at 5:00 PM ***To The Woods*** by Evelyn Hess
- Saturday March 26th at 5:00 PM ***West of Here*** by Jonathan Evison
- Saturday April 16th at 5:00 PM ***The Lotus Eaters*** by Tatjana Soli
- Saturday May 14th at 5:00 PM ***A Daughter's Walk*** by Jane Kirkpatrick
- Sunday May 15th Walk With Jane Kirkpatrick (more details to follow).

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.

Sunriver Books & Music has expanded!

Author events now have a comfortable home right inside the bookstore. Come by and see the new digs, we are very pleased, excited and scared. With remodeling some sections expanded: the young people's section, fiction, and mystery, as well as a few other places. Most of the new space is open and available to be set up for author events. Cookbooks, Travel Essay, Golf, Fishing, Hiking, Biking, Yoga and Gardening all came downstairs. The upstairs in the original portion of the bookstore is now solely travel guide books, travel gear, and travel picture books. We hope you will come see the changes.

Re-Discover Sunriver was creative for the good of the community. The upstairs of the new portion of our store is dedicated as a Community Space. During our business hours (other than Saturday afternoon author event times) groups may reserve the space for uses not inconsistent with the bookstore. Several groups are interested in using this the generous gift of this space; a Spanish Club, a knitting group, a spirituality group, and others expressed interest. If you want to reserve the space for your club or meeting, see Deon at the bookstore. We are grateful to Re-Discover Sunriver; we plan on this being a welcoming, comfortable environment for your gatherings.





This Holiday Season Shop Local!

Sunriver Village shops have wonderful ideas for your Holiday Shopping. Avoid all the hustle & bustle, shop Sunriver Village where the crowds are thin and merchants will be happy to help suggest Holiday gifts.

At Sunriver Books & Music we have a variety of great books, games, journals, puzzles, beautiful dog collars, Victorinox Travel Gear and gorgeous fine pens. Fine pens make exquisite gifts, a pen brings memories every time it is used. We have a variety of prices and styles from \$47 up to limited edition pens priced in the thousands. Monteverde teamed up with Walt Disney to create limited edition tribute pens. Sleeping Beauty is pictured on the left. Monteverde created a vision in white to reflect the delicate charm of Sleeping Beauty. It is handcrafted with

sculpted pearl white resin and engraved with motifs from the film including a rose on the crown. Snowflake colored gemstones adorn the clip. The Sleeping Beauty pens come in a beautiful hand made solid wood gift box. The roller-ball is currently priced at \$199.00. The edition is limited to 1959 pieces of each.

We are happy to help with suggestions to find the perfect gift for your holiday shopping list. . We hope you will all support your local village and take a look in Sunriver before going elsewhere for your holiday shopping. Thank you for shopping Sunriver Village!

Carole's Surprise is a great gift idea. Receive a surprise book every month! **Carole's Surprise** comes in 3, 6 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 to receive a surprise book every month! Holidays can be stressful, look forward to 12 months of great books. Give a gift subscription and spread the joy of reading to your friends and family.

Carole's Surprise for the first quarter of 2011 costs \$43.99 picked up in the store and \$49.99 mailed in the US. The first 6 months of 2011 cost \$87.94 picked up in the store or \$99.94 mailed in the US. The whole year of 2011 is \$175.93 picked up in the store or \$199.93 mailed in the US. Every month brings a surprise book.

I enjoy selecting them for you! In 2010 **Carole's Surprise** featured **That Old Ace in the Hole** by Annie Proulx, **A Guide To The Birds of East Africa** by Nicholas Drayson, and **Out Stealing Horses** by Per Petterson, What will 2011 bring? Sign up for **Carole's Surprise** and discover month by month. Subscribers to **Carole's Surprise** are welcome to share comments on sunriverbooks.com.



December 27– January 3 Share the Holiday Spirit! Donate a book to Three Rivers School!

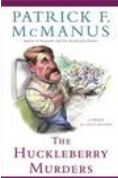
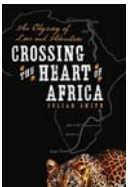
It is hard for school districts to find the funds to keep their libraries and classrooms thriving with good literature. Help fuel the school children's passion for reading. Buy any book in the children's section at 35% off, we keep the book and deliver it to Three Rivers School with your name & address. The first child to read the book will write you a thank you note, thereafter the book is available for the Three Rivers students. A \$19.99 book would cost you \$12.99, a \$16.99 book will be \$11.05, a \$12.99 book becomes \$8.44, \$9.99 reduces to \$6.49, and \$6.99 is just \$4.54. It is not expensive to spread the joy of reading!

Books, Books, & More Books!



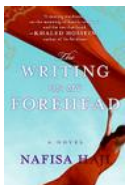
Nashville Chrome by Rick Bass takes us on a wild ride to a time before rapper MC Hammer told us "You Got The Power". A time when a young truck driver shocked a nation by showing that raw power with his swiveling hips and curled lip, Presley would be called King. The face of music was about to change. Jerry Lee was pounding the ivories and howling to the moon, and the Brown family rose to stardom with a sound so pure, so full of life and yearning, that it reached right down in the soul. Roots in the south, a dad who loves the bottle too well, and hardscrabble poverty shape them. Fame brings its own debts to pay. This is the life story of the very real Brown Trio, but it is far more, it is also the story of a music revolution that started in Nashville Tennessee. Rick Bass hits all the right notes in **Nashville Chrome**.

Crossing the Heart of Africa by Julian Smith is the best sort of travel story, set in two time frames. Julian Smith followed the trail blazed by Ewart Grogan 108 years ago. It is fascinating to compare Smith's experiences today with Grogan's a century ago. Both men were inspired in their travels by lady love. The book is chock full of maps, pictures and interesting detail.



Holidays are here; it is a great time for something light and entertaining. How about a nice murder mystery? **The Huckleberry Murders** by Patrick McManus is just the ticket. Idaho Sherriff Bo Tully wanted to spend the day picking huckleberries for a pie; instead he has 3 dead bodies in a huckleberry patch and a thorny murder to investigate. A pretty FBI agent gets into the action since the murders took place in the National Forest. Bo likes the ladies but is not overly fond of the FBI, still they make an entertaining team going after the bad guys.

The Writing on My Forehead by Nafisa Haji centers on two sisters. Ameena and Saira Quadar. Their father is a successful California doctor, their mother loving and kind. They have a sheltered and protected childhood growing up in a family that holds close the traditions of their faith. Saira is a questioning, venturesome child from an early age, while Ameena is more docile and bid-dable. Saira's adventurous nature only deepens when she learns her parents secrets, discovering her grandfather had been part of Gandhi's independence movement. Saira decides against the traditional role she is expected to fill, becoming a journalist traveling the world's dangerous places to tell the truth. Ameena marries and lives near her parents. But world events are about to scoop up her little family in senseless tragedy. This is an important book and a highly engaging story of family.



Seaglass Summer by Anjali Banerjee is an endearing story set in the Northwest. Poppy Ray's life ambition is to be a veterinarian. Contact with furry critters is non-existent because of Mom's allergies. Her 11th summer is going to be different. Mom & Dad are heading to India while Poppy spends the summer on an island in Washington with her Uncle Sanjay helping in his veterinary clinic. Poppy finds her life's ambition holds unanticipated obstacles and rewards. Uncle Sanjay is a kind, patient teacher and Poppy Ray has a most excellent summer. Our young readers should enjoy the characters.

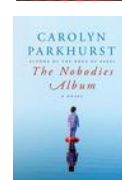
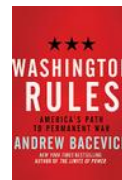
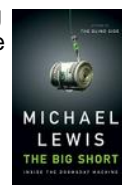
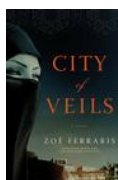
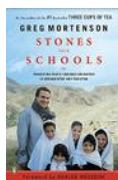
Lets celebrate the best books of the year! Here are our choices for **The Best Books of 2010!**

Top Ten Non Fiction

1. **Empire of the Summer Moon** by S. G. Gwynne. Comanche warriors were "Lords of the Plains". This is a thrilling account of the Comanche's fierce, ultimately doomed, struggle to keep their lands from the encroaching settlers and the Apache Nation. The narrative focuses on Quanah, the charismatic son of a Comanche warrior and a captured white woman.
2. **Stones Into Schools** by Greg Mortenson. This man exemplifies the face America should show to the world. He continues his quest to bring schools to some of the poorest, most dangerous, and remote areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Schools that respect culture and include educating girls. Local tribes are involved in planning and operation of the schools, so they know it is their school and feel invested in its success. Mortenson doesn't come in and tell people what they need, he listens and responds to help achieve the goal of educating the children. You go Greg!
3. **Cleopatra** by Stacy Schiff. Romance and mystery have turned her into a myth. **Cleopatra** was a brilliant political strategist, and a ruthless enemy. Her life was entwined with Julius Caesar and Mark Anthony, two of the most powerful men of all time. She could have taught today's PR firms a thing or two, constantly aware of her image and willing to manipulate hearts and minds with pageantry. This is a well researched account of a fascinating, determined woman.
4. **Warmth of Other Suns** by Isabel Wilkerson. Hopeful of better lives, Blacks left the Jim Crow ruled south in droves. They desired fair treatment and a chance to build a future, desires that were not necessarily realized. Wilkerson choses 3 people to illustrate is the story of this great migration.
5. **Unbroken** by Laura Hillenbrand. Louie Zamperini life had peaks and valleys of Himalayan proportions. An Olympic athlete, he became a bombardier in WWII, survived a plane crash, and internment in a cruel Japanese prison camp, it is an amazing story.
6. **The Big Short** by Michael Lewis. A guy who knows the lingo takes on the bad boys of Wall St explaining the recent financial implosion in terms we can understand, Lewis spent time as an investment banker at Soloman Brothers before turning to writing. He knows where the bodies lie in this liar's game. Lewis shows how Wall St. took Main St. to the cleaners.
7. **The Last Stand** by Nathaniel Philbrick. Sitting Bull and Custer meet on a desolate piece of Southeastern Montana. It will be a crushing defeat for the flamboyant Custer. Philbrick does his usual outstanding job of turning history into page turning books.
8. **13 Bankers** by Simon Johnson and James Kwak. The financial stability of the USA was brought to its knees because **13 Bankers** had grown **Too Big To Fail**. Is it really wise to allow the financial power to be consolidated in so few banks? Has deregulation brought us to edge of ruin? And what is with these very culprits who caused a financial meltdown using bailout money to take over vulnerable smaller banks? Maybe big is not always best.
9. **Washington Rules** by Andrew Bacevich. Can the USA continue to be the world's policeman? Is enforcing our vision of world order making us any safer? Bacevich is a Retired Army Colonel who advises we rethink our reliance on military action. We spend more on our military than the rest of the world combined! A lot more! Is this wise? Bacevich is a conservative who doesn't see much to admire in either the right or the left. Common sense has fled.
10. **Hellhound On His Trail** by Hampton Sides. Martin Luther King inspired a generation, he made a dream possible. James Earl Ray was a hate filled nutcase whose contribution to history is killing King, a charismatic leader with a bold vision of a better future. Sides writes an engrossing account of the intersection of these two men.

Top Ten Mystery of 2010

1. **Junkyard Dogs** by Craig Johnson. Sheriff Longmire has his hands full when tempers flare over the proximity of the city dump to a ritzy housing development. Great writing spiced with humor and a good plot.
2. **The Girl Who Kicked The Hornet's Nest** by Steig Larsson. Salander must trust Blomkvist with her secrets to defeat the forces trying to put her away for good, and her secrets definitely overflow the closet.
3. **City of Veils** by Zoe Ferraris. Nayir and Katya must collaborate to find the truth when a young woman is found dead on the beach. This story blazes across the page, picking up speed and not letting go! Take a glimpse behind the burka into the culture of Saudi Arabia.
4. **Secrets of Eden** by Chris Bohjalian. A young woman is baptized in the river. As she emerges from the water she looks up at the minister and says "there". By the evening she will be dead and his faith along with her.
5. **Faithful Place** by Tana French. Escaping their dysfunctional family and grinding poverty, Francis and Rosie plan to elope. But Rosie doesn't keep the rendezvous and Francis heads off on his own convinced he has been jilted. Decades later Francis is a cop keeping well clear of the chaos his family inhabits. But a suitcase found in an abandoned building brings him back home to discover his Rosie may not have gone far.
6. **Six Suspects** by Vikas Swarup. Vicky Rai is a playboy, gangster, and rotten piece of humanity; the son of a corrupt politician. Six people brought guns to Vicky's big party. One of them shot him dead. All had motives, but who pulled the trigger. Swarup is the author of **Slumdog Millionaire**, he hasn't lost any of his glitter. This man can write.
7. **Small Death In the Great Glenn** by AD Scott. Set in a Scottish Village circa 1950 where life is bucolic on the surface but scratch a little beneath and the scene is not so pretty. McAllister traded the big city to be editor in chief of a small rag, trying to turn it into a paper that delivers relevant news. The death of a child shocks the town. A defecting Polish sailor seems like a convenient villain.
8. **Nobody's Album** by Carolyn Parkhurst. Not your run of the mill linear story, but great fun to read. Octavia Frost is on her way to deliver her latest manuscript to the publisher's office, a delivery she never makes. En route she learns her estranged son has been arrested for the murder of his wife. She will drop everything to fly to his side, wanted or not, and unravel the puzzle of their lives.
9. **Dogs of Rome** by Conor Fitzgerald. Commissario Blume is Seattle born but raised in Rome. He takes his job seriously although he is willing to overlook the misdeeds of his fellow cops. An activist was trying to shut down a dog fighting ring. Now he is dead, murdered in his apartment. Was it his Mafia connected girlfriend? His politician wife? Or the sleazebags who fight dogs? Suspects there are aplenty.
10. **Thirteen Hours** by Deon Meyer. A frantic girl races through the South African night. Will she live or die? Her pursuers are hot on her trail. Vacationing in Cape Town has turned into a nightmare. Detective Griesel is her only hope, provided he can stay sober long enough to stop the killers. The pace is blistering!

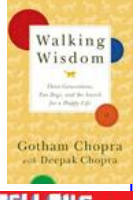
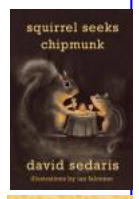
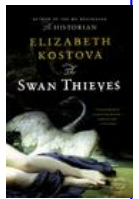
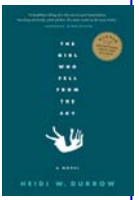
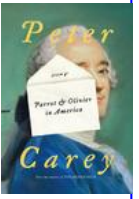
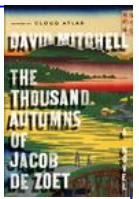
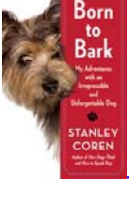
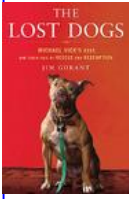
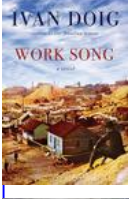
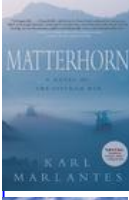


Top Ten Fiction of 2010!

1. **Freedom** by Jonathan Franzen. I am not a Franzen fan, far from it, but it is all about the writing and I believe this is the best of 2010. Walter and Patty seem such nice folks, Patty strives to be the perfect Mom and Walter is so green he bikes to work in the snow. All is not as it appears, soon their son has moved in with the redneck neighbor and Walter is in trouble for getting into bed with big coal. Funny, wrenching, insightful, and brilliant.
2. **Major Pettigrew's Last Stand** by Helen Simonson. Major Pettigrew is a ramrod straight, stiff upper lip, proper British gentleman. His brother's death disturbs him and Mrs. Ali, the local shopkeeper, gives him comfort. Their budding friendship wrecks havoc in Village social life. After all she is Pakistani! Never mind that she was born in England. English Village life at its best, complete with the local vicar, lord of the manor and a full cast of characters.
3. **Matterhorn** by Karl Marlantes. There will be soldiers who fought in Vietnam who will say someone is finally telling their story. This book is visceral, powerful, real. Marlantes can write! In chapter two he describes dusk turning to dark in Vietnam. *The light died. Voices were silenced. Darkness and fear replaced light and reason. The whisper of a leaf scraping on bark would make heads turn involuntarily and hearts gallop. The surrounding blackness and unseen wall of dripping growth left no place to run. In that black wet nothingness the perimeter became just a memory. Only imagination gave it form* The New York Times described it as being more like a deployment to Vietnam than reading a book. It feels that true.
4. **Work Song** by Ivan Doig. Morrie heeds the call of easy money, arriving in Butte Montana, the richest city in the world. But the Copper Kings were loathe to share all that wealth and the propaganda didn't mention the danger and despair of the minors sent far into the ground to wrest the copper from the earth. Morrie barely arrives in town before he is up to his eloquent neck in trouble.
5. **The Postmistress** by Sarah Blake. Frankie is a hotshot reporter working with the legendary Murrow, she reports from Europe by radio stories that bring WWII into the living room of the Trasks, a young couple in New England. Their lives intersect and the Postmistress chooses between the rules she always followed and kindness.
6. **The Thousand Autumns of Jacob De Zoet** by David Mitchell. Jacob travels to a small island off the coast of Japan in the employ of the Dutch Trading Company. His stay is much longer than anticipated. Curiosity and a gift for language allow him to befriend Orito, a young woman who earned the trust of the governor and has been granted the right to study with the Dutch doctor. The story takes you back to a time when Shogun's ruled.
7. **Parrott & Olivier in America** by Peter Carey. Through a series of unfortunate events Olivier, the son of aristocrats who survived (barely) the French Revolution, ends up heading for America accompanied by a reluctant servant, Parrot. Poor Parrot survived many mishaps only to be saddled with keeping the snobbish Olivier out of harm's way.
8. **The Girl Who Fell From the Sky** by Heidi Durrow. A quintessentially northwestern story set in Portland about a young girl sent to live with her grandmother after a family tragedy. Born of a Dutch mother and an African American father, she must come to terms with her racial and cultural identity.
9. **The Swan Thieves** by Elizabeth Kostova. Why would renowned artist Robert Oliver attack a painting in the National Gallery? It is a question his psychiatrist Andrew Marlow will have to investigate for himself because Robert isn't talking. It is a quest that will become an obsession as Marlow follows the trail back a century to a remarkably talented woman. If you are interested in art, this is a feast! The writing is absolutely sumptuous.
10. **The Madonnas of Echo Park** by Brandon Skyhorse. An army of Hispanics go forth from Echo Park every day to work in the gardens, tidy the houses, and watch the children of the Anglos in the City of Angels. Anglos who feel entitled, forgetting that not so long ago Los Angeles was the home of proud Hidalgos, not even part of the US that so closely guards the border today. Aurora Esperanza grows up in Echo Park, learning what it means to be Hispanic, to be proud, and to be home.

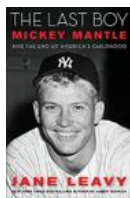
Flashman's list of The Top Ten Animal Books of 2010!

1. **Last Dog On The Hill** by Steve Duno. Flashman salutes the life of an exceptional dog. Driving through the Redwood forest Steve Duno met up with the dog that would change his life. Lou was wild and vermin infested. Steve picked up the pup and took him home to LA. It was a good move. Lou was one of those one in a million dogs.
2. **The Lost Dogs** by Jim Gorant. Michael Vicks is lower than pond scum, yet he is paid mega dollars to play a boy's game. It takes a certain kind of man to be so devoid of humanity and compassion that he can fight dogs. Michael Vicks is that kind of guy. This is the story of the dogs who suffered his abuse and the people who saved them. Many of these abused dogs become loving family members. A dog's capacity to forgive and believe just astounds me.
3. **To Fetch A Thief** by Spencer Quinn. Flashman enjoys a detective story and Chet is one of the best. Chet must find a missing elephant and his trainer, there should be a serious scent trail! He has some help from his human partner, Bernie, but Chet is the star. Found in the mystery section.
4. **I Didn't Do It** by Patricia Maclachlan. A series of 14 adorable poems with fabulous art all told from the dog's perspective. They are funny, endearing, and very doggy. Canines object to the rules, detail what they don't like, swear that drool is good and advise get muddy, be happy. The author's previous book, **Once I Ate A Pie** is a winner too. Found in the children's area, but it is for dog lovers also.
5. **Born to Bark** by Stanley Coren. He probably did do it. Stanley's companion, Flint, was a mischievous Cairn Terrier prone to going on a tear and getting into no end of trouble.
6. **Rose in a Storm** by Jon Katz. Flashman likes a rousing good story, the dog is the hero of course. Found in the fiction section.
7. **Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk** by David Sedaris. Flashman likes a good chuckle, Sedaris is a very funny guy.
8. **Walking Wisdom** by Gotham Chopra and Deepak Chopra. Walking is good. Wisdom is good too, but rather difficult to attain. Gotham finds inspiration from his famous father, Deepak, and from the family dogs. Son, Father, and Grandson walk with their dog, discussing life with the joys of a canine companion. Full of laughter, life, and enlightenment canine style.
9. **Tell The Truth B.B. Wolf** by Judy Sierra. B.B Wolf is invited to tell his side of the story of the 3 little pigs. He is not the hero so he decides to spin it to make himself look better (just like the guys on the nightly news). The 3 pigs call him out and BB Wolf learns to own up to his misdeeds, tell the truth, say I'm sorry, and make amends. Great lessons. Found in the children's section.
10. **Tea & Dog Biscuits** by Barrie Hawkins. Uplifting, amusing stories about fostering dogs in need.



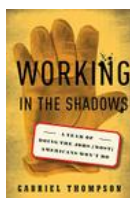
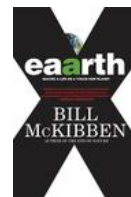
Rich's Recommendations.

White House Diary by Jimmy Carter is a blunt, fascinating and open account of his four years as President, partly as an historical account of the events of the time but also as a window into his mindset during the most pressing issues of those times. Much of the criticism of Carter's leadership style came from his training as an engineer, which shaped his approach to solving problems. He was unsuited for the compromising and deal making that was required to successfully interact with the Washington establishment. Writing a diary and reviewing it some 30 years later, exposes the lack of foresight and misjudgment one has in people and events of that time. This book is a unique contribution to the history of the American presidency.



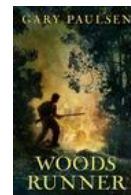
The Last Boy by Jane Leavy tells of an American icon, a sports personality that transcended sports into mainstream Americana, an ideal that Americans wanted to believe in but was doomed to failure. Born into poverty in rural Oklahoma, Mickey Mantle grew into a young baseball phenomenon who went on to become one of baseball's most illustrious and celebrated heroes. Combining both strength and quickness, Mantle was the consummate all around player. He was also a very flawed man, beset by problems of alcohol, infidelity, and family problems, so much that the problems tarnished the all American image the public cherished. Leavy's book explores the complex and often misunderstood personality of one of baseball's all time greatest talents and larger than life legends.

Eaarth by Bill McKibben is a sober and scary account of earth in the balance between ecological sustainability and irreversible collapse. Citing compelling evidence that the global warming phenomena has caused irreversible and pervasive changes, he argues that we now live on a new planet with a new set of climatic and environmental realities, which he calls "eaarth". Describing ways the climatic changes have led to increasingly severe and persistent storms, draughts, and food shortages, he foretells the human toll these changes will make in the future. Our only hope of survival is to revert back to a small scale, localized way of life. McKibben warns we have lost the opportunity to continue to live on the old earth, that earth is already dead. Very scary stuff indeed.



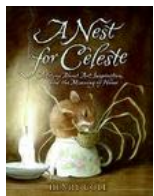
Working in the Shadows by Gabriel Thompson. Most Americans don't know what it is really like to work in jobs no one else will take. Gabriel Thompson spent a year of his life experiencing what it is like to work the back-breaking hot, dehumanizing, and dangerous jobs only the desperate and illegal workers are willing to take. He worked alongside Latino immigrants in a hot, sun baked California lettuce field, and the graveyard shift in a chicken slaughter-house amid the smell, viscera, and the danger of losing hands in the fast moving knives of the chicken beheading machine. As a restaurant bicycle delivery boy, he dodges cars and rain to deliver dinner for pittance wages. He finds these jobs tend to make you old quick. Suffering back pain and other physical ailments, he marvels at the fortitude and stamina of workers who have no recourse but to continue to work despite the pain and suffering in intolerable conditions. He exposes harsh and dangerous working conditions, union busting and lax government enforcement. He puts a human face on the poor people who work these jobs with no one to advocate for their plight.

Wood Runners by Gary Paulsen is set during the Revolutionary War, it shows the stark reality of what many of the early colonists went through during those years. 13 year old Samuel is at home in the forest, he likes being alone in the woods. His city folk parents struggle to make a living in the harsh forest environment of frontier Pennsylvania. After hearing word of the start of hostilities in Concord and Lexington, he returns home to find his parents missing and the settlement destroyed. He tracks his captured parents to New York avoiding dangerous bands of Iroquois, mercenary Hessians and finding help from sympathetic rebels. Alternating between historical facts on life during the war and Samuels search for his family, Paulsen paints a stark and vivid portrait of heroism and the hardships and suffering of the resilient rebels.



Heist Society by Ally Carter reads like Ocean's Eleven with a teenage girl in the George Clooney role, fast and entertaining. Katrina's father is a famous art thief, she tires of being a part of his illegal business and enrolls in a posh boarding school. It isn't that easy to go straight, her father is accused of stealing a painting from an Italian billionaire, she must help him fight the accusation. Kat assembles an "Ocean's Eleven" cast of teen accomplices to help her find the real thief, as they travel to exotic European locales, have love interests intermingled with exciting action and suspense. Carter has written a clever mystery with elements of family loyalty. The ending is perfect for a sequel and teens will be left wanting more.

Everything for a Dog by Ann Martin is the companion story to Martin's **A Dog's Life**, telling parallel stories of a stray dog. Bone and Squirrel are orphan strays after losing their mother. Brother and sister are torn apart and Bone must go on alone not knowing if Squirrel survives. The story is told through shifting viewpoints; Bone's and two young boys. Charlie is dealing with the death of his older brother, healing with the help of his dog when another tragedy occurs. Henry wants a canine companion more than anything, his longing bone deep, but his parents refuse. Henry's best friend moves away and he redoubles efforts to convince his parents to allow him to have a dog. Bone, Henry and Charlie are fated to have their lives intersect in unusual ways that will involve dogs and boys coming together. This story is perfect for those who have ever shared their life or loved a dog.



A Nest for Celeste by Henry Cole is the endearing story of Celeste, an industrious mouse who weaves a small basket made of grass. Living in a plantation home near New Orleans, she learns that the home is the temporary abode of John James Audubon and his assistant Joseph Mason. When circumstances leave Celeste unable to return to her home, she forges a bond with the homesick Mason and helps him in creating background artwork for Audubon's wildlife paintings. She also helps to heal the wounded birds that are the artwork subjects. Cole's story is punctuated by beautiful illustrations that accompany the narrative told from the vantage point of a mouse in need of a home.

Bats at the Ballgame by Brian Lies continues the series starring the travelling bats, they go off to enjoy America's favorite sporting pastime, the baseball game. Combining illustrations that have people right side up and bats upside down, the bats enjoy the game and snacks too just like humans. The first time at a baseball stadium is special even for bats as they arrive and settle in to cheer on their favorite all-stars. Lies' illustrations are packed with detail and the rhymes are clever and imaginative. The young ones will love the strong line as the bats cheer on the action while they munch moth dogs and cricket jack snacks.



Bear Feels Sick by Karma Wilson is a beautiful story of poor Bear who feels sick and his friends who come to his rescue and comfort him. Anyone who has little ones who have felt poorly will love the story of being sick and having friends to comfort you and make you feel better. The illustrations are delightful, it continues the artwork found in **Bear Snores On**. With friends to make him tea and keep him warm, Bear soon feels better and is out playing with his friends enjoying Autumn.

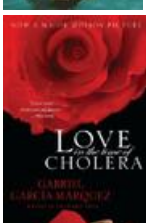
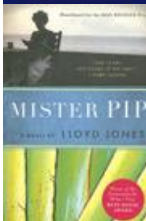
December 2010 Book Clubs

December 6th the Mystery Book Club discusses *Tin Roof Blowdown* by James Lee Burke. Two Edgar Awards and a nomination for the Pulitzer Prize pay tribute to the ferocious talent of this author. He writes so vividly, I felt like I was in a boat trolling through those eerie flood waters. In the aftermath of the storm there is no electricity, no transportation, no clean water. The city is in chaos, laid open to the predation of looters and men with cruel intent. The infirm and helpless are at the mercy of the elements and those who would prey upon them, a mercy in pitifully short supply. Bodies float down the streets, cars sit submerged, it is a nightmare. Dave Robicheaux and his buddy Cletus Purcel must wade into this chaos to track down a rapist and solve the murder of two looters. James Lee Burke lives in Louisiana and Montana. He cares about New Orleans and it shows in his writing, this is like a cry of anguish for his beloved city. It is one of his best books.



December 13th the Non-Fiction Book Club discusses *Zeitoun* by Dave Eggers. *Zeitoun* decided to stay and ride out Hurricane Katrina, his wife and children would head to safety and he would remain to do what was possible to protect their home and rental property. He was a bit of a workaholic, an upstanding member of the community with a thriving business as a painting contractor and investments in rental property. The storm passed without too much damage to his home, but the failure of the levies brought disaster. Still he stayed. Talking on his cell phone to his wife, he explained that he could do some good. There were stranded neighbors, old people needing help, a couple dogs locked in an empty house, all needing help he could give. *Zeitoun* had a kind heart, he paddled off in his canoe bringing food to the dogs, and helping his neighbors. He stayed in touch with his family by cell phone until he disappeared. Where could this man have gone, what happened to this upstanding member of the community? Was he beset by thugs? Well sort of, he was hauled off by our government, not charged with any crime, and kept without any communication with the outside world. This is a miscarriage of justice that caused harm not only to the man and his family, but to the people he was aiding.

December 20th the Fiction Book Club will enjoy discussing *Baking Cakes in Kigali* by Gaile Parkin, it should appeal to fans of Alexander McCall Smith's delightful series. Angel Tungaraza is a maestro of cake baking. Everyone knows the central ingredient to a successful party is a truly exceptional cake. Angel concocts spectacularly imaginative cakes. This lively woman is a wife, mother, cake baking maven and a keeper of secrets. Angel's customers come to her for a cake to set their event apart; they leave with a bit more. You will like this character, she is a winner. Angel's glasses are subject to vigorous cleaning whenever she gets upset. Rwanda offers her many opportunities to clean those glasses. It is an amazingly cheerful, hopeful book that manages to pick up the coverings and look at some dark places in the human soul.



[Upcoming Book Club Dates for Monday Evenings at 6:30 PM](#)

- January 3rd 2011 *The Last Dickens* by Mathew Pearl [Dickens Month](#) [Mystery Book Club](#)
- January 11th 2011 *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens [Dickens Month](#) [Classics Book Club](#)
- January 17th 2011 *Mister Pip* by Lloyd Jones [Dickens Month](#) [Fiction Book Club](#)
- January 24th 2011 *A People's History of the United States* by Howard Zinn [Non Fiction Book Club](#)
- January 31st 2011 *Skeptical Romancer* by W. Somerset Maugham [Travel Essay Book Club](#)
- February 7th 2011 *Pale Kings & Princes* by Robert Parker [Mystery Book Club](#)
- February 14th 2011 *Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez [Classics Book Club](#)
- Feb 21st 2011 at 6:30 PM an author led discussion of *Seeing Stars* by Diane Hammond [Fiction Book Club](#)
- February 28th 2011 *13 Bankers* by Simon Johnson and James Kwak [Non Fiction Book Club](#)
- March 7th 2011 *Scarecrow* by Michael Connelly [Mystery Book Club](#)
- March 14th 2011 *The Journey Home* by Edward Abbey [Travel Essay Book Club](#)
- March 21st 2011 *Freedom* by Jonathan Franzen [Fiction Book Club](#)
- March 28th 2011 *Half The Sky* by Nicholas Kristof [Non Fiction Book Club](#)
- April 4th 2011 *Mistress of the Art of Death* by Ariana Franklin [Mystery Book Club](#)
- April 11th 2011 Deschutes County Novel Idea *Kapitoil* by Teddy Wayne [Fiction Book Club](#)
- April 18th 2011 *Birds, Beasts & Relatives* by Gerald Durrell [Travel Essay Book Club](#)
- April 25th 2011 *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo [Classics Book Club](#)
- May 2nd 2011 *The Big Burn* by Timothy Egan [Non Fiction Book Club](#)
- May 9th *Ordinary Thunderstorms* by William Boyd [Mystery Book Club](#)
- May 16th 2011 an author led discussion of *The Daughter's Walk* by Jane Kirkpatrick [Fiction Book Club](#)
- May 23rd 2011 *Stones Into Schools* by Greg Mortenson [Non Fiction Book Club](#)
- May 30th 2011 *Passing by Nella Larson* [Classics Book Club](#)

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