



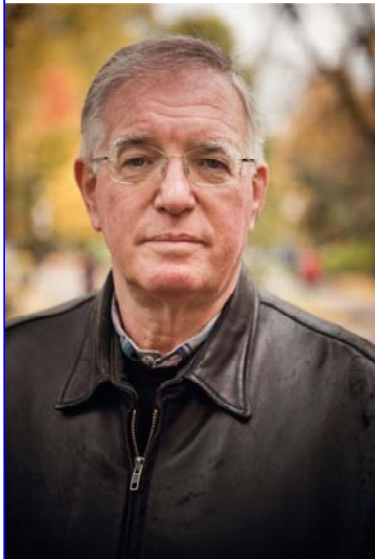
Sunriver Books & Music

July 2011 Newsletter

Sunriverbooks.com
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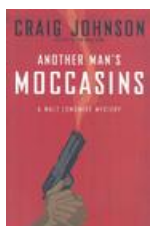
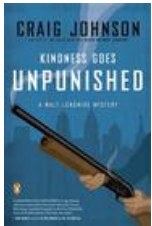
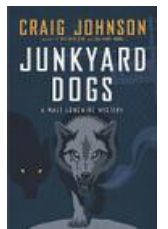
Author Events!
Craig Johnson!!!



Saturday June 2nd at 5:00 PM New York Time's bestselling author Phillip Margolin will give a presentation at Sunriver Books & Music on his latest book, **Capitol Murder**. If you enjoy the mystery or thriller genre, Phillip Margolin has a string of popular books; **Fugitive**, **Wild Justice**, **Gone But Not Forgotten**, **Lost Lake**, **Proof Positive** and many others. Margolin, a successful Portland Oregon attorney, knows well the world he creates in fiction.

Life experiences lend richness to Margolin's writing. He was a Peace Corp Volunteer in Liberia, Africa, taught Junior High in the Bronx, and has appeared before the United States Supreme Court. He is also good in the father department, his delightful daughter Ami Margolin Rome is clear and convincing evidence. Father and daughter penned an engaging mystery for the younger set, **Vanishing Acts**.

Capitol Murder revisits PI Dana Cutler and attorney Brad Miller from **Executive Privilege** and **Supreme Justice**. As the book opens, Brad is settling into life in Washington DC with his new bride Ginny. He works for charismatic Oregon Senator Jack Carson, a powerful member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. His boss has a weakness for the ladies, when he starts chatting up a woman with ties to unsavory characters Brad knows it spells trouble. Brad is uneasy about the notes he is receiving from a serial killer, but the man is locked up for life so he shouldn't be too much of a threat. Or should he? The killer's new attorney has been totally bamboozled about the character of the man she is trying to free. Can she win? Is there a way this stone cold killer could be free again? Margolin has more in store for the reader; terrorists are intent on blowing up a packed football stadium at game time. Dana's jobs intersect with Brad and Ginny's in sorting out the bad guys. Margolin keeps the action coming and the tension high!



Craig Johnson returns Sunday June 23rd at 5:30 PM for an author event at the new SHARC Center. The audience should be very comfortable, if this is your first look at the SHARC Center, you will be impressed. They have plenty parking too. Craig Johnson is an internationally bestselling author, he is definitely big time! we are grateful to him for continuing his annual appearances at Sunriver Books & Music. His visits are one of the high points of the year!

As The Crow Flies is the latest in the Walt Longmire series. Walt's daughter Cady will arrive soon with her heart set on having her wedding at Crazy Head Springs on the reservation; complications have cropped up sending Walt and Henry scouting alternative locations. Chief Lonnie Little Bird suggests they check out Painted Warrior, remote but beautiful with painted cliffs and circling crows. It looks good until a woman flies over the cliff edge clutching an infant, falling not far from Walt and Henry. A potential murder has precedence over the wedding preparations.



Dog takes it as his personal responsibility to protect the baby while Walt and Henry are preoccupied with catching a killer. The investigation is complicated by overlapping jurisdictions and the fed's ruffled feathers. Tribal Chief Lolo Long combines inexperience with a hair trigger temper, not a fortuitous combination in a cop. If the murder is to be solved, Walt will have to give some pretty swift effective Sheriff lessons. Lolo proved her bravery in the Iraq War, but her transformation to police chief is not going smoothly. Her people skills are dismal (clearly she missed the old adage about catching more flies with honey), her department is down to one officer, she fired the rest. Oddly enough the volatile Chief Long seems immune to Henry Standing Bear's legendary allure, she actively dislikes him. With the wedding day fast approaching, Walt is under pressure to solve this murder fast! Johnson blends his wry sense of humor with a wallop of good mystery.

Cold Dish starts the series, introducing the characters. Sheriff Walt Longmire is a big guy, tough but fair. He would rather use his wits than his fists. His deputy Vic hails from a family of street wise Philadelphia cops. Her vocabulary would put a street tough to shame.. Henry Standing Bear is whip-smart, loyal, sensitive, and willing to put himself on the line for his friends. The ladies love Henry.

The untamed beauty of Wyoming's spectacular landscape is always a part of the series. Craig Johnson lives surrounded by the wild country he portrays so vividly. He writes stories with intricate plots, beautiful prose, and compassion for his characters, spiced with a touch of humor. **Death Without Company**, second in the series, has a mystery with ties to the past. **Kindness Goes Unpunished** is set in Philadelphia where Walt's daughter is an attorney. **Another Man's Moccasins** opens with a dead Vietnamese woman along a lonely stretch of highway. Her purse, holding a picture of Walt as a young Marine, is found among the possessions of Virgil White Buffalo. **Dark Horse** takes the story down the road at a breathless pace. Mary had a gun in her hand and a confession on her lips the night her husband was shot.. **Junkyard Dogs** has a great opening scene. How far would Ozzie go to get rid of George's dump, the blight on the horizon of his pricey houses? Throw in a version of Romeo and Juliet for the older set, and you have a heady brew of mystery, greed and passion. **Hell is Empty** has all the devils loose on a mountainside in Wyoming. Walt Longmire doesn't want stone cold killers in his jurisdiction, so he transports some seriously dangerous guys across his territory to turn over to the Feds. The hand off is set for a remote location, with ferociously bad weather coming in fast. Something goes terribly wrong with no way to get help up the mountainside until the storm breaks. Walt sets off alone after a pack of heavily armed evil men. He keeps climbing higher up that cold mountain with the snow and howling wind. As he gains altitude he enters deeper into the circles of hell in pursuit of a man who just might take his life. Craig Johnson is one of my favorite authors, his Walt Longmire series rocks!

Walt Longmire is headed for the silver screen; Warner Horizon and A&E are set to air the pilot of Longmire this June. 3rd on the A&E channel at 10 PM EDT. Chris Chulack is directing, Robert Taylor will play Walt Longmire, Lou Diamond Phillips will be Henry Standing Bear, and Katee Sackoff plays Vic.

Sign up early for the events, both Craig Johnson and Phillip Margolin are very popular authors! Call 541-593-2525, e-mail sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com or stop by Sunriver Books & Music to sign up to attend. We will serve refreshments and have drawings for door prizes. Craig Johnson's event is at the new SHARC center on Overlook Road off Circle 2 just north of Sunriver Village and Phil Margolin is at Sunriver Books & Music.



Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday July 7th at 5:00 PM **Truth Like The Sun** by Jim Lynch
Saturday July 14th at 5:00 PM **Cottage at Glass Beach** by Heather Barbieri
Saturday July 21st at 5:00 PM **Evel Knievel Days** by Pauls Toutonghi
Saturday August 4th at 5:30 PM **The Quilt Before The Storm** by Arlene Sachitano
Saturday August 11th at 5:30 PM **Emerald Storm** by William Dietrich
Saturday 5:00 PM **West of Here** by Jonathan Evison (date being determined, probably in the fall)
Saturday October 20th 2012 at 5:00 PM **The Case of DB Cooper's Parachute** by William Sullivan

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, for changes and additions.

June is time to renew your **Book of the Month Club** subscription (formerly known as **Carole's Surprise**). A subscription brings a surprise book from Sunriver Books & Music every month. In the past we have featured **Day After Night** by Anita Diamant, **Sweet Thursday** by John Steinbeck, and **Out Stealing Horses** by Per Petterson. Subscriptions are available in the following formats. The third quarter of 2012 (3 months) for \$45.00 picked up in the store or \$51.00 mailed in the US, the next six months of 2012 (July-Dec.) for \$90.94 picked up in the store or \$102.94 mailed in the US or for the whole year of 2012 for \$181.87 picked up in the store or \$205.87 mailed in the US. Every month brings a surprise book, let us select something intriguing for you.

E-readers are changing the landscape for books, not always in gentle ways. Many Independent Bookstores offer e-books for sale, including Sunriver Books & Music. On the right hand side of our website, sunriverbooks.com, you will find information on buying e-books as well a search feature for e-books. The search feature for print books is on the right hand side of the banner across the top. In support of Independent Booksellers publishers sometimes offer specials that we pass onto you. Watch our website to see when they are available.

We greatly appreciate your support and hope that you consider your Independent Bookstore when purchasing e-books. If you are contemplating the purchase of an e-reader, please know that Amazon's kindle dictates your e-books be purchased from Amazon while the I-pad, the Sony e-reader, and others allow you the freedom to chose where you buy your e-books.

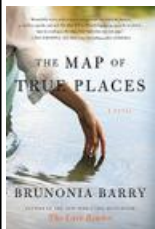
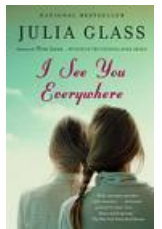
If you are involved in a club or gathering that would enjoy space in Sunriver Village, please remember the Village owners have kindly provided space in the loft area above Sunriver Books & Music. The space is available for uses compatible with the bookstore during Sunriver Books & Music's hours of operation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

Each year we focus for the month of June on a region or state in the USA. Reading about areas of our country gives us an opportunity to savor the diversity and beauty of our country. The USA encompasses a spectacular landscape with a wide variety of rich regional identities. This year we focus for a **Month of New England**. We hope you join us in reading and discussing books set in New England, there are many excellent opportunities.

Staff Recommendations.

Lori Gascon Recommends.

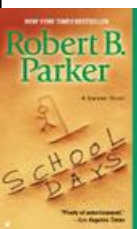
I See You Everywhere by Julia Glass. In a story with alternating voices, we listen to Louisa and Clem, two sisters who, at times love each other, as sisters do, and hate, anger, make jealous, each other, as sisters do. Louisa is the eldest, and deals with the emotions of not being the favored child, watching how things come easily to Clem - the favored younger, maybe more beautiful sister, with the supposed more-exciting, outdoorsy biologist lifestyle. Clem sees Lou as the stronger one, with clear goals of marriage and children, and just wants her sister to be happy. Clem has trouble finding happiness with any one man, and retreats into her work. Louisa's failed marriage, a cancer scare, and an accident bring the sisters closer, and both realize their assumptions of each other were not always correct. Sisters are "irreplaceable". Overall, a good read set partly in New England.



The Map of True Places by Brunonia Barry. Zee is a single, successful therapist planning a wedding to a wonderful man. A patient of hers, Lilly, commits suicide, and this throws Zee's whole life into a tailspin. Zee is reminded of her mother's own suicide, when Zee was a child, and has memories coming back that she would rather keep hidden. Finch, Zee's father has been hiding the fact that his Parkinson's disease is worsening, and now Zee realizes she must help him, taking a leave of absence from her work, and her fiancé. As she deals with dad and the suicide memories, suspenseful events begin to take place dealing with a man involved with Lilly's death. A new romance enters her life, and soon the "map" of Zee's life changes as she finds her "true place" or true self in this intriguing story set in Massachusetts.

Nancy Nelson Recommends.

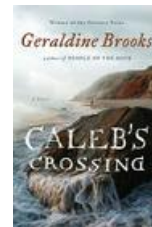
Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout. "Olive Kitteredge" is really a series of small stories centered in the small town of Crosby, Maine. The book opens introducing Henry, Olive's husband, who is a pharmacist. He is kind, friendly, sensitive, optimistic, and eager to please others. Then Olive is presented as just the opposite of Henry in nearly every way. She is bossy, terse, often grouchy, and not at all gregarious. Her math students are generally afraid of her. Yet there are often instances throughout the book in the different stories that other aspects of her character shine through. One also sees a woman who is caring. In the 13 stories of the book other characters' stories are also told. All of them seem to be connected to Olive in some way. I think that the book shows how Olive finds her way through life, with all of her flaws, her disappointments, her struggles, her way of seeing the world of others and of herself. It discusses her relationships with her husband and her son. In the end she ponders her life, her gratitude and her regrets, and the things that she has learned. She thinks this. "...if love was available, one chose it, or didn't choose it. And if her platter had been full with the goodness of Henry and she had found it burdensome, had flicked it off crumbs at a time, it was because she had known what one should know: that day after day was unconsciously squandered." Olive Kitteredge was very believable as a character. I found her and the book interesting, and I recommend this book to anyone who is interested in a character study. It is well written in my opinion, and has a great deal to say about human nature.



In the book "***School Days***" by Robert Parker, two boys are arrested for the shooting of students and teachers at Dowling School in Dowling, Massachusetts. The grandmother of one of the boys is asking Spenser: "demonstrate that my grandson is innocent of all charges against him." As Spenser takes the case he learns that everyone involved wants it to be over and done with. No one, aside from Spenser is particularly interested in why the kids did this. As he probes, asking questions, and the case begins to unravel, the story becomes more complex. In this book, as with the other Spenser books that Robert Parker has written, he deals with subjects which are serious in a rather light handed manner. His wit is flippant, but not without purpose. For example, Spenser said: "...you probably can't figure out the truth, if you think you know ahead of time what the truth is supposed to be." Spenser does not take himself seriously, but he takes his job very seriously. I like the story. I like the easy way it was written. The tiny little philosophies presented through conversations of the characters appeal to me. Some are obvious, but discussing them inspires thought. As the story comes to an end, Susan and Spenser are talking about the grandson whom he was hired to absolve of charges, Jared. Because of some mitigating circumstances the boy has more hope than if Spenser had not intervened. "Some hope is better than no hope" says Susan. This is typical simple but nice Spenser philosophy.

Staff Recommendations!
Deon recommends..

Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks. Caleb Cheeshahteumuck crossed over from his native culture to the white man's world becoming one of the earliest graduates of Harvard University. His story is narrated by the fictional character Bethia Mayfield. She meets Caleb when she is a mere slip of a girl, while gathering food away from the colony. The two children cross cultural barriers to form a secret friendship that will last their lifetime despite the considerable pressures of their respective clans. Caleb is the son of a Chief, the nephew of a Shaman, neither would approve of his friendship with the little white girl. Bethia is the daughter of the local minister and granddaughter of a magistrate. Her people view the natives as savages. Yet understanding grows between the two youngsters that bridges their differing cultures to offer glimpses of common ground and understanding.



The Night Strangers by Chris Bohjalian is a haunting tale set in New Hampshire. Chip's life goes horribly awry in the blur of a few, short tragic moments. His aircraft is hit by a flock of geese, his engines are gone and he is falling. Inspired by the dramatic landing of a plane on the Hudson River, Chris tries to put his damaged plane down gently on Lake Champlain. Thirty Nine lives are lost, nine survive. Although he fought hard to save his passengers and made no errors, Chris, as Captain, feels the weight of those fatalities. His wife, an attorney, thinks a change of place might help Chris recover. They move to an old Victorian style home in a remote rural village in New Hampshire with their twin daughters. In the basement a door is bolted to the wall with thirty nine bolts. Strange things start happening.

The Three Weissmanns of Westport by Cathleen Schine is an endearing homage to Jane Austen's **Sense and Sensibility**. Betty's marriage to Joseph has lasted 48 years; she thought it would last a lifetime. Then Joe asks for a divorce and her whole life comes unhinged. Cut off without a dime, Betty takes shelter in a little cottage in Westport owned by Cousin Lou. Her daughters Miranda and Annie move in to be supportive. Of course they have problems of their own. Miranda's career as a literary agent is in a very public shambles. Annie, a library director, is the responsible daughter and tries to keep them afloat financially, a herculean task. Both girls face romantic challenges, make mistakes, and ultimately find truths about themselves. This is a humorous, entertaining story.



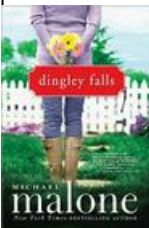
The Bostonians by Henry James is a very interesting book for our times. The role of women is often in the news today and it is sad to see the disenfranchisement of women in cultures that do not allow them freedom of expression or self-determination. But it might be good to read a book by a superlative author published in 1886 set in Boston with the subject being women's rights, known as the suffragette movement. It was not so long ago women were denied many basic rights here in the US. Our main characters are Olive Chancellor, a passionate suffragette, her cousin Basil Ransom, a civil war veteran and southern gentleman, and Verena Tarrant the lovely young woman they both want to influence. James writing is superb, he infuses wit and satire into this tale of the struggle for women's rights and the resistance to that struggle by men who would prefer to protect the fairer sex in a household setting rather than turned loose on the world.



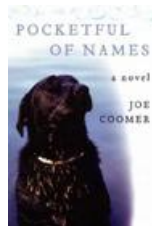
Brute Strength by Susan Conant is the latest in her highly entertaining mystery series set in Boston. The sleuth is Holly Winter, a writer for a dog magazine, a woman passionate about all things canine. Holly trains and shows her gorgeous Malamutes. Fair warning, you have to seriously love dogs to appreciate this series. But if you love dogs, this series is a hoot! Holly portrays the sport of dog showing spot on. **Brute Strength** finds Holly busy with Malamute Rescue, one of the less pleasant tasks of the volunteers is turning down applicants who are not a good fit for this large, beautiful, but not always easy, breed. Someone is making obscene phone calls to the volunteers. A dinner guest has a fatal accident soon after leaving Holly's home. And her step-mother is acting mysterious. Holly will have to sort it all out. If you like dogs, this is a winner. I always read and enjoy this series.



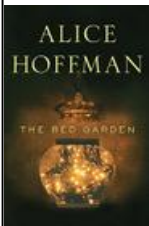
Dingley Falls by Michael Malone is set in Connecticut in 1976. The small town is populated by quirky characters and seems to have escaped all the angst of the sixties. But the quiet, orderly town has a dark undertone, government shenanigans are putting the populace at risk, violence and discontent have found their way in too. Malone's characters are always memorable, he treats them with empathy and makes the reader care about them. Humor is deftly used to make points on more serious subjects. Odd happenings and lively pairings keep the story humming along. Malone's writing is always entertaining, his novels are full of humor, even when facing difficult subjects, and written with grace and great skill. .



Pocketful of Names by Joe Coomer is a fabulous book. Hannah lives alone on the small Maine island she inherited from her Uncle Arno, a fisherman. Hannah believes her art is the driving force of her life. She is confident that she creates art for the sake of art alone, that she is not influenced by praise or rejections. She believes she is truly independent, not needing approval or help from anyone. Her perceptions are about to be challenged. Life starts to change with the arrival of a dog from the sea. Soon people are coming to her small island too. Over the course of a year she begins to realize that needing others is not weakness. Joe Coomer writes with humor and beauty.



The Red Garden by Alice Hoffman is a series of linked stories that follow 300 year's history in this small northeastern town. Behind the founders house in Blackwell Massachusetts is a garden that will only grow red plants. Its feisty founder Hallie Brady battled snowstorms and starvation in 1786, forming a close attachment with the local bears. As the generations pass they face sorrow and joy. Johnny Appleseed drops in to do some planting. A mysterious woman catches the town's imagination during the Depression years. Each story introduces a character you will enjoy. Through time the garden continues its flamboyant blood red color.



Staff Recommendations! Deon recommends.

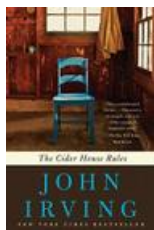
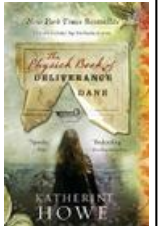
One Good Dog by Susan Wilson manages to blend the rampant greed of the financial sector with dog fighting. Both man and dog have a chance at redemption. Chance was raised to battle in the dog fight pits. Adam slugs it out in the land of hostile takeovers and big money mergers until he makes a terrible mistake. They recognize in each other a fighting spirit. Adam was used to expensive houses, fast cars, and being able to buy anything his family desired. Alone after his downfall, he is clueless about how to interact with a dog. Chance has no experience in going for walks or living in an apartment. Somehow they come to understand and heal one another. In the process they learn to care and to trust. Adam begins to question his values and Chance takes a fancy to soft couches. If you are in the mood for a feel good story with an irascible canine, this is your book.



The Widow's War by Sally Gunning is an intriguing historical novel that gives a fresh perspective. Lyddie was happily married to Edward for twenty years until he was lost at sea. In 1761 on Cape Cod the head of the family, the man in charge of Edward's money, is Lyddie's son-in-law Nathan. Every expense or decision is to be approved by him, Lyddie is not only mourning the loss of her husband but reduced to live in circumstances that are normal for the times but very depressing for the new widow as she loses the independence she prized as a wife along with the man she loved. She rebels. You go girl! As Lyddie fights the rule of her son-in-law she starts to question and defy other rules of society. Sally Gunning based her story on historical research into the traditions and laws of the period, particularly those governing women. She read diaries and wills of people living on Cape Cod. A woman had few rights and risked alienation from her friends, neighbors and family if she challenged the order of the day. Lyddie is an engaging character, she will make you think of a woman's life on Cape Cod in the 1700's

and admire the determination of a woman willing to defy the patriarchal rule of the day, risking being ostracized from the community, in order to gain a modicum of self determination and independence.

The Physick Life of Deliverance Dane by Katherine Howe is set in Massachusetts. How could we do a month on New England and not include witches and the witch trials in Salem? Howe's captivating story moves between time periods, from current day to the era of the witch hunts. Connie Goodwin is a bright, ambitious young Harvard graduate student working toward her doctorate in history. Manning Chilton, her doctoral advisor is urging Connie to tap a unique or new source for her dissertation research. Grace, her aura reading mother, wants Connie to prepare her grandmother's long abandoned, cobweb and vine covered house for sale. While cleaning out the house Connie finds a scrap of paper with the name Deliverance Dane, she starts investigating and the threads of her inquiries take her back in history where connections to her own family are discovered. The story moves back to the 1600's and Deliverance Dane, a fascinating woman trying to be of service to the very people who would condemn her in the Salem Witch Trials. Katherine Howe is a historian with a personal perspective on the era. Her ancestor and namesake Katherine Howe was condemned at the Salem Witch Trials.



The Cider House Rules by John Irving is a masterpiece. Set in rural Maine, it tells the story of Dr. Larch, an ether addict and abortionist and Homer Wells an orphan at the orphanage run by Dr. Larch. St. Cloud is an orphanage with a difference, Dr. Larch runs the orphanage with care for his young charges. He also performs abortions (an illegal action at the time), offering women a choice. Homer develops a father son relationship with Dr. Larch, the older man caring for and training the younger. While Dr. Larch is clearly pro-choice, Homer is opposed to abortion. He leaves the orphanage with a young couple, finds love, breaks his heart and ultimately faces hard choices and trying circumstances. But this book is so much more! It has great heart. Irving imbues his characters with passion, gives them moral dilemmas, and asks significant questions. He also entertains. John Irving can be very funny. To write a novel on such an explosive topic with such a deft touch is genius.

The Season of Second Chances by Diane Meier tells of the mid life awakening of a woman. Joy's life in New York was set. A teaching position at a university and life in New York City, self contained, sophisticated, and independent. Offered a teaching position at Amherst in Massachusetts she surprises herself by accepting. Heading north with her belongings, all those family heirlooms boxed away for years, she purchases an old Victorian in need of renovation. Anyone who has ever been involved in home remodeling will tell you this is a big undertaking and will not happen easily by a solitary woman without the assistance of other people. Joy has to start relating to other people who are not university professors in ways that involve her personal living space not just her professional opinion. It is an enlightening experience. She finds her reserve dropping, she becomes involved with her new community in ways that make her feel connected, she develops friendships and discovers herself worthy to both care and be cared for. This is a joyous, funny, prickly, entertaining story of one woman growing up and deciding to be a participant rather than a spectator at life.



Mystic River by Denis Lehane is a dark, complex masterfully written mystery set in Boston. The story centers on three men, Dave Boyle, Jimmy Marcus, and Sean Devine, friends since childhood. Childhood went tragically awry for the three friends when 11 year old Dave was snatched off the street in front of his playmates and kidnapped by two evil men. Sexually abused, the young boy manages to escape but his life will forever bear the hidden psychic scars of his trauma. Now adults with families, Dave is concerned by the urges he feels and the anger he cannot let go. Sean and Jimmy take very different paths, Sean becoming a cop and Jimmy a gangster. Jimmy was locked up when his first wife died, the child from that marriage is very precious to him. Katie is grown, becoming a woman, and every day with her is a gift for Jimmy, a reminder of his first wife. He is remarried, with little daughters and a strong, loving wife, but his daughter Katie is special to Jimmy. Life explodes again for the three childhood friends when Katie is brutally murdered in a park late one night. They have grown apart, taken different paths, Sean into law enforcement, Jimmy the streets, and Dave battling his demons, trying to keep his family together. Katie's murder will touch them all. Sean is assigned the case and Jimmy is not the kind of man who will let his daughter's murder go un-avenged. While the 3 men are at the heart of the story, what makes it special is the strength of the women involved. Every character in this book brings something significant to the story. Lehane writes with sensitivity and great skill.

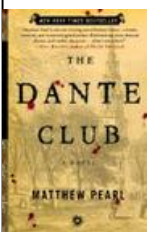
Cloudland by Joseph Olshan is set in rural Vermont. Catherine has left the city of under less than laudatory circumstances, she is reduced to writing a household hints column for the local paper. On a walk with her dogs she discovers the victim of a serial killer preying on women. Catherine makes the connection to an obscure story by author Wilkie Collins, a friend of Charles Dickens. This is both an intriguing mystery with an irascible female protagonist and an interesting study of life in a rural community.



Staff Recommendations

Deon recommends .

Last Night in Twisted River by John Irving is full of roads not taken and bad choices. Daniel's life takes some wicked bad twists starting at the tender age of 12 when, mistaking his father's lover for a bear, he accidentally kills the woman with a cast iron skillet. Daniel's unfortunate mistake lands him and his father on the lam from the woman's boyfriend, an obnoxious cowboy Sherriff with a taste for revenge. Aided by their loyal friend, Ketchum, they make their escape from Twisted River and a long pursuit ensues. Always the specter of the murderous cowboy lawman is lurking in the shadows. John Irving creates such marvelously quirky, memorable characters. Like all his books, this one is full of razor sharp wit and beautiful writing.



The Dante Club by Mathew Pearl blends fact and fiction to craft a taut tale full of twists, turns, and thrills aplenty. First the facts. Longfellow translated Dante's **Divine Comedy** into English right after the Civil War. He formed an informal book club, **The Dante Club**, to go over the translation as he worked. His friends J. T. Fields, Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr., James Russell Lowell, and George Washington Greene met weekly. Now for the fiction. Boston has a killer using Dante's **Inferno** for horrible inspiration. Longfellow and the members of the **Dante Club** recognize the killings but are in an awkward position. If they take their suspicions to the police they will become prime suspects, there are not too many folk with knowledge of Dante, and the real killer will be free to continue Dante's punishments. **The Dante Club** sets out to catch a killer. One of my favorite characters is the fictional Nicholas Ray, Boston's first black policeman.

The Given Day by Dennis Lehane. Open the book and it feels like you have stepped through a portal into Boston at the end of WWI, Lehane's writing makes the story come alive! Babe Ruth passes time during a train stop playing a pickup game of baseball with some black men in a nearby field. Luther has fast in his blood; he gives Babe a game to remember. But the main story is the police strike that felled Boston in 1919. It is a cop's story about a time they were paid less than trolley car drivers.



Danny's Dad is a respected police captain, putting his son on a fast track to a gold shield. His future is pretty well assured if he will just stay on the path his father paved. Instead Danny finds himself embroiled in the union's fight, not a good career move. Luther shows up in Boston, running from a bad night down in Tulsa. He goes to work for Danny's dad as a houseman, his troubles are not over, they are just getting a good start. **The Given Day** is brimming with tension, violence, humor and history, from

anarchist's bombs, to a cavalry charge down the main streets of Boston during a riot. It is packed with vibrant characters and plenty of action.



The Inn at Lake Devine by Elinor Lipman is a lively, romantic comedy with social bite. Natalie falls for Kris, but there are complications. She is a chef, a little on the zaftig side. Kris is a hunk, she worries she will not be attractive enough for him, after all she is not a Barbie doll kind of girl. The bigger hurdle might be his father, the same man who turned Natalie's mother away from his Inn in Vermont because her family is Jewish. Sometimes life takes a very twisting path to reach the right end! Funny and endearing, this is a perfect summer read.

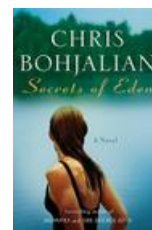
The Knitting Circle by Ann Hood opens with a mother sunk in depression over the unexpected death of her young daughter. Mary Baxter struggles to summon the will to get out of bed, she cannot work, she is pulling away from her husband, and her life came to an end with the beating of her daughter's heart. Her husband, relatives, and friends grow more worried as she sinks further into depression. When she is pressured into attending a knitting circle Mary hates the other women, they all seem so happy. Mary envies them, certain her life will never be happy again. Nonetheless, Mary finds the act of knitting soothing. As she stays with the knitting circle she discovers each of the women has her own tragedy. When Mary begins to rediscover life, she realizes the friendship of the knitting circle has helped each of the women to cope with challenges. Each woman takes something from the knitting circle, a feeling of belonging, a reason to face the day. This is a highly personal book for Ann Hood, written after the death of her child. For such a serious subject it is a fun, lively read celebrating the bonds of friendship between women. It is set in Rhode Island.



Labor Day by Joyce Maynard takes place over the long holiday weekend in New Hampshire. A chance encounter in a shopping mall changes the life of 13 year old Henry and his mother, Adele. Henry knows his mother is unhappy, that her sadness has made her different from other mothers. She does not like to leave the house very much. Henry worries about his mother; they are a family supporting each other emotionally, his father has a different family having left them for someone new. Adele surprises Henry by agreeing to go shopping. While at the mall, Henry is approached by Frank, a bleeding man who needs a ride. Adele takes Frank in without question. Happiness is such a delicate thing and betrayal can be so mindlessly cruel. For one brief weekend Adele's life expands, choices appear on her horizon. Then just as suddenly it is over.



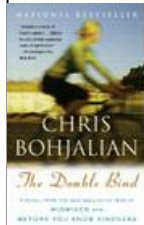
Secrets of Eden by Chris Bohjalian. As Reverend Stephen Drew lifts Alice Hayward out of the water at her baptism she looks up at him and says "there". She will not survive the night. Reverend Drew's faith will die with her. Heather believes her life is graced by angels; she is famous for writing about her experiences with them. Heather's mother was killed by her father; she believes she knows what the Reverend might be feeling. She tries to be Reverend Drew's angel, to bring him comfort and help him find a way back to his beliefs. Both want to help Katie, Alice's daughter, now 15 and an orphan. Secrets, yes there are secrets.



Little Women by Louisa Mae Alcott is a timeless classic set in Massachusetts around the Civil War. Jo, Beth, Meg, and Amy strive to help their mother while their father is away in the war. Times are trying, resources are scarce, but the March sisters still find joy in life despite the adversity of the times. Each sister is decidedly individual. Meg is calm and kind, a pretty girl yearning for the comforts of home. Beth is frail but loving. Amy is beautiful, artistic and striving. And Jo refuses to be boxed into a role chosen by society. She determines to contribute by writing, much like her creator. Another great book to read is **March** by Geraldine Brooks, winner of the Pulitzer Prize. It tell Mr. March's wartime experiences.

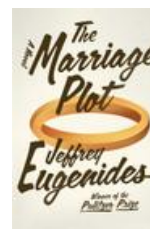
Staff Recommendations. Deon Recommends.

Run by Ann Patchett is a celebration of family. Bernadette grew up expecting to have a big, boisterous family. Doyle loves his young wife, he happily looks forward to a home full of children. Sullivan, their first son, is named after her uncle, a priest. Undaunted by Bernadette's failure to have more children, they adopt two African American babies, Tip and Teddy. Bernadette's death devastates her family, leaving the children motherless. Doyle takes comfort in raising their sons, teaching them to be interested in the world. He devises trips to the seashore and Walden Pond. Doyle's dearest wish is for his sons to follow him into politics, to be passionate about making a contribution to humanity. One snowy evening he drags his sons to hear a speech. Tip steps in front of a car and is pushed to safety by a woman. She saves Tip but is seriously injured. Their lives change forever. **Run** is about family, belief, race relations, and what we expect from each other. I liked this family. Ann Patchett is tremendously talented.



The Double Bind by Chris Bohjalian is a beautifully written, disturbing story inspired by pictures found when a homeless man died in a shelter near the author's home. The pictures were professional quality photos of many famous people. They started Bohjalian wondering what brought the man to be homeless and alone. In **The Double Bind** a young woman, Laurel, is horribly attacked while biking a lonely road in Vermont. Years later she works in a homeless shelter where an elderly man carries his box of pictures. On his death the director takes the pictures to Laurel knowing photography is her hobby. One of the pictures is of a woman biking a lonely road in Vermont. Laurel becomes obsessed with the photos. Characters from F. Scott Fitzgerald's **Great Gatsby** are woven into the story. Bohjalian uses some of the extraordinary pictures left by the homeless Bob "Soupy" Campbell in his book.

The Marriage Plot by Jeffery Eugenides is unique. A lot is expected of a book by Eugenides, and he does not disappoint. Have all the great love stories already been written? What relevance does Jane Austen or George Eliot have for today's woman? Set in the 1980's, Madeline is wrestling with these questions both for her college senior thesis and as a woman fielding the attentions of two young men. Leonard is charismatic, flawed, and tragic; of course he is of great interest to Madeline. Mitchell is a seeker, trying to figure out how he fits into the general scheme of the Universe. He is totally smitten by Madeline. The book opens on graduation day in Rhode Island. It is a lovely story, with a cutting edge look at life a hundred years after Jane Austen.



An Arsonists Guide to the Writer's Homes in New England by Brock Clarke is a quirky, original, odd, devious book, and great fun! Sam's mother, an English teacher, tells him stories about Emily Dickenson and her home, marvelous, malevolent yarns that engage his imagination. As a young man he goes on a tour of the Emily Dickenson home and is hugely disappointed. It is not nearly as sinister or interesting as it was in his mother's stories. The tour guide and group are distracting. Young Sam thinks he may discover the magic of the Emily Dickenson house if he sneaks back after it closes for a better look without the annoying crowds. Breaking into Emily Dickenson's house was a bad idea; he accidentally sets it on fire thus destroying a local landmark along with incinerating the tour guide and her husband who were enjoying an intimate moment in Emily's bed. It seems unfair to Sam when he is convicted of arson and murder, after all the fire was an accident and he didn't even know the tour guide was in the house! Ten years pass. He gets out of prison and determines to make a new start. But the past has a habit of cropping up again and Sam kept too many secrets. Writer's homes are being torched all over New England. People have written to Sam asking him to burn down houses, while all Sam wants is to reclaim his life. This is a topsy turvy, seriously quirky, literarily fascinating book.



.That Old Cape Magic by Richard Russo. Jack and Joy stayed true to the plans they made on their honeymoon. Jack was intent on charting a different path than his difficult parents. Jack and Joy built a good life, with a beautiful house, teaching career, and a grown daughter. But what if his choices weren't really his own? Is he just living the life Joy wanted, or worse, has he turned into his parents? Jack heads to tinsel town, risking everything he holds dear, in a vain attempt to turn back the clock and recapture his youth. Clocks are notoriously resistant to being turned back and the things that are important in life can be quite fragile.



Book Club for Teens and Tweens.

This summer Sunriver Books and Music offers book clubs for pre-teens and teens on Sundays at 4:00 PM led by Carol Foiset. We hope some of the of the selections below appeal to you.

Tweens June 24th **The Fences Between Us: The Diary of Piper Davis** (from the Dear America series) by Kirby Larson

Teens July 8th **City of Beasts** by Isabel Allende

Tweens July 15th **Seaglass Summer** by Anjali Banerjee

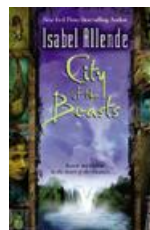
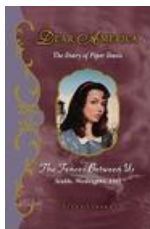
Tweens July 22nd **Skeleton Key** by Anthony Horowitz

Teens July 29th **Awaken** by Katie Kacvinsky

Tweens August 5th **Nest For Celeste** by Henry Cole

Tweens August 12th **Scat** by Carl Hiaasen

Teens August 19th **The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian** by Sherman Alexie



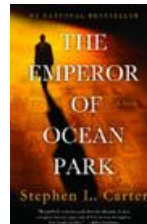
On June 24 we launch our new Book Clubs established for kids of various ages. We kick off with the Tween Club discussing **The Fences Between Us -The Diary of Piper Davis**, Seattle, Washington, 1941. Piper Davis' father is the pastor of the Japanese Baptist Church in Seattle. After Pearl Harbor is attacked their lives change dramatically, but not as dramatically as their friends, neighbors, and parishioners who are Japanese. Piper's family must make some difficult decisions as all of their lives are affected by the war. This book brings to life a time in American history when Americans were stripped of their civil liberties and constitutional rights. The Dear America series is a great way to learn about the history of our country and gain an understanding of what life was like for teens in specific historical periods. This installment of the series does not disappoint.

We do ask that you pre-register for these book clubs. You can do this by emailing us at sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com, calling us at 541-593-2525, or dropping by to sign up.

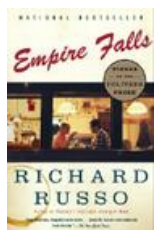
June 2012 Book Clubs

Themed months are a great way to explore a region through literature. Each year we concentrate on one region of the USA for a month. This year we are having "A Month Of New England". All of the selections for our book clubs share a New England setting, the books featured in our newsletter take place in New England, and we will have a list of books related to New England on our website. We hope you join us for an interesting book club discussion focusing on this region. Book club meetings are at 6:30 on Monday evenings.

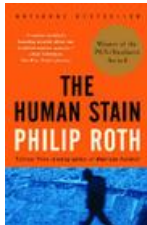
June 4th the Mystery Book Club begins our Month of New England with a discussion of Stephan L. Carter's *The Emperor of Ocean Park*. Carter is supremely suited to write this story. A Yale Law professor who once clerked for Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, Carter is well acquainted with the world he creates. The story opens with Talcott Garland, a law professor at a New England University, facing the aftermath of his famous father's death. Judge Oliver Garland was nominated to the US Supreme Court but his nomination went down in flames when a connection to an underworld figure was revealed. Oliver left his house in Washington to his daughter, his tickets to the Redskins to his eldest son, and his vacation home on Martha's Vineyard to Talcott. Before the funeral is over Talcott senses trouble brewing. His sister is positive their father was murdered and Ziegler, the underworld figure who torpedoed his father's chances at the Supreme Court, is certain Oliver left instructions on certain "arrangements". Talcott's ambitious, mercurial wife Kimmer has hopes of being nominated as judge on to the Court of Appeals. As the puzzle deepens, the controversy surrounding Oliver has a deleterious influence on her chances for nomination. The pace is languid as Carter slowly brings together each element of the story. He takes the time to let the reader get to know Talcott.



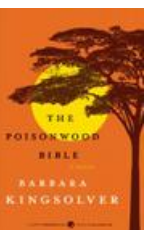
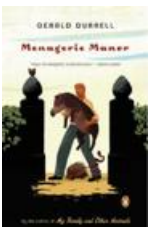
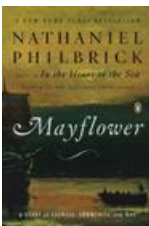
June 11th the Fiction Book Club discusses *Empire Falls* by Richard Russo, winner of the Pulitzer Prize. Empire Falls Maine fell on hard times; the three mills closed, unemployment is high. Like many mill towns, Empire Falls has not been able to wrest itself from the subtle control of the mill owner. Although no longer running the mills, there is always the hope of reopening. Still very wealthy, Mrs. Whiting owns most of the businesses in town and is not suffering from her mills' closure in the way town's residents do. Miles has been under her thumb since he left college to come home to care for his mother. Twenty years on he is still managing and cooking at the Empire Grill for Mrs. Whiting, kept in line by her promise to will the restaurant to him. The theme of family and generations runs through the story. Miles' reprobate father, Max, is always getting into trouble and avoids any responsibility. Miles loves his daughter, Tick, is very proud of the girl. His wife is leaving him for a slick health club owner. He has all these issues swirling around in his life and is making little progress in resolving them until a secret and a tragedy force him to get his life in order.



June 18th the Classics Book Club discusses the *Human Stain* by Phillip Roth. In the 1990's the nation was consumed by allegations and scandal against a President, it set a tone in the land. Coleman Silk is forced out of his position as a Classics Professor at a small Massachusetts college over allegations that he is a racist. He believes the very public scandal contributes to his wife's death and he severs all ties with the college. Coleman takes up with a woman decades younger and worlds away from his educational level or lifestyle. Once again he is in a public scandal when their affair is revealed. But Coleman has a secret unknown to his harassers.



Our Month of New England's book club selections finishes with the Travel Essay Book Club's discussion of *Mayflower* by Nathaniel Philbrick on June 25th. Philbrick brings the voyage of the Mayflower into focus, with his knowledge of all things nautical he lets the reader experience what crossing the ocean would have been like in the 1600's. These pilgrims were deeply religious people who banded together to form a community based on their beliefs with a desire to live in solitude and isolation. Their experience is not so gentle. North America was already occupied, the intent of the pilgrims to convert the natives to Christianity and their sense of superiority lead inevitably to conflict and violence.



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

July 2nd 2012 *Junkyard Dogs* by Craig Johnson [Mystery Book Club](#)

July 9th 2012 *Menagerie Manor* by Gerald Durrell [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

July 16th 2012 *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver [Fiction Book Club](#)

July 23rd 2012 *Last Go Round* by Ken Kesey [Classics Book Club](#)

July 30th 2012 *To End All Wars* by Adam Hochschild [Non Fiction Book Club](#)

August 6th 2012 *The Informationist* by Taylor Stevens [Mystery Book Club](#)

August 13th 2012 *The Tiger's Wife* by Tea Obreht [Fiction Book Club](#)

August 20th 2012 *War & Peace* by Leo Tolstoy [Classics Book Club](#)

August 27th 2012 *Country Driving* by Peter Hessler [Travel Essay Book Club](#)

Sept. 3rd 2012 *Forty Words For Sorrow* by Giles Blunt [Mystery Book Club](#) [A Month of Eastern Canada](#)

September 10th 2012 *The Bird Artist* by Howard Norman [Fiction Book Club](#) [A Month of Eastern Canada](#)

Sept. 17th 2012 *Rowing to Latitude* by Jill Fredston [Travel Essay Book Club](#) [A Month of Eastern Canada](#)

September 24th 2012 *The Shipping News* by Annie Proulx [Classics Book Club](#) [A Month of Eastern Canada](#)

October 1st 2012 *Trespasser* by Paul Doiron [Mystery Book Club](#)

October 22nd 2012 *1000 White Women* by Jim Fergus [Fiction Book Club](#)

October 29th 2012 *Dracula* by Bram Stoker [Classics Book Club](#)

November 5th 2012 *The Redbreast* by Jo Nesbo [Mystery Book Club](#)

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

