



Sunriver Books & Music

June 2018

Newsletter

Sunriverbooks.com

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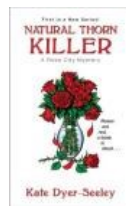
The Walt Longmire Saga continues.
Craig Johnson returns September 9th
for Depth of Winter.
Sign up early to attend!

It started with the "Outlaw Tour". In the early days Craig Johnson would tour the west on his motorcycle, talking with readers in Independent Bookstores. The series garnered awards, became New York Times Bestsellers and International Best Sellers. Hollywood filmed the Longmire series and Craig Johnson's tour was full of airplane rides to distant places, big cities, and prestigious bookstores. Craig is a loyal man, he never forgot those stores and communities that eagerly welcomed Walt Longmire to their affections. He continues to visit Sunriver for great events. We are grateful for his loyalty and friendship. Reading the Walt Longmire series is like visiting friends, finding out what they have been up to (in Vic's case usually quite a lot) and reveling in their adventures.

Depth of Winter releases September 4th.
 We are happy to preorder for you.



Craig and Judy Johnson photo by Brooke Snavelly, Craig Johnson and our Flashman photo by Dan Feer.



Saturday June 9th at 5:00 PM Kate Dyer-Seeley, one of the busiest authors in the cozy genre, will give a presentation on her latest mystery. ***Natural Thorn Killer*** debuts the Rose City series. Britta's cheating husband, Chad, is undone when he is careless with flowers intended for another woman. In college Britta was attracted by his literary passion; he quoted poetry and was determined to write a novel of literary significance. Years later Britta is working long hours for a massive flower wholesaler in Minnesota, along with a second job to make ends meet. While her husband stays home or goes to the library to cogitate on the great novel that never manages to be finished. Finding out he was cheating was the last straw; Britta went home, to aunt Elin who raised her. The timing was auspicious; Elin is expanding her flower shop and wine bar, Blooma, in Portland Oregon's Riverplace Village along the Willamette River. A gala opening night is planned. Murder will intervene, a real estate developer who has been trying to wrest control of the local waterfront properties for an ambitious development is found murdered in Elin's shop.

Scene of the Climb is first in the Meg Reed series. Meg's father was an award winning journalist for Oregon's prime paper. Set to follow in his footsteps she achieved a degree in journalism from the University of Oregon. No sooner did Meg graduate than the paper laid off forty reporters, it was not an auspicious time for a fledgling journalist. Camped out on the couch of her best friend's loft in Portland's tony Pearl district, Meg's job search was going nowhere. Until she ran into Greg, editor of Northwest Extreme, who happened to be looking for a new reporter. Meg has the credentials and the talent to write, but she is not outdoorsy, mild hiking about the extent of her athletic prowess. She fakes it, using her friend's adventures on her resume to get her foot in the door. Her first assignment takes her hiking at Angel's Rest in the Columbia River Gorge with a group of uber athletes; Meg is not up to this kind of hike and is woefully unprepared. Did I mention she is also afraid of heights? When a body plunges over the cliff, Meg investigates. ***Slayed on the Slopes*** is set on Mt. Hood. Meg joins the Ridge Rangers in the Silcox Hut for a feature story on their mountaineering organization. A blizzard hits soon followed by a dead body with many

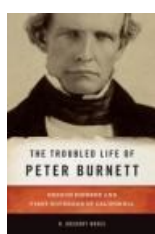
suspects, all marooned together in the storm. ***Silenced in the Surf*** is set in Hood River amid the Columbia River Gorge's dramatically spectacular landscape and a destination for windsurfers. Meg is on assignment to cover a windsurfing event. A body snagged on the rocks puts Meg on the trail of a killer.

First Degree Mudder has Meg entering a 5K mud race, The Mud, Sweat & Beers, on the Mind Over Mudder team. Meg has a tendency to find bodies; she does so this time in the team's locker room. We have an annual mud event in Sunriver; contestants leave the field with quite a liberal accumulation of mud. **In Cave Danger** has Meg exploring Oregon's Lava River Cave despite her claustrophobia. All sorts of things go wrong resulting in tense moments and pyrotechnic scenes. Many of the questions asked in early stories will be answered.

Kate Dyer-Seeley also has many books written under the name Ellie Alexander. **Death on Tap** is the first of a series set in Leavenworth Washington, an alpine village with a Germanic theme. It starts with a shocking revelation as Sloan steps into their office to find her husband in a compromising position with a younger woman. Family means a lot to Sloan, she grew up in foster care yearning for a stable home life. She fell in love first with Mac's German parents, they introduced her to Mac and she thought her life was set. Two things are apparent to her, she cannot keep working in the family business and she wants her son, Alex, to maintain a loving relationship with his father. Alex is a great teenager, and an interesting character in the story (I suspect he may have a little of Kate's son as inspiration). The family business is Das Keller, a successful brewpub. Hans, her brother-in-law introduces Sloan to Garrett who is opening a small brewpub and needs help. Sloan is gifted in brewing, an ace cook, and experienced in the running of a brewpub, in short, she is just what he needs while this new challenge is just what she needs. They make a good team. Things start out splendidly (brewpub wise, not marriage wise) until, of course, a body shows up (in a rather unusual place). Sloan will be heavily involved from the start. Meanwhile Mac is determined to win her back and going about it in all the wrong ways. The characters are likeable, the setting gorgeous, and there is abundant information about brewing.

The Juliet Capshaw is series set in a bakery in Ashland Oregon and often involving the Shakespearean festival. In **Meet Your Baker**, the first in the series, Juliet Capshaw's marriage is on the rocks, she returns home to Ashland where her mother runs a popular bakery. A board members for the Shakespearean festival is making life miserable for everyone she encounters. When the woman is found murdered in the bakery, the list of suspects is long. **A Batter of Life and Death** has Juliet competing in a reality TV show, Take The Cake, on the Pastry Channel in an attempt to win \$25,000 to put their family bakeshop, Torte, on more firm financial footing. Before the cakes can be judged, Chef Marco is murdered. **On Thin Icing** takes place at the Lake of the Woods Resort during an Ashland winter when Juliet is catering a retreat for the Oregon Shakespearean Festival. A winter blizzard isolates the group and the obnoxious bartender is put on ice, literally. Juliet's estranged husband, the handsome Carlos shows up wanting to resolve differences. Juliet is torn between Carlos and Officer Thomas, her high school sweetheart. **Caught Bread Handed** has Juliet being pursued by her husband Carlos, who wants her to come back. When a restaurateur is murdered, Juliet is right in the thick of things. **Fudge and Jury** involves a Chocolate Festival. Juliet's four layer chocolate cake is to die for scrumptious, literally. A famous chocolatier drops dead after sampling a bite. **A Crime of Passion Fruit** is at sea, Carlos has lured Juliet back to work her magic in the kitchen on his cruise. When a woman is murdered, no one seems to know who she is. The cruise ship setting is fun. **Another One Bites the Crust** features the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. The Juliet Capshaw series (also known as Jules) includes lots of tasty recipes. As a coffee addict, I appreciate that they include coffee!

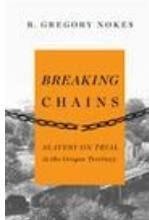
Till Death Do Us Tart, is set to release June 26. Jules' mother is to be wed, the shop is being remodeled, and estranged husband Carlos is back in town. Poisoned wine, intended for Jules, claims a victim.



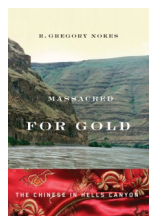
Saturday June 16 at 5:00 PM Gregory Nokes will give a presentation on **The Troubled Life of Peter Burnett**. If ever a man seemed destined to be remembered by history, it was Burnett. If anything was going on, he seemed to pop up and be in the thick of things. Indian wars, Oregon Trail, Mormon troubles, slavery, you name it, and he was there. He served in the Oregon government and judiciary, and was the first governor of California. If momentous events were taking place, Peter Burnett was generally involved, yet today how many people know his name? Nokes rectifies history's oversight with this informative and fascinating biography. Burnett grew up poor, his parents, George and Dorothy, had 8 children. Dorothy's family, the Hardemans had money. George Burnett did not. Seeing the wealth and ease of his relatives lit in Peter a desire for riches. Unfortunately he took after his dad in business acumen; financial security eluded him until later in life. Peter Burnett had the attributes that would seem to destine him for success. He was a gifted speaker, could rouse people's passions, and he had physical presence, tall and well put together. His charisma may have gained him positions to make his mark on the world, but then his shortcomings would ruin the chance. Burnett was not open to other opinions, had a bit of a my way or the highway kind of attitude. So while people might pick him as a leader, they chaffed under his rule and soon things would go awry. Nonetheless it was an eventful life with an impact on the decisions and choices that shaped the west. Eventually Burnett was able to enjoy the kind of success that had eluded him in his youth.

Breaking Chains documents a groundbreaking case tried in an Oregon court of a freed black slave suing a white man, his former master. Robert and Mary Holmes along with three of their children were brought as property with Nathaniel Ford and his family on the Oregon Trail as Ford fled a mountain of debt back in Missouri. Ford had already sold three of the Holmes

children before leaving Missouri. He promised the Holmes he would set the remaining family free after three years if they would help establish his farm in the Oregon territory. The government was giving away 640 acres to homesteading couples, enough to put Ford back on his feet financially.



Years passed without the promised release for the Holmes family. Finally Ford granted freedom to the parents, keeping the children as his property. Holmes did something courageous, he filed suit in the white man's court to find justice for his family and free his children. It was not an even fight; Ford was well known and well regarded. Nokes details the court case and the prevailing political climate. He tells us of other slaves living in the northwest and gives us a glimpse into their contributions to history. He packs in a lot of information on Oregon in the mid to late 1800's, if you enjoy history this book is a treasure trove of information.



Massacred for Gold exposed a crime that went unpunished. The Pacific Northwest is the site of the worst massacre of Chinese in US history. Right here in Hell's Canyon by a bend in the Snake River up to 34 Chinese miners were murdered. Worse yet, some of the killers were mere school boys, teenagers lured toward easy money and a quick kill by a nefarious horse thieving rancher. It is best not to turn our backs on the past lest the same mistakes are perpetuated. Prejudice and hate are sorrowful emotions. Those Chinese miners could have been robbed without taking their lives, but they were hated for being different. The taking of those lives would stay with those kids forever. Might it be a good idea to reflect on the cost to our souls of racial hatred?

Massacred for Gold also brings to light the contribution of Chinese workers. They were integral to the building of our railroads, working harder and for less money than US citizens. These men were willing to hang off cliffs to set dynamite charges, work every day, and endure horrid conditions. Unlike other groups of immigrants, the Chinese wanted to make enough money to help their families then return home. They missed their homeland and loved ones ferociously. Instead of being thanked for their hard work, appreciated for their sacrifices, they were hated. Racial hatred fueled an environment of despair for the Chinese. They were ridiculed, beaten, robbed without any hope of justice or protection. Gold mining was beyond the means of the Chinese when the claims were paying but as the claims played out the Chinese came in to labor extracting the last reluctant grains of gold. The claim the massacred men had been working was thought to be one of the better claims mined by Chinese. They had been working about a year, so there was gold to be taken. The Chinese were sitting ducks for their killers. Sheer cliff walls and fast flowing water gave them nowhere to run. Hells Canyon, the Snake River, and the Imnaha River Gorge is a forbidding remote landscape. It was a lonely place to die so far from their homeland at the hand of outlaws who would never pay for their crime.

Greg Nokes worked as a reporter for the Associated Press and The Oregonian, retiring after 43 years.

Author events are free (unless otherwise stipulated) and include refreshments. There will also be drawings for prizes. Sign up to attend by calling 541-593-2525, emailing sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music.

Upcoming Author Appearances

Saturday July 7, 2018 at 5:00 PM ***A Death in Eden*** by Keith McCafferty

Wednesday August 1, 2018 at 5:00 PM ***Buzz*** by Thor Hansen

Saturday August 4, at 5:30 PM ***Quilts Make a Family*** by Arlene Sachitano

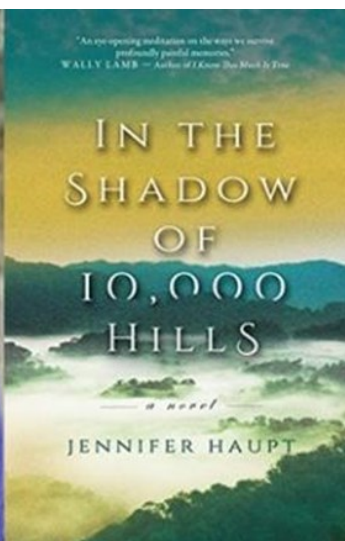
Saturday September 1, 2018 at 5:00 PM ***Everything She Didn't Say*** by Jane Kirkpatrick

Sunday September 9 *Depth of Winter* by Craig Johnson

Join us to enjoy fabulous authors! Hearing an author speak clarifies and enriches the reading experience. Author readings are free with refreshments served and drawings for prizes. Sign up to attend these free events by calling 541-593-2525, e-mailing sunriverbooks@sunriverbooks.com or stopping by Sunriver Books & Music. Space may be limited for some events. Check sunriverbooks.com for changes or additions to the schedule.

How to Keep the Writing Faith with Jennifer Haupt

Friday, June 29, 10 a.m. - Noon. \$50 per person, limit 15



Join me for a two-hour workshop where you'll learn and practice (at least) three powerful techniques for breaking through the inevitable writing road blocks you'll hit when writing a memoir or novel. I know these techniques work because I used them during the 11 years I wrote my recently published novel, *In the Shadow of 10,000 Hills*!

I'll share some basic (and fun!) techniques you can use to weave a web of characters that support each other, and build tension between these characters with plot points that keep the story moving. Come with a notebook and pen because we'll be starting a "process journal" to keep these exercises in — and keep you on-track for completing your book!

Registration and full payment to Sunriver Books & Music are required by June 15, so we can determine if a second class is needed.

Jennifer Haupt is the author of *In the Shadow of 10,000 Hills* (April 2018) and co-author of *I'll Stand by You: One Woman's Mission to Heal the Children of the World*, the memoir of children's advocate Elissa Montanti. Haupt's essays and articles have been published in *O, The Oprah Magazine*, *Spirituality & Health*, *Psychology Today* and many other publications.

Rachel Kelley is pictured here with our favorite cowboy, Craig Johnson author of the New York Times Bestselling Walt Longmire series (photo by Dr. Sue Dougherty). Rachel has been a valued member of the staff at Sunriver Books & Music for years. We have enjoyed her intelligence, fun loving spirit, and gentle nature. Rachel will be leaving us this August for a new challenge, she has completed her Masters degree in education and is traveling to Albania with her son to teach school. For those of us who would like to keep up with Rachel's adventure, she will be writing a blog. In addition to being a well read, enthusiastic bookseller, Rachel is an accomplished poet and talented aspiring novelist. Follow Rachel in Albania through this blog address:

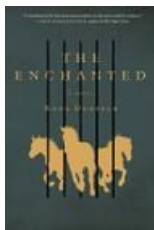
<https://kelleyfamilyabroad.wordpress.com/> Rachel may be back at Sunriver Books & Music in the summers. She knows she will be welcome and valued.



The USA is a huge country with a rich history of cultural diversity. From north to south, east to west, our landscape and customs change dramatically. This diversity is what makes he US special, and each June as a lead up to the 4th of July we celebrate a different state or region of this great country. This June we celebrate a **Month of Oregon**. Our author events and Book Club selections will all be set in Oregon. Here are a few recommendations of books set in Oregon, join us in reading about our state.



The Child Finder by Rene Denfeld is written with sere, vulnerable honesty, boldly going into dark places shining a light of possibility. Naomi is known as ***The Child Finder***, since the age of twenty she has spent her life and her passion hunting for missing children, sometimes with amazing success, occasionally with tragic results. It is the only way she knows to keep her own dark history at bay. Naomi's life began at 9, when a group of migrant workers rescued the young girl as she ran terrified through a field into their camp, attracted by the light of their fire. She has no earlier memories, only the nightmares that haunt her sleep. On a trip to the Skookum National Forest to cut the perfect Christmas tree, Madison Culver age 5 disappeared without a trace. Snow made the search difficult, perhaps impossible, a cadaver dog tried to find remains, now three years later, the Culvers are asking Naomi to find their child. Common sense says the child perished in the forbidding wilderness but the Culver's cling to the hope that someone took her, that Madison is still alive. Naomi knows she may shatter their hopes, the weather was harsh, there was no one around, and they were miles into the wilderness along a road with no traffic. Still, she will give it her all, examining every bit of evidence, learning every trail and patch of owned ground, searching with dedication. She takes a room in a seedy motel near the forest, staying near the places she must search. Alone in her room, the nightmares intensify, frightening her sleeping hours. This case may force Naomi to confront the monsters of her past. Written with compassion and understanding, the story introduces great characters.



The Enchanted, her debut work of fiction, is a powerful story, devastating and hauntingly beautiful. Golden horses run under the stone foundation of the old prison, their eyes wild, manes flowing, molten heat emanating from their bodies as they run. An inmate on death row leads the reader into the world of fantasy only he sees and the stark, violent reality of prison life. He watches as an unnamed lady researches the lives of killers sentenced to die, finding clues in their backgrounds that might grant them the leniency of life in prison over death. The secrets she holds close permit her an uncanny understanding of the natures of her clients. A fallen priest comforts the inmates and watches the lady, wondering if she might possess redemption for him.

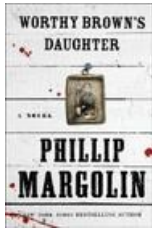


This Road We Traveled by Jane Kirkpatrick is the story of Tabitha Moffat Brown and how she came to be named by the Oregon legislature "the Mother of Oregon". It is also the story of three generations of women who crossed from Missouri to Oregon on the Oregon Trail, along with a passel of other family: sons, husbands, brothers, daughters, and so forth. Tabby kept an unusual pet, I admit it had me intrigued and kept me turning pages to learn how it was faring. Tabby was in her sixties and lame in the 1840's when her eldest son, Orus Brown, persuaded the family to head west to the rich farmland of the Willamette Valley. Not to be left out, Tabby joined forces with her brother-in-law, John Brown, a sea captain eighteen years her senior, to outfit their own wagon and head west too. The crossing would be grueling, they were in the mountains at the same time as the Donner party, and hardship would test their mettle. A full account of life on the trail is given. Arriving in Oregon Tabby faced many challenges, including what she would do next. Quite a lot as it turns out. The whole family is involved in the story, including a link to a famous painting made even more so by a recent Pulitzer Prize winning work of fiction.



A Light In The Wilderness by Jane Kirkpatrick blends fiction and fact about a free black woman who traveled the Oregon Trail to the Oregon Territory. Letitia moved from Kentucky to Missouri with the Bowman family; set free by the Patriarch she continued to serve them until their move to Oregon. Remaining behind in Missouri she arranged to live with Davey Carson, an Irish immigrant. This is a woman determined to make her way and remain free, she works hard. Eventually Davey Carson and Letitia form a closer bond and when Carson heads out for Oregon, this time she goes along. Nancy Hawkins is not keen to make the long, perilous journey along the Oregon Trail to Oregon, but her husband Zachariah is determined. Nancy likes her settled life, she is afraid of traveling on a wagon train but she would follow her husband anywhere so it is westward ho. Eventually Letitia's path crosses with Betsy, a Kalapuya Indian, and her grandson Little Shoot. Betsy is trying to teach him the ways of his people in a changing world. Known for capturing the story of strong women who made significant contributions to history and for her meticulous research, Kirkpatrick crafts a story that feels like stepping back in time. What would life be like for a black woman trying to live free in the days before the Civil War? Her life is full of struggle but also determination and an admirable belief in her own self-sufficiency. The story takes the reader through the ways of life in Missouri, on to the travails of journeying on the Oregon Trail, to Oregon where Letitia's struggles to preserve her rights are far from over as she faces fresh challenges and is forced to step into the white man's court. The reader gets a sense of Oregon before the Civil War.

A Month of Oregon.



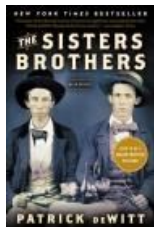
Worthy Brown's Daughter by New York Times Bestselling author Phillip Margolin is the author's first work of historic fiction. If you enjoy mysteries, Margolin's name is well known. His mysteries include **Sleight of Hand**, **Capitol Murder**, **Lost Lake**, **Gone But Not Forgotten**, and a slew others. Margolin has years of experience as a Portland Oregon attorney who has argued before the US Supreme Court and as a defense attorney in death penalty cases, a real asset in writing a story involving a legal case. **Worthy Brown's Daughter** is fiction inspired by the groundbreaking case, Robin Holmes vs Nathaniel Ford. Former slave Robin Holmes sought justice by suing a prominent member of the community, Nathaniel Ford, seeking the release of Holmes' children. It would have been difficult and frightening for a black man to step into the white man's court in pre-civil war days. Thinking of the Holmes family unsettled Margolin, it made him wonder how he would endure if he knew his daughters were nearby, possibly being mistreated, but he could not go to them. Margolin uses Holmes as the inspiration for Worthy Brown, a man whose former master is a successful, charismatic attorney keeping Worthy Brown's daughter in bondage. He is also lacking in any sense of morality, casually cruel, and may pose a danger to the teenage girl. Worthy Brown, worried about his child, takes his case to Matthew Penny, an attorney recently arrived via the Oregon Trail, a journey that cost the life of Penny's beloved wife. There is lots of great historical detail about Oregon. Margolin gives the reader a real view of the legal difficulties and climate of the time, while also providing suspense and drama. He throws in a woman of dubious virtue, a judge who makes a very poor choice that has dire repercussions, and a variety of interesting story threads.



Violent Crimes is the latest in Phillip Margolin's Amanda Jaffe series. Amanda has it together. Tall, athletic, an attractive woman, with a keen intellect, she is an attorney with Jaffe, Katz, Lehane, and Brindisi, a Portland Oregon firm where her father is senior partner. The story opens with a law school chum asking a favor; Christine Larson works the corporate beat with Masterson, Hamilton, Rickman and Thomas. Tom Beatty, Christine's paralegal, was arrested for a bar brawl. While he didn't start the fight, he certainly finished it leaving the other combatant hospitalized. The police took exception and arrested him. Christine would appreciate Amanda's help in clearing Tom, usually a very kind man. It all seems rather routine, until of course it is not. A short while later Christine Larson is found brutally beaten to death. Earlier she was overheard having a heated argument with Dale Masterson, senior partner and the man who controls if she will make partner. Soon thereafter Dale Masterson is found beaten to death in a similar fashion in the den of his huge mansion, his son Brandon seen running away from the crime covered in his father's blood. Dale and Brandon were estranged, their world views horribly apart. Brandon was passionately involved in environmental issues, worried about what we are doing to the planet. Unfortunately he lacked his father's charm, was abrasive, demanding, and unwilling to listen to any other views. Dale was athletic, socially engaging, and fond of the comforts of wealth and its attendant symbols, such as his trophy wife, luxurious abode, and fine cars. Dale financed his lifestyle by representing Big Oil, in his son's opinion it was blood money. Brandon is quickly arrested and confesses. His mother hires Amanda to defend her son for the murder of her ex-husband. As Amanda delves into the case, it becomes more complicated. If Brandon didn't kill Dale Masterson, is his death connected to the murder of Christine Larson? What ties them together? On a personal level, Amanda's relationship with Mike Greene is deepening. There are complications. Amanda's job is keeping people out of jail, Mike is a prosecutor. His job is putting them in jail. Both occupations require confidentiality. Different philosophies make for interesting dilemmas. Margolin uses his setting well, the story takes you around Portland. Read more about Amanda Jaffe in **Wild Justice**, **Ties That Bind**, **Proof Positive**, and **Fugitive**.



When She Flew by Jennie Shortridge is a fictional account of the father and daughter found living in Portland's Forest Park. The young girl was clean, articulate, polite, and doing very well academically being home schooled by her father, a former Marine. She was evaluated and there was no evidence of abuse. Living in a hut hidden in Forest Park agreed with the pair. It was also illegal. The police officer in charge of their case found the father work. It looked like a good ending was in sight when the pair were spooked by the media hubbub and fled. Their whereabouts remain unknown. Shortridge was intrigued. She changes the names of places in her work of fiction, but the book is true to the essence of the real life drama of a father and daughter getting on quite well in an unorthodox manner living in a city park. **When She Flew** tells the story through the perspective of a police officer.

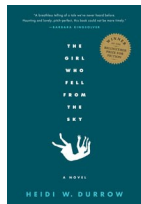


The Sisters Brothers by Patrick DeWitt is the darkly funny story of two gunslingers. Lightning quick on the draw, the brothers travel from Oregon to California at the behest of the Commodore to kill a prospector. If you like your westerns to be heavy on the comedy, the **Sisters Brothers** will entertain. Eli is courtly and exceedingly naïve, especially when it comes to romance. Charlie is more sophisticated, keeps his wits about him, and is flummoxed by his brother's ability to mistake a woman of easy virtue looking to make a few dollars for a romantic interest. As the brothers travel south from Oregon City they have all kinds of adventures, their horses don't fare much better. Eli's horse, Tub, encounters a cranky grizzly bear with unfortunate results. **The Sisters Brothers** was short listed for the Man Booker Prize and won the PNBA Award.

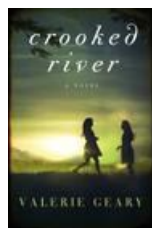


Damaged Goods by Heather Sharfuddin is a nuanced, engrossing story set in Oregon. Hershel doesn't remember much from before his car accident but it doesn't take long to measure people's response to him and come to the conclusion he was not a nice guy. How would it feel to wake up from an accident and realize you were not a good person? Herschel's employees at the auction house notice a change in their boss after the accident but they keep a wary distance. Hershel cannot remember what he might have been up to prior to the accident, but he suspects it was unsavory. If we cannot respect ourselves what have we got to hold onto? Hershel is trying to rebuild his life into something better. Silvie has troubles of her own; she is on the lam from a man who means her no good, a sheriff gone bad still invested with the power of the law. Silvie crosses paths with Herschel when her car breaks down and he gives her a hand. As they try to figure out the next step in their increasingly complicated lives they must rely on each other and face down the danger that looms ever closer. Interesting characters and an intriguing premise along with an Oregon setting make this a very readable story.

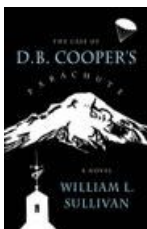
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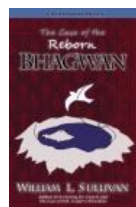
The Girl Who Fell From the Sky by Heidi Durrow. Rachel arrives at her Grandmother's home in the Albina district of Portland after a family tragedy in Chicago. Haunted by her staggering loss, she is thrown into a new school where she stands apart, different from her classmates. Her Danish Mom handed down sky blue eyes and her Black GI Dad gave her soft, caramel colored skin. Rachel is unsure what defines her, the white heritage of her dead mother, or the black of her father. Are we so easily defined? Does the color of our skin really dictate who we are? Rachel will have to invent herself or accept the definitions society provides. As Rachel grapples with fitting into her new home, slowly the tragic circumstances of her move to Portland are revealed. The characters are interesting, the setting used well, and the issues significant.



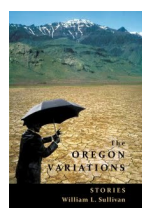
Crooked River by Valerie Geary is the story of two sisters who see the world very differently but overcome their youth and grief in a quest for justice. Sam McAlister was 15, her sister Ollie 10 the year their mother died suddenly shattering their sheltered lives in Eugene, Oregon. The sisters' father, Bear, has never been a stable presence. He lives without electricity in a Teepee erected in a meadow along the Crooked River near Terrebonne Oregon. Honey from beehives bring him a modest income, enough to pay a paltry rent to the farmer whose meadow he calls home. Sam spent several summers with her father in the meadow, for Ollie it is all new and alien. Bear is an outsider in the community, his bushy hair and beard, solitary existence, and lack of social graces keep him apart. The sisters have barely arrived at their father's Teepee when they find the body of a woman floating in the Crooked River. Numb from the death of their mother, the girls do not tell of their disturbing discovery. Of course, the police, aided by an abundance of incriminating evidence, focus in on Bear as prime suspect. Both girls know Bear is innocent, Sam from all the summers spent in his gentle care, Ollie because the shimmerings, spirits of the departed, have told her so. A killer is loose, their father on a fast track to jail, and two young girls are alone in their quest to make things right.



The Case of D. B. Cooper's Parachute by William Sullivan. If you are from the Northwest and of a certain age, you remember D. B. Cooper. November 24th 1971, Thanksgiving Eve, D. B. Cooper boarded a plane in Portland heading for Seattle. Cooper hijacked the plane, demanding a \$200,000 ransom and parachutes. Passengers were released unharmed in Seattle and the plane took off again, headed toward a re-fuel stop in Reno Nevada. Along the way Cooper parachuted into history with his loot. Massive manhunts failed, forty years later the FBI investigation is still very active and D.B. Cooper is part of northwestern lore. So what really happened to D.B. Cooper? Much of the novel takes place in Portland. The action opens with newly promoted Lieutenant Neil Ferguson and his partner Sargent Wu on a stakeout; they are supposed to catch an art thief going by the moniker D.B. Cooper. Things go awry fast with a high speed chase through the crowded streets of Portland. Lieutenant Ferguson is an interesting guy with lots of baggage. He is grieving the passing of his wife three years ago, a recovering alcoholic, attracted to Sargent Wu, and wracked with guilt over the death of his partner. Lots going on with this guy, but he is likeable, he cares for his daughter, mourns his faults, and truly wants to do right. It just seems right can be a little bit complicated. Lieutenant Ferguson's daughter is autistic; she works in a recycling facility and checks in frequently with her Dad. He realizes his daughter's independence is both fragile and hugely important. It is hard for him not to step over the boundary of becoming too protective and respect that hard won independence. Their interactions give a richness and sensitivity to the story that is very appealing. Lieutenant Ferguson is an avid bike rider, one of the bad guys likes hiking, and characters go skiing, lots of out door activity. There are multiple subplots with art theft and the Russian Mafia. Lieutenant Ferguson flies to Europe to check out some of the connections giving the story more great settings. Sullivan ties it all up nicely in a dramatic finale.



The Case of the Reborn Bhagwan by William Sullivan brings back favorite characters from ***The Case of D.B. Cooper's Parachute***. On the Big Muddy Ranch in Eastern Oregon in the 1980s everything was all in a hullabaloo. The Bhagwan was trying to seize power. People were poisoned, homeless people were bussed in by the Rajneeshis in an attempt to subvert an election, and ultimately the Bhagwan left with most Oregonians saying good riddance. The saga is about to continue. The Rajneeshis have discovered the reincarnation of the Bhagwan, a young barista at a Portland coffee shop. They are returning to Oregon determined to get it right. This time around they swear they are going to avoid violence, bringing to the community caring and enlightenment. The pressure and intimidation of the last Bhagwan's reign will be past; the new day brings a kinder, gentler Bhagwan. Fearing a repeat of the violence, and eager to be peaceful members of the community, they hire Neil away from the police department at a very generous salary to provide security. His niece, Harmony, is involved with the Rajneeshis, she put in a good word for him. Leaving the police department clears the way for a closer relationship with Lieutenant Wu, the future looks rosy. Things go wrong immediately when a sniper's deadly aim claims its first victim. The Rajneeshis make a deal with the Indian Reservation by Crater Lake and head south to establish a utopian society. There is a saying about the road to hell being paved with good intentions; well in this case not everyone's intentions are good. Neil is also scouting routes for Cycle Oregon, giving him a great excuse to bike all over Oregon. Crater Lake is jaw droppingly gorgeous and makes the perfect setting for this very entertaining mystery. One of the charms of the story remains Neil's respectful, caring relationship with his autistic daughter, Susan.



The Oregon Variations by William Sullivan is an innovative collection of short stories. Sullivan was inspired by Bach's Goldberg Variations and the loneliness reflected in Kafka's short stories. In his collection he writes a fugue using the structure of Bach's music to craft a work of fiction. The stories are varied, well written and interesting. My favorite is the ***Vortex*** about a lonely little bookstore battling Amazon, the evil empire, in an incredibly unusual way. ***Aria for Tenderfeet*** captures perfectly the feeling of ranchland and the melancholy of one generation yearning to pass on the land as it was passed to them. It is a lovely story about a grandfather and two grandsons beginning to understand. ***To Say Nothing Of The Dog*** has two hit men on the trail of their target on the snowy Crater Lake trail. This daring 31 story collection is set in every county in Oregon. Two of the stories use crossword puzzles. Pictures of Crater Lake need no words, they tell their own stories. It is all highly entertaining and unique. Sullivan, like the ancient Greeks, understands that melancholy and humor can live side by side. While his stories succeed in capturing that sense of loneliness that inspired him, they also use a deft touch to keep the reader entertained.

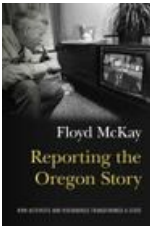
A Month of Oregon.



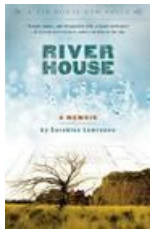
The Crying Tree by Naseem Rakha, winner of the PNBA Award. In 1996 NPR sent Naseem Rakha to cover the execution of Douglas Wright, the first person to be executed in Oregon for decades. Later she interviewed a remarkable woman whose daughter was murdered. The woman spent years anticipating the death of the killer until she realized she was being destroyed by hate. She made the arduous journey to forgiveness. **Crying Tree** is about that journey, the difficult path from hate to forgiveness. Nate and Irene have deep roots in their small Illinois town with family just down the road a piece, friends nearby, and so many memories. Nate takes a position as deputy in the High Desert of Oregon, moving a reluctant Irene across country. She is concerned about moving her two children to a new town, new friends, and new schools. Barely a year passes before their son Shep is murdered, dying in his father's arms. Irene is consumed by grief and hate. To survive, to honor the memory of her son, she realizes she will have to let go of the hate. She makes the journey to forgiveness. As the story unfolds, the secrets carried by the characters come to light. How great is the capacity to forgive?



The Steep Thorny Way by Cat Winters. When you think of hotbeds of the Ku Klux Klan, Oregon doesn't usually come to mind, but in the 1920's it had a presence. Hanalee is a teen when her father, Hank Denney, is run down one night. The driver, Joe Adder, just a teen himself is sent to prison for the crime. Now he is out with a tale to tell. He claims Hank was alive when Dr. Clyde Koning took over care of the injured man. Joe claims Koning is the real killer, yes Joe injured Hank's leg in the accident, but he didn't kill the man. This is not welcome news to Hanalee, Dr. Clyde Koning is her stepfather. Rumor has it the ghost of Hanalee's daddy walks the road at night; he has things to tell his daughter. As Hanalee delves into the secrets surrounding her father's death, she comes afoul of people who would do her harm. Hanalee's daddy was black, her mother is white, not a popular combination in small town Oregon at the time. The author enriches the novel with photographs from the era. Shakespeare's Hamlet is the inspiration for the story.



Reporting the Oregon Story by Floyd McKay. There was a time when it was believed that government could be a force for good, even during periods when many of the policies of government were vehemently opposed. In 1964 Tom McCall was elected Secretary of State and Bob Straub Treasurer; they were friends and adversaries in the race for Governor. The period covered in the book is 1964 to 1986; the Vietnam era followed by Watergate. Yet political parties could and would pull together to serve the needs of the people who elected them and they accomplished some amazing things during that turbulent era. Considering the state of the nation today, it is good to reflect on the accomplishments of these Oregonians dedicated to protecting their state where needed and improving it possible. If you enjoy a trip to the beach, your right to walk on the sand was protected in the Beach Bill. By 1960 developers could see the potential profits from owning a "private" beach, with a hotel in Cannon Beach going so far as to fence off their bit of the beach. The Beach Bill put the beach into the hands of the public, so we can all enjoy a stroll on the beach without running into fences or being prevented access. In Oregon, the beach is for everyone to enjoy. Straub was instrumental in stopping a move to relocate Highway 101 across the beaches to make it straighter. In 1970, politicians served the people with the Scenic Waterways initiative. Mark Hatfield, a Republican Governor, joined forces with Democratic Senator Wayne Morse in opposition to the Vietnam War. Throughout this era, activists and politicians engaged with the press to keep the people informed. They may not always agree with each other, and sometimes they would have to suffer defeat with grace. This was an era of accomplishment not acrimony. Who among us would rather see the Oregon beaches in private hands, the public denied access? Who among us is against cleaning up the Willamette, protecting our water? In order to have a legacy that says something positive, that accomplishes important goals, it is necessary to put aside hate and work together. Floyd McKay spent 32 years in journalism, **Reporting the Oregon Story** first for the *Oregon Statesman* and then KGW-TV out of Portland. This book remembers an era when Oregon led the nation as a state of progressive policies that benefited all Oregonians, not just the few.



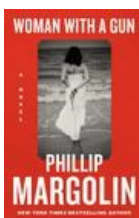
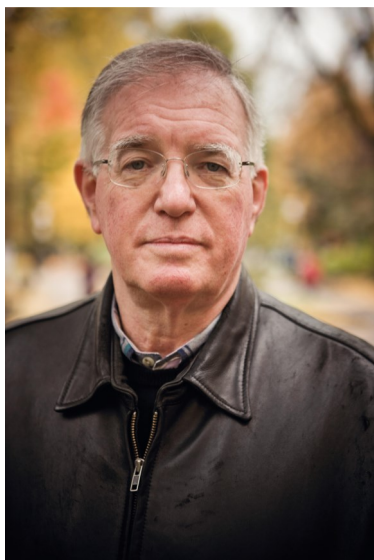
River House by Sarah Lee Lawrence. This amazing young woman has run some of the most dangerous rivers on the planet, built her own log house, is as comfortable on a horse as she is running rivers, and is an organic farmer who has traveled to Italy to participate in a conference on the Slow Food Movement. Whew, that is a lot to pack into any life! Sarah Lee lives life with passionate enthusiasm. **River House** moves from her days as a globetrotting river rat to the realization that her heart was right here in Central Oregon on the Terrebbonne ranch where she was raised. She had me on the edge of my seat reading the first chapter about running a river on the border of Bolivia and Peru where the rapids are called *los monstruos*. As she confronts the wild rivers, she keeps seeing the wide open spaces of Central Oregon and feeling the pull of home. Arriving back in Central Oregon she finds her father suffering from a mid-life crisis. Father and Daughter share a love for wild, dangerous water. But where Sarah Lee is drawn to the violent rapids of rivers, her Dad wants the big waves of an ocean. Sarah Lee's mother is a stalwart presence in her life, trying to accommodate the needs of her family and stay afloat. **River House** moves beautifully through the dynamics of family, reconciling the passionate natures of people who live life with gusto. These are people who care fiercely and are willing to take chances.

Rich Stonehouse recommends a history of Oregon.

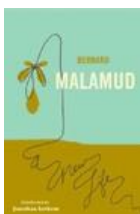


Astoria by Peter Stark. The early 1800's saw America settled from the Atlantic coast to the Appalachian Mountains. Lewis & Clark's expedition gave Thomas Jefferson the idea that America could control the commerce and strategic value of the Pacific Northwest if outposts could be established as a counterbalance to British and Russian claims. Seeing the area as a rich source of furs and natural resources, John Jacob Astor took up Jefferson on establishing an outpost that would supply him with the furs that had made him a wealthy man in New York City. Astor sent a two pronged expedition to the Northwest, one by sea and the other over land. The legacy left behind by the outpost was the Oregon Trail blazed by Astor's overland expedition, and the establishment of the seaport Astoria.

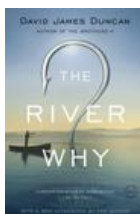
June 2018 Book Clubs. A Month of Oregon.



Monday June 4 New York Times Bestselling author Phillip Margolin will lead the Mystery Book Club's discussion of *Woman With A Gun*. An arresting photograph of a woman in a white wedding dress on a moonlit night at the edge of the sea holding a gun inspired Phillip Margolin to write this page turning mystery. It is a compelling picture; as Margolin says, it does make you wonder what a woman would be doing at the water's edge in a wedding gown with a weapon. He has a bit of fun with making one of his characters an aspiring young writer, Stacey Kim, who sees this picture in a museum and is inspired to write a mystery. Her sleuthing takes her back a decade to the Oregon Coast where the photographer, Kathy Moran, was getting her life back together after beating a drug habit that cost her a career as a Portland Oregon attorney. It turns out the wedding night picture was taken shortly after the wealthy groom was murdered. With juicy details like this, Stacey is off and running. She quickly sheds her day job as a receptionist at a New York law firm and heads west to Portland Oregon, then on to the Oregon Coast. The murder of the wealthy groom has never been solved; suspicion still falls on his gorgeous bride found in the aforementioned gown toting a gun on the moonlit beach. As Stacey starts probing, asking questions around the small coastal town, interviewing the lawyers involved, it raises the hackles of a killer that might best be left undisturbed. More bodies follow and soon Stacey is in the killer's sights too. There are many likeable characters from the small town denizens, to the attorneys involved, and an interesting array of potential killers. The story is set in three time frames, current day when Stacey is writing her novel, the time of the wedding night murder, and a few years earlier in 2000 when attorney Jack Booth meets Kathy Moran. Margolin keeps the action moving, uses the northwestern setting beautifully, and crafts a devious mystery that will keep you turning pages.



June 18 the Classics Book Club discusses *A New Life* by Bernard Malamud. In 1950 Seymour Levin, a thirty year old professor, departed his native New York, where he indulged too freely in strong drink, for a fresh start in the Northwest where he had accepted a position at a state college. Settling in as a professor of English, he finds the college leans more toward the scientific than the creative and learns the former occupant of his office was a rabble rouser sacked for causing trouble. Yet the new environment is also freeing, the wide open spaces different from the tenements of New York. Gifted with a strong aptitude for getting into trouble, Levin indulges in a variety of mishaps, many of them with the opposite sex. The story is sprinkled with humor and is a great selection for our Month of Oregon. Malamud is writing from experience, at least as regards the setting, he taught at Oregon State in Corvallis from 1949 to 1961.



June 25 the Fiction Book Club discusses *The River Why* by David James Duncan, one of those special books, hard to describe and a joy to read. While the book certainly pays homage to fly fishing, it is much more than a novel about fishing. A more apt description would be a book about life, living in the present, truly being aware of the grandeur surrounding us, and walking gently on the earth. Now I am making it sound too serious, see what I mean about describing this story. It is also funny. An upper crust Brit transplanted to Oregon where he writes about fly fishing encounters a tough as nails Eastern Oregon cowgirl, sparks fly, progeny result. Their parenting styles are different, but somehow it all works. The narrator of the story is their son, Gus, a gifted fisherman, also a young man coming of age and finding solace in nature. It is not necessary to fish to thoroughly enjoy this beautiful story that is both entertaining and thoughtful.

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

Everyone is welcome, light refreshments are served.

July

July 9, 2018 *Norwegian by Night* by Derek Miller [Mystery Book Club](#)

July 16, 2018 *Anything for Billy* by Larry McMurtry [Fiction Book Club](#)

July 30, 2018 *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann [Non-Fiction Book Club](#)

August

August 13, 2018 *The Heist* by Daniel Silva [Mystery Book Club](#)

August 20, 2018 *Everybody's Son* by Thrity Umrigar [Fiction Book Club](#)

September

Since We Fell by Dennis Lehane [Mystery Book Club](#)

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury [Classic Book Club](#) [Banned Book Selection](#)

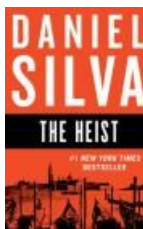
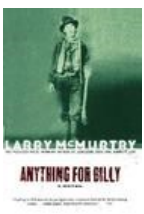
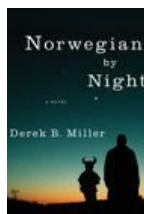
October, A Month of Australia

The Dry by Jane Harper [Mystery Book Club](#)

The Lieutenant by Kate Grenville [Fiction Book Club](#)

True History of the Kelly Gang by Pete Carey [Classic Book Club](#)

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



If you are involved in a club or gathering that would enjoy using 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. Using the space is free. To reserve the space for your group contact Deon at Sunriver Books & Music. Sunriver Village is an ideal place to meet. After concluding the day's agenda enjoy a meal at one of the Village restaurants and browse in the many shops.

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